

Hello,

My name is Keith Myers and am considering writing a proposal for this funding topic from the EPA. I just wanted to discuss this with the Council. Perhaps any interested member could offer some future guidance, or ideas, on certain parameters and information systems that they think would be beneficial to the various types of underserved communities. The Commonwealth of PA is a very geographically large area. It has many diverse communities as we know. Urban, suburban, and rural communities could all be classified as underserved.

(b) The term “underserved communities” refers to populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life, as exemplified by the list in the preceding definition of “equity.” Sec. 3.

Because of such diversity in PA and the US, I am just searching for different ideas and thoughts for platforms and data content that would come from one source or application and be accepted by all types of communities. Any comments or advice is welcome.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Keith Myers

TOPIC

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as part of its Science to Achieve Results (STAR) program, is seeking applications proposing community-engaged research to advance the use and communication of air pollution data for addressing community-identified air pollution concerns.

The growing use of commercially available air sensors is rapidly changing air quality monitoring. Many communities have used air sensors to conduct air monitoring to learn about local air quality conditions and potentially initiate efforts to improve air quality, reduce exposures, or mitigate air pollutant health effects. There has also been an increase in the availability of satellite-based local-scale air quality data providing even more information to communities. However, challenges remain in accessing, analyzing, interpreting, and then translating the data into information for the public and that can be used to inform community actions and decision-making regarding local air pollution concerns.

EPA is requesting proposals for research to inform underserved communities with science-based information, tools, and approaches to use air and related environmental data to engage with decision-makers and take actions to address community-identified air pollution concerns associated with criteria air pollutants or hazardous air pollutants.

Research proposals should involve substantial engagement with communities, community-based organizations, and/or Tribes to address both of the following priorities:

1. Methods and tools for data integration and analysis to characterize community exposures to air pollution in underserved communities, and
2. Effective communication of air quality information to communities and decision makers to support actions to address air pollution concerns in underserved communities.

<https://www.epa.gov/research-grants/air-quality-information-making-sense-air-pollution-data-inform-decisions>