

**TRIBAL PESTICIDE PROGRAM COUNCIL  
MONTHLY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL**

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

2:00-4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)

1:00-3:00 p.m. (Central Time)

12:00-2:00 p.m. (Mountain Time)

11:00-1:00 p.m. (Pacific & Arizona Time)

**Join by Zoom: <https://nau.zoom.us/j/89303644703>**

**or phone: 312-626-6799 or 888-788-0099 (toll free)**

**Meeting ID: 893 0364 4703**

**Password: 186136**

Roll call:

**Tribes (18)**

- Alexis Bruce, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
- Brenda Pusher-Begay, White Mountain Apache Tribe
- Brittani Clairmont, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Camilo Perez, Quechan Indian Tribe
- Dorla Tartsah, Kiowa Tribe
- Dwight Carlston, Gila River Indian Community
- Eric Gjevre, Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe
- James Jackson, Muscogee Creek Nation
- James Williams, Muscogee Creek Nation
- Jasmine Courville, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Jessica Raspitha, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
- Jefferson Biakeddy, Navajo Nation
- Jeremy Phillips, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
- Jim Mossett, Three Affiliated Tribes
- Joe Herrera, Yakama Nation
- Nina Hapner, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians
- Renee Keezer, White Earth Reservation
- Sheldon Jones, Navajo Nation

**Tribal Organizations (1)**

- Diania Caudell, California Indian Basketweavers Association

**EPA (5)**

- Susan Bartow EPA/OCSP
- Linsey Walsh, EPA/OCSP

- Emily Ryan, EPA/OCSP
- Helene Ambrosino, EPA/OECA
- Linda Arrington EPA/OCSP,

### **Other (3)**

- Mehrdad Khatibi, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals
- Mark Daniels, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals
- McKenna King, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals

### **Reported in advance as absent (0)**

#### **1. Tribal Caucus**

#### **2. Welcome/Introductions**

Mark Daniels, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals, facilitated role call.

#### **3. EPA Updates (Linsey, Emily, Vanessa, Helene)**

No updates noted.

#### **4. Update on EPA's Bilingual Labeling Project (Sue Bartow and Linda Arrington, EPA/Pesticide Re-evaluation Division)**

##### **a. Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA)**

PRIA 5 (authorized in 12/2022) amended the Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) requiring Spanish language translation for sections of pesticide product labels. The program utilizes the EPA established Spanish Translation Guide which acts as a resource for pesticide registrants to ensure accuracy and consistency of translations and labeling. The Spanish Translation Guide for Pesticide Labeling was initially developed in 2015. The Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) worked with in house Spanish language experts on health and safety portions of a pesticide label (keep out of reach of children, restricted use statements, first aid section, precautionary statements, PPE, misuse, storage and disposal) and the Agricultural use Requirements section (re-entry interval information & precautionary statements). The guide utilizes a universal dialect of Spanish and was reviewed by a multilingual communications liaison. The Spanish Translation Guide was posted to the OPP website to allow for voluntary use.

Deadlines for Spanish labeling are on a rolling schedule beginning December 2025 through 2030 with translations for the most hazardous and toxic products being required first.

### **b. Implementation Requirements**

Label changes through non notification meaning the product label may be updated without notification of EPA or EPA review. Translation must appear on the product container or a link via scannable technology or other electronic method that is easily accessible on the product label must be provided. EPA must create a plan for tracking the adoption of bilingual labeling within 2 years of PRIA 5 or by December 2024 and implement a plan to ensure farm workers have access to bilingual labeling within 3 years or by December 2025.

