

# THE NJIT TAB TIMES

*Providing Technical Assistance to Brownfield Communities Since 2008*

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## NJIT TAB Connects with Tribes at the Tribal Lands and Environment Forum



NJIT TAB engaged tribes while participating in the Tribal Lands and Environment Forum in Uncasville, CT August 16-18, 2016. The Forum brought together 500 environmental professionals from tribal communities, EPA, State/Local/Federal agencies, and other interested parties to meet, share knowledge and learn from one another how to improve management and protection of tribal lands, resources and human health.

NJIT TAB participated in many aspects of the forum, connecting with tribal nations, including:

- Participating in the interactive multi-media session where staff met with participants to network and exchange ideas;
- Running an exhibit booth at the conference to increase visibility and connect with tribes and other

organizations seeking to assist tribes with brownfield redevelopment;

- Leading a breakout session on “Where’s The Money? Tips and Tricks for Successful Grant Proposals” along with Victoria Flowers of the Oneida Nation. The session provided on-the ground examples of how tribes have aggressively funded or otherwise facilitated catalytic redevelopment efforts that return brownfield sites to productive reuse. As part of this session, NJIT TAB provided attendees with a fact sheet on Federal Funding and Financing resources;
- Arranging a special meet and greet session with tribes to provide the opportunity for tribes to learn how they can access the TAB program. At this session, NJIT TAB connected with the Passamaquoddy Tribe (Region 1) and the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Tribe (Region 4). The Passamaquoddy wishes to explore the possibility of using NJIT TAB services for community engagement, and the Choctaw requested assistance with their brownfield tribal response program public record.

Through its multi-pronged approach, NJIT TAB was able to identify tribal nations wanting assistance, and increase tribal capacity to identify financing and funding sources to assess cleanup and redevelop brownfield sites. NJIT TAB will follow up with the tribes it met and provide services through its TAB cooperative agreement.