

Program Responsibility

- Monitor Air Quality for Particulate Matter (PM-10)
- Collect Meteorological Weather Data (Wind Speed and Direction, Temperature, Relative Humidity, Precipitation, Solar Radiation)
- Using the Air Quality Index determine and make recommendations for air quality control and enforcement
- Develop Air Quality Legislation for regulatory rulemaking
- Conduct bilingual (Navajo/English) environmental education outreach and community awareness
- Emission Inventory
- Gaseous Analyzers (SO₂, NO_x, O₃)



Who is the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency?

The Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency (NNEPA) was created in 1994, but its enabling legislation, the *Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Act*, was not approved by the Navajo Nation Council until April 21, 1995. Before becoming NNEPA, the organization was known first as the Navajo Tribal Environmental Protection Commission, then as the Environmental Protection Administration. The Navajo Nation Council in 1972 recognizing the importance of environmental protection established the initial commission.

The NNEPA organization is subdivided into four departments. Those departments are: (1) the Surface and Ground Water Protection Department; (2) the Waste Regulatory and Compliance Department; (3) the Air and Toxics Department, and (4) the Enforcement Department.

Today, NNEPA consists of over sixty-five (65) staff members, with expertise in compliance inspections, permit review and renewal, legislative rulemaking, criminal enforcement, and environmental review.



NAVAJO AIR QUALITY CONTROL PROGRAM

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NAVAJO AIR QUALITY CONTROL PROGRAM

Air Quality Section

To protect, preserve, and enhance the air resources



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Air Quality Section

What is the Role of the Air Quality Section?

The section administers a network of several types of air monitors across the vast Navajo Nation. The air monitors differ based on what atmospheric information they are intended to collect. Using atmospheric information collected and using the air quality index, determinations are made for various air sheds about air quality classifications and designations, about impacts on human health and visual aesthetics.



In addition to collecting air quality data, the Air Quality Control section develops air pollution prevention and control regulations by legislating

to the Resource Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

The first regulation developed was the *Navajo Nation Air Pollution Prevention and Control Act* (Navajo Nation Clean Air Act), while the second regulation to be developed was the *Navajo Nation Air Quality Control Program Operating Permit Regulations*, April 22, 2004 and July 8, 2004, respectively.

Establishment of the Air Quality Program

The program had its beginnings as a USEPA Region 9 grant funded program, under the Clean Air Act (CAA) Section 103 Grant, in April 1992. Then in 1999, the program was funded under the CAA Section 105 Grant, which continues to function.

to date.

The department under which the Air Quality Control Program functions is the Air and Toxics Department of the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency. The Air Quality Control Program administers the Air Quality Section and the Operating Permit Section.

Navajo Nation Air Quality and Attainment Status

All areas of the Navajo Nation are currently designated as attainment or unclassifiable for all pollutants for which a National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) has been established.

National Ambient Air Quality Standard

The Clean Air Act established two types of national air quality standards. Primary standards set limits to protect public health, including the health of "sensitive" populations such as asthmatics, children, and the elderly. Secondary standards set limits to protect public welfare, including protection against decreased visibility, damage to animals, crops, vegetation, and buildings.

Air Quality Index (AQI) Values	Levels of Health Concern	Colors
When the AQI is in this range:	...air quality conditions are:	...as symbolized by this color:
0 to 50:	Good	Green
51 to 100:	Moderate	Yellow
101 to 150:	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Orange
151 to 200:	Unhealthy	Red
201 to 300:	Very unhealthy	Purple
301 to 500:	Hazardous	Maroon

Air Monitors



- TEOM Monitors (Transducing Element Oscillating Microbalance)

- HiVol Monitors (High Volume)



- Gaseous Analyzers

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