

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: July 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007

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Summary of Activities

- Developed draft outline of final project report.
- On August 23, 2007, conducted a conference call with key EPA and project staff to discuss vision for final project report.
- On August 27-28, 2007 held the States ERP Consortium all-members meeting in Manchester, NH.
- On September 12, 2007, conducted a data collection and analysis meeting with the project manager, data quality manager and NEWMOA project staff to prepare for data collection and analyses for the SQG and auto body sectors field work.
- Held a states project leads conference call on September 13, 2007 to get a state-by-state status report on SQG field evaluation activities and to discuss moving forward on the auto body sector. All SQG sector states (CO, CT, ME, MA, NH, NY and VT) reported that field evaluations are underway and some states indicated that fieldwork is nearly complete. With respect to the auto body sector, the states of ME, VT, RI, NH, NY and WA decided to continue project work in this sector by completing the measurement indicators and going forward with Phase 3 field measurement activities. (Note: WA is not an original project state, but asked to join the project for the auto body sector)
- Provided guidance to SQG measurement states on how submit completed field checklists and how to certify to the project data quality standards.
- Selected a location, date and prepared for the auto body sector states (and EPA) to meet to discuss sector universe and applicability issues, continue work on draft measurement indicators, evaluate the desired degree of alignment with the proposed EPA paint striping and miscellaneous coatings rule and establish a schedule for the completion of phases 2 and 3 for this sector. (The meeting will held on October 23, 2007 in Sturbridge, MA)
- Held numerous 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 underway for the small quantity generator sector.
- The states of ME, VT, RI, NH, NY and WA decided to continue 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)
- It is not clear yet how much progress can be made in the auto body before the end of the grant period. It is likely phase 4 work (and possibly phase 3 work) will be completed after the grant period.

Schedules

- Overall the project is on schedule to complete at least one sector by the end of the grant period as required, but as indicated above the schedule for the auto body sector will likely extend beyond the grant period.

Funds

- The project has expended approximately \$110,083 of grant funds through August 2007. 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 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.