

**Mary Power Giacoletti**  
**Clean Air Revival**

**Comments on:**

**Project 2: Improving Indoor Air Quality to reduce exposure to airborne contaminants including fine particulates and chemical compounds in Alaskan Native Populations and other Indigenous Communities in North America**

The goal to reduce the harmful effects of particulate pollution, in the form of soot or black carbon, should be extended to all North American communities, where the presence of soot is rarely recognized or monitored. The primary source of the pollutant is wood burning: residential fire places, wood-burning grills and barbecues, camp fires, fire pits.

The EPA has stated that "wood burning is the fastest-growing form of pollution in most American cities." They have also concluded "that particulate matter smaller than 2.5 microns (PM2.5) is much more toxic than previously estimated...annually 14,000 to 24,000 deaths statewide (California) may be associated with exposures to PM2.5." NASA has declared soot to be "a top-priority pollutant." Every community suffers the harmful effects of wood smoke. The problem is severe to the point that regulatory action is desperately needed and woefully inadequate.