

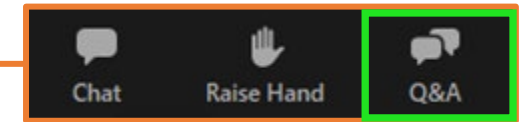
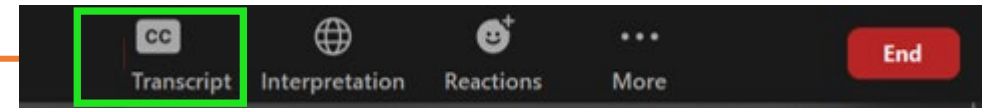
# EPA Grant for Providing Technical Assistance to Promote Pollution Prevention to Address EJ

Tribal Listening session, September 21, 2022



# Zoom Logistics and Technical Orientation

- For closed captioning of today's discussion, please select the closed captioning icon at the bottom of your screen.
- Please email [webinarsupport@erg.com](mailto:webinarsupport@erg.com) if you experience any technical difficulties with Zoom.
- All participants are in listen-only mode now - please add all questions and comments to the Q&A. Questions that you would like to be answered live can be added to the Q&A.
- Today's session will not be recorded, however notetakers will be capturing feedback that is received. Please refrain from sharing any confidential or privileged information.
- If you would like to have translated slides sent to you after the listening session today, please email us at [P2-EJ-Grants@epa.gov](mailto:P2-EJ-Grants@epa.gov)



# Welcome!

Welcome to today's feedback session for development of new EPA Pollution Prevention (P2) Grant program to provide P2 technical assistance to businesses to address environmental justice (EJ). The goal of this grant is to promote pollution prevention practices among businesses that may impact disadvantaged communities, such as businesses located in, or near disadvantaged communities.

## **Moderator:**

- Joy Onasch, ERG

## **Speakers:**

- Dan Helfgott, Branch Chief, EPA
- Chen Wen, P2 EJ Grant Workgroup, EPA

# Session Goals

## **EPA will provide a brief background on the:**

- Concept of Pollution Prevention
- Definition of EJ and Justice 40 commitment
- New Pollution Prevention (P2) grant opportunity

## **We will gather feedback\* from Tribes to help us:**

- Design a new P2 grant program
  - For state and tribal programs to provide technical assistance to businesses to increase pollution prevention practices to address human health and environmental concerns that may impact disadvantaged communities.

*\*Our goal for this listening session is to gather your input to help inform the development of the new P2 grant program, not to seek consensus or agreement.*

# Pollution Prevention (P2) Grants Background

**In 1990, The Pollution Prevention Act (PPA) defined P2, also known as “source reduction,” as:**

- Any practice that reduces, eliminates, or prevents the creation of pollution and its release into the environment or waste stream prior to recycling, treatment, disposal or cleanup.

**The PPA made provision for P2 grants:**

- To provide information, tools and technical assistance to businesses to help them develop and adopt P2 practices.
- Are awarded to states, state-affiliated entities (colleges and universities), the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, any territory of the U.S., federally recognized tribes and intertribal consortia.
  - Eligible applicants are encouraged to partner with other organizations who may be able to support technical assistance to businesses (e.g., NGOs, associations, community organizations, local governments, colleges, others).

