

State Innovation Grant Quarterly Report

Project: “Promoting Implementation of Innovative Environmental Compliance Strategies in the Northeast and Use of Common Business Sector Performance Measures” (States Common Measures Project)

Reporting Period: October 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007

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Summary of Activities

- States participating in the SQG sector continued field observation work and have submitted checklist data and certification to project data quality standards. (See attached status outline)
- Compiled a revised draft list of auto body sector indicators based on the previous indicators proposed by the participating states and the proposed EPA miscellaneous paint and coatings rule standards.
- Organized and held a face-to-face meeting of states participating in the auto body sector in Sturbridge Massachusetts on October 23, 2007. The goal of the meeting was to pick indicators for the auto body sector. Prior to the indicator discussion, the participants discussed applicability: 1) how to define the universe and 2) what kind of size threshold, if any, to use. In addition, an EPA representative provided an overview of the new rule addressing auto body area sources by identifying the key performance standards. The group discussed adopting some or all of EPA's recommended standards or selecting previously recommended indicators or some combination.
- On November 6, 2007, conducted a conference call to discuss the proposed auto body universe identification methodologies proposed by the participating states. The result of the call and subsequent discussions was the establishment of a performance standard for universe identification rather than a single methodology.
- On November 20, 2007 conducted a conference call to further discuss auto body indicators. As the result of this discussion, revised draft auto body indicators were issued on November 29, 2007.
- In December 2007, project managers discussed proposed revisions to MassDEP automation tools to increase ease of use of the tools and to incorporate new statistical enhancements such as the reporting of confidence intervals and additional comparisons.
- Discussed and revised the draft final project report outline.
- Discussed and revised the project schedule.
- Held numerous additional group and individual calls/meetings to support the activities above.
- Additional project information may be found at the NEWMOA website at <http://www.newmoa.org/hazardouswaste/measures>

Accomplishments and Problems

- Phase 3 – Data Collection and Transfer – is continuing for the small quantity generator sector.
- The states of VT, RI, NH, NY and WA are continuing project work in the auto body sector by completing the measurement indicators and going forward with phase 3 field measurement. (Note: WA is not an original project state, but asked to join the project for the auto body sector. The state of ME will not be participating in field observations in the auto body sector at this time.)

Schedules

- It is anticipated that all phases of the hazardous waste small quantity generator sector will be complete by the end of the grant period and phases 1 and 2 of the auto body sector will be completed by the end of the grant period.

Funds

- The project has expended approximately \$142,505 of grant funds through November 2007. As of the end of this quarter, no funding problems are identified to date or for the remainder of the project with the possible exception of funding all the needed enhancements to the MassDEP automation tools to support this project.

Estimates

- PHASE 3 – DATA COLLECTION AND TRANSFER (2007 – 2008)
 - Data collection is underway for the SQG sector and it is estimated to be complete by or before April 2008.
- PHASE 4 – DATA ANALYSIS AND REPORTING (2008 –2009)
- Anticipated project activities include:
 - Continuing briefings for NEWMOA Directors
 - Developing and implementing a data management strategy
 - Building new data management tools as necessary
 - Collecting, evaluating, aggregating and reporting initial data provided by states
 - Collecting, organizing, analyzing, distributing and/or posting informational material
 - Organizing and supporting two or more live workshops/meetings associated with the above steps
 - organizing and supporting 5-6 conference calls or more associated with the above steps
 - Developing and executing subcontracts as may be necessary to accomplish project goals

- As indicated in the funding section above, at this point, there appear to be sufficient funds identified to successfully complete the project on schedule for one sector as required by the grant. The possible exception is sufficient funding for needed enhancements to the MassDEP automation tools to support this project.