### **c. Stakeholder Process**

OPP consulted with stakeholders for input on farm worker accessibility within 180 days of PRIA 5, initiated June 30, 2023. They held a national webinar (380 participants, 31 speakers) in June and opened a public docket for input. The goal of this process is to gather information to create a plan for making bilingual labeling accessible for farm workers. Requested TPPC member suggestions be submitted to the public docket in writing as a group comment within the next month. The TPPC will draft comments during a work session over the Fall Meeting. Suggestions made in the webinar include: consult with workers directly, consult with community groups, focus groups, use of pictures, graphics, audio, culturally relevant information, QR codes, making information available for review at home, preload information into mobile apps, offline downloadable options. The public docket gathered 36 comment submissions and is currently being reviewed and analyzed.

### **d. TPPC Bilingual Labeling Access Suggestions**

The EPA Pesticide Product Label System (PPLS) website should be a place where anyone can translate a label similar to google translate. Tribes don't collect money from work visa registrations (a population that may require translations) thus EPA should provide funding to tribes to make up for this. Prioritize bilingual labeling of the most used products opposed to the most toxic. Worker Protection Standards (WPS) can help to inform how to translate labels and inspections can help determine if translation is occurring. Bilingual posters, forms, digital labeling if cell service is available. Diverse approaches will be most effective as opposed to one method.

## **5. TPPC Administrator Updates (Mark, Mehrdad, McKenna)**

### **a. Reminder About Performance Evaluation**

Mark had sent out an email for TPPC members to submit their reviews of ITEP's role as TPPC coordinators. **Mark will send this email again, the survey is open until Sep 30, 2023.**

### **b. Election Update**

Nominations are due September 29, 2023. These nominees will then be voted upon after it is confirmed that these members would like to run. Vote will most likely occur mid October. **Mark will send the email requesting nominations again.**

### **c. Fall Meeting Update**

**Mark will send out hotel reservation information** for those who are traveling in person. Hotel rooms are available and covered up front by TPPC. **The draft of the agenda will be sent out by the end of this week.** There is a chance the federal government will shut down. If this is the case EPA employees will not be allowed to attend the meeting in person or virtually.

Strategic planning session. **Mark will see if the strategic planner will be able to join in on a work session.**

## **6. Tribal Caucus Report-out**

C&T plans are creating tribal sovereignty issues when licenses are provided by states but utilized on tribal lands. Opting out can be damaging to Tribal farming industry and C&T plans may require staff, funding and time that tribes do not have, leaving tribes without sufficient options. Inviting certification and WPS EPA employees to the fall meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss this issue. **Linsey said she will confirm that the TPPC C&T paper will be reviewed prior to the fall meeting.**

## **7. Workgroup Report-out**

No updates noted.

## **8. NTC Updates (Meyo Marrufo)**

No updates noted.

## **9. Other Issues/Concerns/Hot Topics (All)**

Pesticide General Permit (PGP) is making updates due to the Center for Biological Diversity suit. **Renee will send information** on a future listening session to Mark so that other TPPC members can attend and provide comments. Tribes have through October 13, 2023 to request for consultation on PGP. **Mark will share resources from Renee** with TPPC members. **Jasmine will send prior comments to Renee.**

#### **10. Next TPPC Conference Call: Wednesday, November 15\*, 2023, 2:00-4:00 p.m. EST**

\* The October call will not be held since we're having our semi-annual meeting earlier that month

\*(**Yellow highlighting** in the notes above indicates action items)

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- October 16-19: New Technology and Emerging Issues PREP (Davis, CA: <https://agsci.colostate.edu/agbio/prep/new-technology-and-emerging-issues-course/>)
- October 17-19: North American Pollinator Protection Campaign Conference (Washington, DC: <https://www.pollinator.org/nappc/registration>)
- November 8-9: Federal Certification Training for Private Applicators of RUPs within Indian Country (online: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-applicator-certification-indian-country/training-private-applicators-under-epa-plan>)
- December 4-7: Basic PIRT (Savannah, GA: <https://www.epa.gov/compliance/pesticide-inspector-residential-training-pirt>)
- December 4-5: SFIREG Meeting (Washington, DC: <https://aapco.org/2015/07/30/sfireg-3/>)