U.S. EPA Region 5 Pilot Peer Match Program

A Region 5 Case Study
Outline

- Definition and Background
- Details and Benefits of Peer Matching
- Pilot Description
Definition

- “Peer match– voluntary exchange of information between tribes, where one tribe has technical assistance needs and one (or more) other tribes has technical expertise in that same subject area.
- Upon agreeing to participate in a match, the tribe(s) with technical expertise mentors the tribe requesting assistance.
- The mentoring process is intended to complete a specific technical task.
- Peer matching can be a productive, cost effective culturally relevant method of providing technical assistance to tribes on a wide range of waste related topics.”
Background

- RCRA authorized EPA to provide technical assistance to municipal and state governments
- Technical assistance focused on implementing SWMP and enabling recycling
- Many informal peer matching networks currently eg. TSWAN, HETF
What is Peer Matching?

- Voluntary participation
- Resource for technical assistance needs
- Relationship building with peers
- Waste related focus
Why Peer Match?

- Learn from peer experts
- Build relationships with peers
- Gain technical advice with tribal perspective
- Low to no cost for any party involved
Region 5 Pilot

- Create additional relevant effective technical resource to tribes
- First needed a pilot
- Need for transfer station
- Participants: Bad River, Fond du Lac, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Bands of Lake Superior Chippewa
Region 5 Pilot

- First steps
- Funding from EPA for travel
- Activities
  - Site visit
  - Document review
Region 5 Pilot

- Current status
  - Revised timeline
  - One additional site visit remains
  - Project moving on to construction phase
  - Still holding calls
  - Subsequent letters sent to tribes
Contact Information

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