

# **FISCAL YEAR 2009 PROJECT Hazardous Waste**

## **Common Measures Project**

Project Strategy: Develop and use common measures of environmental performance for one or more business sectors/groups across several NEWMOA member states, and other states that have asked to participate. The purpose is to advance the use of valid statistical methods and measurement tools to enable comparison of performance changes across states resulting from the use of various environmental compliance assurance/performance improvement approaches.

This project relies on the models of innovative compliance strategies, including the Environmental Results Program (ERP) and other statistically valid compliance/performance rating approaches already in use by states. By developing and using shared measures, the participating state can evaluate the effectiveness of their own programs and the relative effectiveness of the other states' programs and decide to adopt the more successful compliance assurance approaches used throughout the region.

In Fiscal 2007 participating state staff received training on the development and use of ERP type performance measurement tools. They considered several possible business sectors/groups, and decided to develop and use core performance measures for small quantity hazardous waste generators (SQG's). Several states began inspections of SQG's using the common measures.

In Fiscal 2008 the participating states completed inspections of SQG's using the common measures and reported the results to Mass DEP and NEWMOA for inclusion in a database that combined and presented the environmental outcome data for review and analysis of the results. Participating states collaborated in the development of core performance measures for the auto-body repair business sector. NEWMOA worked with Mass DEP to update and revised the Quality Assurance Project Plan for the project, developed a draft comprehensive project report, and provided support to the States ERP Consortium. The Consortium is a group of 20 states that are committed to working together and with EPA to advance and facilitate the development and recognition of ERP-type programs in state environmental agencies and EPA.

In FY 2009, NEWMOA will hold the final meeting of the participating states to evaluate measurement results for small quantity generators, and identify lessons learned and next steps for state Common Measures activities. NEWMOA will also manage completion of the contract with Tetra Tech for improvements to the software that states will use to manage, evaluate, and present measurement data; and complete the comprehensive Project Report.

This effort is funded by an EPA grant to the Mass DEP. Mass DEP has contracted with NEWMOA to provide administrative and other support services to the project.

For more information visit [www.newmoa.org/hazardouswaste/](http://www.newmoa.org/hazardouswaste/) or contact: Bill Cass, NEWMOA, (617) 367-8558 x301; [wcass@newmoa.org](mailto:wcass@newmoa.org).