

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
Incorporating EMS in Permitting Decisions
Grant # PI-83230301-0
Quarterly Report
October 1, 2005- December 31, 2005

Overall Progress and Milestones Accomplished:

The Project Advisory Team met on October 18, 2005 and December 13, 2005 during the reporting quarter with accomplishments listed below.

Training Activity

The EMS trainings are scheduled for January 11 and 12, 2006, and will be conducted by the Project Consultant, Dr. Phil Barnes, with the University of South Carolina. The 2 days will be broken up into two different courses, *EMS 101* and *EMS in Permitting*. The Team has finalized the agendas for the two different EMS trainings; see copies attached with this report.

EMS 101 is a ½ day training for DHEC permitting, enforcement, compliance, and regional office staff. As of January 6, 2006, 170 staff are registered to attend the training. This training is designed to give staff the basic design structure of EMSs, the role they can play in the regulatory framework, and how EMSs may improve future regulatory oversight. It will include a case study of an EMS of one of the facilities participating in the project: that facility's representative will attend the training as well. The *EMS 101* training will be satellite broadcast to the regional offices due to ongoing travel restrictions. The regional training coordinators will handle registration and the administration of the pre and post-tests. Questions from the regions will be faxed into the training room during the live broadcast. In addition, the training will be recorded on DVD for future use and to share with EPA and others.

Following *EMS 101*, 28 staff selected by and including the EMS Project Advisory Team will participate in the more intensive 1 ½ day *EMS in Permitting* training the afternoon of January 11 and all day January 12. This training is for members of the Project Advisory Team, staff who work directly with the four participating facilities, facility representatives, and regional inspectors who are from the regions where the four participating facilities are located. This training is designed to provide a more in-depth education to a core group of DHEC staff. It will include facility case studies and a mock audit.

All training participants attending both trainings will be required to take a pre and post-test to measure increases in awareness/understanding as a result of the training. Tests are attached to this report. The pre and post-tests will be numbered so that individual responses can be anonymously tabulated and analyzed. They will also be tabulated by Bureau so an evaluation of additional training needs can be made. USC is working on developing the database to be used to track the pre and post-tests. The purpose of

conducting the testing is to measure how effective the training was. The tests will be administered anonymously and will show if the attendees have the basic understanding of an EMS.

In an effort to simplify the registration process, the training registration will be available to each of the training coordinators within each bureau, through the DHEC Training Records and Management System. Attendees will be given a certificate of completion and USC is working on getting Continuing Education Units for the course.

Facilities & Permit Reviews

Christine Steagall, Phil Barnes, and representatives from different program areas reviewed three of the four participating facilities's permits against the EMS standards. Comparison charts of the EMS standards and the facility permits have been developed. See attached draft copies of charts. Charts will be finalized after the site visits.

Initial site visits have been conducted at three of the four facilities for the purposes of obtaining copies of their EMSs, policies etc. for the development of the case studies that will be used during the EMS training. Second site visits will begin in February to conduct a more in-depth review of the facility EMS and the their permits.

Project Outreach

In addition to the AWMA Conference in January 2006, abstracts have been submitted for presentations at the Environmental Summit in May 2006, in Atlanta, GA., and at the annual MSWG Conference in Park City, UT., in June 2006.

The EMS in Permitting grant was presented to the DHEC annual Permitting Staff Meeting in November 2005 and to the DHEC annual Enforcement and Compliance Staff Meeting in December 2005, reaching approximately 300 DHEC staff.

Next Steps:

Site visits will be scheduled and conducted.

Christine Steagall will be attending the State/EPA Symposium on Environmental Innovation and Results on January 23-25, 2006 in Denver, CO.

Next Quarterly Report: Reporting Period January 1, 2006 through March 31, 2006.

Submitted by:

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Approved by:

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January 31, 2006