

Bio:

Jay Spaan is an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. He has more than a decade of experience in program evaluation, primarily as a Senior Analyst in the U.S. Government Accountability Office's (GAO) Natural Resource and Environment team. In his role at GAO, Jay has focused on a variety of tribal issues, including barriers that can hinder tribal energy development, challenges to self-governance of



energy development, oversight of tribal and Indian mineral development, environmental risks of hydraulic fracturing, and tribal water and wastewater infrastructure in the border region.

Jay has presented his work at several conferences, including the 2014 Ute Tribe Energy Conference. In 2014, he received a GAO Client Service Award for sustained service to numerous committees and congressional clients resulting in improved oversight over production of oil and gas on federal and tribal lands. Jay earned a Master's of Jurisprudence in Indian Law from the University of Tulsa and a Master's of Public Affairs from the University of Texas at Dallas.

Statement of interest:

Among its mission, SAIGE educates Federal agencies in the history and obligations of the Federal Indian trust responsibility, assists agencies to implement the trust responsibility, provides a forum for identifying issues, and works to ensure equal treatment of American Indians in government service. I am dedicated to this mission and would like to assist SAIGE in achieving its goals. My experience within the federal government—particularly, identifying deficiencies and areas for improvement within various federal programs across multiple agencies and levels of government and developing solutions to overcome those deficiencies—has provided me with beneficial skills and knowledge. As such, I can provide assistance to SAIGE identifying relevant issues, implementing new approaches to address issues, and fostering collaboration among members and external agencies and other stakeholders.