The Power of the Mom voice:
How Indigenous Voices and Communities can Advocate for Clean Air

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Land Acknowledgement
Our mission is to protect children from air pollution and climate change. We envision a safe, stable, and equitable future where all children breathe clean air.
Indigenous People and Air Pollution Report

By National Tribal Air Association & Moms Clean Air Force
Visit to view and share: https://www.momscleanairforce.org/resources/indigenous-people-and-air-pollution/
And https://www.ntaatribalair.org/weekly-updates/

The total number of Indigenous people in the United States is between 2.5 and 6 million, of which 32% live on Tribal lands or in Alaska Native villages. There are 574 federally recognized Tribes, but this number does not account for the total number of Indigenous groups in the US. Historically the US government has made systematic efforts to disrupt Indigenous communities, and there are many Indigenous communities with deep history that remain unrecognized by the US government.

The United States removed many Indigenous people from their ancestral lands and violated treaties with Tribes. Indigenous people have experienced desecration of their sacred sites in efforts to denigrate and disband their communities. Indigenous communities are disproportionately impacted by pipelines, mines, waste incinerators, and other polluting industries that poison the air and water.

Tribal lands remain despite this history. For example, the Navajo Nation’s reservation is approximately the size of West Virginia. The Tohono O’odham Nation includes 62 miles of the international border with Mexico and with 2.7 million acres total, the Tohono O’odham Reservation is larger than Rhode Island and Delaware combined. San Diego County, California, has more Indian Reservations than any other county in the United States, with 18 separate and sovereign land bases.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE and AIR POLLUTION in the United States

A REPORT FROM THE NATIONAL TRIBAL AIR ASSOCIATION AND MOMS CLEAN AIR FORCE

WHAT DOES INDIGENOUS MEAN?
We use the term Indigenous in this document to refer to the descendants of the people who lived in North America before 1492.
Others may use the terms American Indian, Native American, and Alaska Native.

CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES
Indigenous peoples have unique cultural perspectives; therefore, no one can speak on behalf of all Indigenous people.
However, the worldview of many Indigenous people holds the health of the land, water, and air as inseparable from the health of the people. This is due to the subsistence (lifestyle) that many Native people lead, as well as their commitment to maintaining cultural practices such as hunting, fishing, gathering, and ceremony.

For example, the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa recognizes the many links between wild rice and their health, including cultural identity, social relations, health, physical activity, and economic livelihood.
Climate Change in Indigenous Communities
Health Impacts in Indigenous Communities
Tribal Sovereignty being expressed through Air Programs
“What can community members do now?”

• Take Action with Moms in Signing Letter to Reps to support Build Back Better Bill. https://act.momscleanairforce.org/iCe1J7Y?_ga=2.8529653.1307732162.1636396723-989428279.1613030048

• Contact a Moms organizer in your state

• Read and Share Moms Resources https://www.moms cleanairforce.org/resources/indigenous-people-and-air-pollution

• Host a Virtual Watch Party

• Share information and recommendations with elected officials plus more.

• Join Moms Clean Air Force! Take Action on Policy!
Take Action For Clean Air & Environmental Justice

Contact your elected officials to tell them why clean air and environmental justice is important to you! Moms Clean Air Force can help.

Make Your Voice Heard - Moms Clean Air Force
Become a member: www.momscleanairforce.org
Facebook: Moms Clean Air Force - Colorado
Twitter: CleanAirMoms_CO
Text to Join: 66866