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RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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Office of Technical & Customer Assistance

Quarterly Project Report

Project Title: *Auto Salvage Environmental Results Program: Improved Compliance & Performance Through Innovation*

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Reporting Period: January 1 - March 31, 2007

Project Description: RIDEM OTCA's vision is to reduce environmental health risks by improving regulatory efficiency and auto salvage yard industry compliance through a comprehensive, multi-media program patterned after the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's ERP model and consisting of three parts:

- 1) Facility certification
- 2) Statistically-based performance measurement
- 3) On-site compliance monitoring, pollution prevention and technical assistance

RIDEM regulatory stakeholders, industry representatives, and project partners will be recruited to assist OTCA in reaching a goal of 75% industry-wide voluntary certification with a 25-50% average measurable improvement in selected environmental business practice indicators (EBPIs) during the first years of implementation.

EBPIs will be selected to assess improvements (relative to baseline conditions) in industry performance in air, water, and RCRA compliance as well as pollution prevention; the potential for release prevention, emissions reduction and human health/environmental protection will be key considerations. Outcomes will be measured using the statistical approach developed for the RI Auto body ERP including: statistically determined number and randomly selected locations for baseline and post-implementation compliance audits (given pre-specified levels of statistical confidence, power and compliance rate proportions), generally accepted methods for data analysis and EBPI comparisons, and summary reports that outline findings with appropriate descriptive statistics.

The Auto Salvage Yard Industry in Rhode Island:

In Rhode Island, there are currently eighty-six (86) Auto Wrecking & Salvage Yards licensed by the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation (RIDBR), located in twenty-six (26) communities. The license is active for a three (3) year time period, and must be renewed with RIDBR to maintain it. Auto Salvage Yard Facilities are required by law to be licensed by RIDBR in order to operate.

Project Activities Completed During Reporting Period:

- Completed incorporating all comments from governmental staff on the draft Certification Workbook and the draft Certification Checklist Package (T. Armstrong)
- Held two general stakeholder meetings (governmental officials, industry representatives, trade association, RI League of Cities & Towns) on January 25 and March 6, 2007 (T. Armstrong, R. Enander, E. Park)
- Completed incorporating all comments from stakeholder meetings on the draft Certification Workbook, and the draft Certification Checklist Package (T. Armstrong)
- Conducting a “dry run” of the certification checklist by three auto salvage yard facilities operators, to be completed in early April. (T. Armstrong)
- Made modifications to the draft Auto Salvage Yards webpage that will be placed on RIDEM website (T. Armstrong)
- Completed identification of active and inactive auto salvage yard facilities (E. Park)
 - This will assist in more accurately targeting those facility licensees actually operating auto salvage yard facilities to receive certification information and services, as well as providing more accurate information when analyzing data
- Completed checking and tabulating the results of the baseline audits (R. Enander)
- Participated in a NEWMOA/States Common Measures Project Meeting on March 13, 2007 in Chelmsford, MA (R. Gagnon)
- Participated in States ERP Consortium conference calls during this reporting period (T. Armstrong, R. Gagnon)
- Participate in the States ERP Consortium activities, including co-chairing Sharing Information work group (T. Armstrong) and co-chairing Automation work group (R. Gagnon)

Major Activities Planned for Next Quarter:

- Receive comments from “dry run” of certification checklist by three auto salvage yard facilities operators, make any final modifications to documents
- Mail certification documents to auto salvage yard facilities operators
- Conduct a workshop for auto salvage yard facilities operators to introduce and explain the program, and answer questions
- Conduct a ½ day stormwater workshop in collaboration with the Narragansett Bay Commission, for auto salvage yard facilities operators and NBC significant industrial users
- Work with RIDEM webmaster to prepare Auto Salvage Yards webpage for placement on RIDEM website in the spring of 2007
- Continue participating in the NEWMOA/States Common Measures Project
- Continue participating in the States ERP Consortium activities, including co-chairing Sharing Information work group (T. Armstrong) and co-chairing Automation work group (R. Gagnon)

Attachments: Certification Workbook
 Certification Checklist Package
 Auto Salvage Yard Operations Summary
 Design for Auto Salvage Yard Facilities webpage