# Pollution Prevention (P2) Grants Background

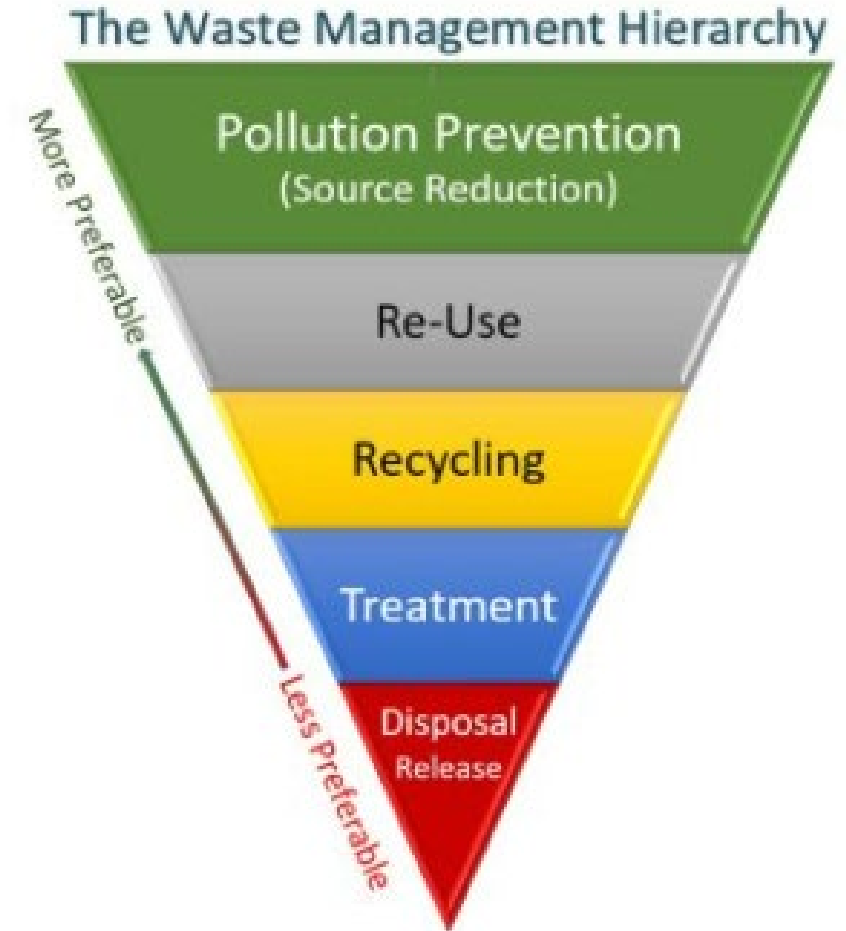
## What is Pollution Prevention (P2)?

- Pollution Prevention is any practice that reduces, eliminates or prevents pollution at its source before it is created.
- **Examples include:**
  - Reducing the use of water and hazardous chemical input
  - Modifying a process to produce less hazardous waste
  - Substituting the use of chemicals and solvents that are less harmful to human health and the environment
  - Reducing energy use

# Pollution Prevention (P2) Grants Background

## What is NOT Pollution Prevention?

- While other approaches such as reuse, recycling and treatment are beneficial to the environment, P2 is considered the best approach.
- The goal of this grant program is to help businesses move to the P2 part of the hierarchy.



# Environmental Justice Overview

## EPA environmental justice (EJ) definition

- The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. This goal will be achieved when everyone enjoys:
  - The same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards, and
  - Equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work.

## Justice40 commitment

- “The Federal Government has made it a goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain Federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution.”



# Funding and Structure for New P2 Grants

President Biden signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) in November 2021

- Includes \$20 million/year over 5 years (FY22-26) for EPA's P2 grant program (under section 6605 the PPA)

EPA is establishing **two new P2 grant opportunities** in FY23 & FY25 to provide P2 technical assistance to businesses to: 1) increase access to safer and sustainable products to support EJ, and 2) promote P2 among businesses that are impacting human health and the environment in disadvantaged communities.

