

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: April 1, 2007 through June 30, 2007

Prepared by: Steven A. DeGabriele, Project Manager, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)

Date: July 11, 2007

Summary of Activities

- Decision was made to defer final planning on the auto body sector until the project states were ready to begin the data collection phase for the small quantity generator group.
- Held a state project leads conference call on April 11, 2007 to review and decide issues for the small quantity generator sector including: the project quality requirements for existing data sources and new field observations; the sector data collection period; state-specific issues with certain indicators; and the sector sample size.
- Developed and distributed recap of outcomes of April 11, 2007 meeting.
- Developed and distributed the final small quantity generator performance checklist and final indicators list.
- On May 23, 2007, conducted a training program for the state project leads and field staff from CO, CT, ME, MA, NH, NY and VT who will be collecting field information about the performance status of a statistically valid random set of small quantity generators in each state using the project indicators. The training is critical to ensuring the people conducting the field visits have a common understanding of the performance indicators and how compliance with the indicators will be determined. This, in turn, will allow the project to have sufficient data quality to compare information across the states participating in the small quantity generator sector.
- In June 2007, a PowerPoint presentation and universe identification and sample log were developed and distributed to the state project leads to assist them in using the methodology for picking each states random sample of small quantity generators and documenting this work.
- Held numerous group and individual calls/meetings to support the activities above.
- Phase 3 – Data Collection and Transfer – is underway for the small quantity generator sector.
- A PowerPoint presentation on the status and future direction of the States Common Measures Project was given to directors of the Northeast Waste Management Officials Association at the June 7, 2007 quarterly meeting.

- Additional project information may be found at the NEWMOA website at <http://www.newmoa.org/hazardouswaste/asures>

Accomplishments and Problems

- Phase 3 – Data Collection and Transfer – is underway for the small quantity generator sector.
- The final list of candidate performance indicators and the data quality issues associated with using each indicator for the auto body sector will be deferred until August or September 2007.

Schedules

- Overall the project is on schedule. Deciding when and how to proceed with the auto body sector may affect the schedule in the future. See details above and below.

Funds

- The project has expended approximately \$93,035 of grant funds through May 2007. It is anticipated that project will spend \$160,000 during FFY07 and \$50,000 in FFY08. As of the end of this quarter, no funding problems are identified to date or for the remainder of the project.

Estimates

- PHASE 3 – DATA COLLECTION AND TRANSFER (2007 – 2008)
 - Data collection is underway 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.