

NSC Technical Subcommittee Call Minutes – July 15, 2025

Participation [by region]:

- 1: Connie Mendolia – **CT** and Alyssa Moodie - **NH**
- 2: Timothy Kirchgraber – **NY** and Maxwell Graham - **NJ**
- 3: Olivia Achuko – **DC** and Forest Edwards & Jeremy Hancher – **PA**
- 4: Ginna McWhirter & Donovan Grimwood – **TN**; Ryan Ariail - SC - **SC** and Tony Pendola – **NC**
- 5: Jennifer Theodore – **MN**; Emilio Machado & Lisa Ashenbrenner-Hunt -**WI** and Julie Rhodes & Mark Stoddard – **IN**
- 6: Rosanne Sanchez & Teri Waldron - **NM**
- 7: Allison Crowther – **KS**; Bob Randolph – **MO** and Jordan Burrows & Jennifer Wittenburg - **IA**
- 8: Michael Gustafson – **MT**; Eleanor Divver – **UT**; Kaitlin Urso, Jarrett Vigil & Jesse Walters – **CO**
- 9: Alex Torres – **AZ** and Kat Olson – **NV**
- 10 Nattinee Nipataruedi - **AK**

EPA: Paula Hoag & Elnora Thompson

Unknown: Skylar Mosby 7 (717) ... 758

Tech-Subcommittee: <https://nationalsbeap.org/committees/technical>

**** This presentation was *not* recorded and will be posted on the National SBEAP YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5PupYpZ1W6IG8CtzCINK8Q> ****

Discussion of Ideas, Topics and Potential Speakers Annual Training & Technical

Some ideas that were considered prior to the start of the meeting:

1. **Lithium batteries:** Jarrett Vigil (Annual Training)
2. **Artificial intelligence (AI) and its use as a research tool:** What is the status and reliability of current AI algorithms?
3. **How can we keep up and better understand the changes taking place at EPA and how they will impact the SBEAPs?**
4. **Data centers:** Amazon Data Services is constructing two data sites in New Carlisle, IN, which includes 248 emergency generators each at a cost of eleven billion. **Data centers are considered a low priority topic. Colorado recently presented on this topic in August 2024 - <https://youtu.be/kmgNKhX8EGI>.**
5. **How to Acquire Near Real Time Satellite Imagery to Support Inspections:** Based on a recent presentation made by David J. Williams, EPA (I am exploring opportunities with Mr. Willimas).
6. **OAQPS Small Business updates:** from Ricardo Shojgreen, Environmental Protection Specialist, EPA (?).

Topical ideas discussed during the meeting:

1. Melanie King, EPA: National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines - <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2025-05/duke-energy-request-for-regulatory-interpretation-1-15-25.pdf> and <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2025-05/response-to-duke-energy.pdf>.
2. AI tools for state/federal environmental regulatory agencies: State environmental agencies are using AI for fraud detection, permitting, traffic management, and public service chatbots, while also exploring predictive maintenance and emergency response coordination. The EPA employs AI for chemical risk assessments, records categorization, enforcement targeting, and exposure pathway prediction, with a full inventory available on EPA's Artificial Intelligence Inventory page - <https://www.epa.gov/data/epa-artificial-intelligence-inventory>.
3. Energy and Innovation Summit at CMU: <https://www.mccormick.senate.gov/energy-summit/>.
4. FY 2026 – FY 2030 EPA Strategic Plan: <https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/strategicplan>.
5. Speaker from the SBA Office of Advocacy on a topic yet to be determined.
6. A recurring question that we have relates to wood working. There is not a current AP-42 set of emission factors, there are questions about the calculations done in the Oregon calculator, and while there is the Region 10 memo, it doesn't necessarily cover all areas. And Webfire is not very helpful.
7. Examples of AI (artificial intelligence) use case involving small businesses.
8. An AI prompt engineer designs and refines input instructions—called prompts—to guide artificial intelligence systems toward generating accurate, relevant, and context-aware responses. Their role involves crafting, testing, and optimizing these prompts to ensure the AI interprets user intent clearly and delivers precise, concise outputs across various applications.
9. U.S. states are actively developing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs to shift recycling and waste management costs from taxpayers to producers, with seven states—like California, Oregon, and Minnesota—already implementing packaging EPR laws and others conducting needs assessments or drafting legislation. While a fully standardized national EPR model has not yet been adopted, collaborative efforts among states and producer responsibility organizations are shaping common frameworks and performance goals. <https://productstewardship.us/epr-laws-map/> and <https://productstewardship.us/products/batteries/> (Washington (2023) , California, Colorado (2025 – battery stewardship), Nebraska (2025 – safe battery collection), Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois (battery stewardship), Florida, Maryland, New Jersey (2024 – battery management act), Connecticut (2025 Public Act No. 25-34), New York, Vermont and Maine).

Future topics:

- **August 19:** Printing topic, Gary Jones, Vice President, Environmental, Health & Safety Affairs, PRINTING United Alliance
- **September 16:** To be determined
- **October 20 – 21:** Annual Training, Salt Lake City, Utah

Next Call: August 19

1 pm CDT (2 pm EDT) (3rd Tuesday of month)