- 2-year grants
- Must involve P2 technical assistance to businesses
- Eligible applicants: states, state-affiliated entities (universities), tribes, intertribal consortia, U.S. territories. Interested stakeholders are encouraged to reach out and partner with eligible applicants.
- There is no requirement for matching funds from the grantee
- The first Request for Applications (RFA) is expected to be published in February 2023

**Today's discussion will focus on the P2 Grants to provide P2 technical assistance to businesses that are impacting human health and the environment on Tribal lands.**

# Timeline of New Grants



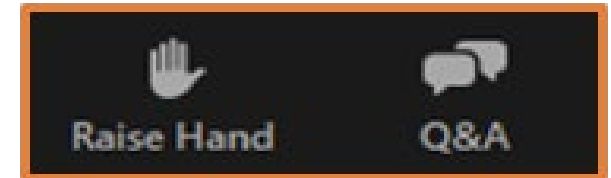
# Administrative Process Overview

- Sept 21, 2022: listening session for Tribes
- Sept 29, 2022: listening session for general audience
- Fall 2022 - Spring 2023: Before the grant RFA is published, potential grantees and community members build partnerships for a grant proposal
- February 2023: Grant solicitation published
- Spring 2023: Grant proposals due
- Fall 2023: Grant awards announcement
- 2 years after award: Grant typically ends
- 1 year extension: Grant extension usually possible

# Clarifying Questions and Discussion Reminders

- Type your feedback into the Q&A. Comments and questions that you would like to be answered live can also be added to the Q&A.
- If there is a lot of participation, your input may not be read out loud. However, EPA will compile and read all the comments from this session.

This is not the only opportunity to share feedback. Participants are encouraged to send additional feedback to [P2-EJ-Grants@epa.gov](mailto:P2-EJ-Grants@epa.gov)



# Clarifying Questions?



# Examples of Possible EJ Projects

- Use the P2 EJ Facility Mapping tool or other approaches to target P2 technical assistance to facilities located in or adjacent disadvantaged communities.
- Convene meetings with businesses and members of the disadvantaged communities to identify environmental and human health issues that could be addressed through the adoption of P2 practices.
- Develop and conduct training for businesses in disadvantaged communities on P2 practices.
- Work with industry associations to educate members on how to implement P2 practices in their businesses.

# Feedback – Project Focus

1. What are some P2 projects/sectors that could significantly increase pollution prevention practices among businesses that **impact** disadvantaged communities.
2. How would you target technical assistance to businesses to assure that it can address human health or environmental concerns in disadvantaged communities?
3. Do you have suggestions on how to measure the success of a project?
4. How can we more effectively engage community groups on this grant opportunity?

# Feedback – Project Focus

5. Do you see any barriers to pursuing EJ projects under this grant?
6. Do you see barriers to facilities working with you on P2 and EJ?
7. How could grant-funded projects ensure the greatest possible public health/environmental impact?
8. Do you see opportunities for leveraging other community engagement programs?



# Feedback – Administrative Focus

- A. What's the best way to help connect the community organizations with the eligible grantees?
- B. How can we structure the grant program so applicants can effectively partner with other organizations (e.g., NGOs, associations, community organizations, local governments, other states, other state universities, etc.)?
- C. Are there any barriers that we should be aware that could prevent community organizations from partnering in this grant?
- D. How much funding would be necessary to support your project idea(s)? We are thinking about allowing the possibility of larger grant awards compared to previous years of EPA P2 grants.

# Contact Information & Additional EPA Grant Information

## Contact:

If you wish to provide additional feedback or have questions, please contact:

[P2-EJ-Grants@epa.gov](mailto:P2-EJ-Grants@epa.gov)

## Main EPA P2 website:

<https://www.epa.gov/p2>

## EPA P2 grant training from 2022:

<https://www.epa.gov/p2/fy22-fy23-pollution-prevention-grant-program-webinars>

# More Information About Past P2 Grants

**Examples of past P2 grants can be found here:**

<https://www.epa.gov/p2/grant-summaries>

# More Information About Environmental Justice

## EPA EJ commitments

- [White House Justice40 commitment](#)
- [EPA environmental justice landing page](#)
- [EPA environmental justice in your community](#)

## EJ mapping tools

- [Climate and economic justice screening tool \(CEJST\)](#)
- [EPA environmental justice screening and mapping tool \(EJScreen\)](#)