

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

**Washington State Department of Ecology
Sustainable Washington
State Innovations Grant Project**

FY2011 4th Quarter Report

This progress report covers the period from July 1, 2011 through September 31, 2011

Part 1 – Synopsis of Accomplishments

- The ERP Evaluation Report was completed with input from project team members and EPA. See: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/hwtr/lsp/erpautob.html>
- A draft scope of work for the Environmental Management Systems training was completed. It is anticipated the training will be completed by June 30, 2012.
- Progress on the agency's sustainability plan continues. An internal team is working to update report and train staff on the Global Reporting Initiative criteria. Ecology is seeking a Level C self-certification.

Part 2 Issues/Obstacles

- Washington's Auto Body ERP Pilot had less impact than the program in Massachusetts, possibly because the targeted sector had already received several Ecology technical assistance campaigns over the past twenty years. We also have experience that voluntary programs by nature have lower participation than mandatory programs.
- Though overall participation fell short of expectations, participating businesses increased compliance between baseline and verification visits. The share of grade "A" businesses (complying with 90% or more of requirements) increased by more than 60 percent, while the share of grade "D" or worse businesses (complying with fewer than 70% of items) was cut in half.
- Both businesses and the project team prefer comprehensive, multimedia programs that address multiple environmental areas, including hazardous waste, air quality, and water quality.
- The pilot project had limited success on moving businesses beyond compliance to adopt voluntary best management practices and become EnviroStars-certified. While implementation of best management practices increased, only a few businesses became EnviroStars-certified through ERP.
- Many self-certified businesses interviewed reported that the opportunities to satisfy U.S. Environmental Protection Agency air requirements and to become

EnviroStars-certified motivated them to self-certify, though ultimately few businesses became EnviroStars through the ERP pilot.

- Most businesses interviewed said financial assistance (particularly equipment vouchers and tax breaks), public recognition, and reduced inspections would motivate them to participate.

Part 3 – Summary of Accomplishments

Task 1 - Environmental Results Program

Task	Commitment	Accomplishment	Upcoming Milestone/ Observations
1.1	ERP Coordinator –Peggy will serve as the statewide technical assistance contact for the ERP pilot, including communication with businesses, Ecology staff, trade associations, EPA, vendors and other partners. Coordinate local TA requests and EnviroStars referrals with the local source control specialists that are committed to providing auto body business assistance.	Peggy Morgan completed the ERP evaluation in partnership with Cascadia Consulting.	Ecology is continuing to develop future sector related work, including a possible ERP-like program for the auto salvage industry. We are interested in a multi-state approach.
1.2	Develop and maintain the HWTR ERP website content and post relevant ERP materials on the Local Source Control SharePoint site	Ecology will maintain the website.	The ERP Evaluation Report was posted to the website in September 2011.
1.3	Work to increase the self-certification return rate from 10% to 25% for the Auto Body ERP self-certification forms due March 31, 2010.	Completed. A total of 90 self-certification forms were submitted. This is an 18% return rate.	This is documented in the ERP Report.
1.4	Review the self-certification data to determine compliance issues or improvement opportunities.	Completed.	The data was reviewed and the most prevalent compliance issues and improvement opportunities were identified.
1.5	Maintain ERP “facility universe” data base. Maintain ERP checklist data in data base system.	Completed. Facility universe data base has been maintained and data from all	This was a challenge at the beginning of the project, but the data base improved over

Task	Commitment	Accomplishment	Upcoming Milestone/ Observations
		checklists were entered into data base.	the life of the project.
1.6	Conduct local source control training via conference call prior to the verification site visits.	Completed. The training took place on March 10, 2010. All but two of the local source control specialists attended the training. Individual assistance was provided to those two following the training.	This was a highlight to have the industry perspective included in the training.
1.7	Conduct post-self certification ERP site visits	Completed. Visits began in May and were completed in September, 2010.	This is the critical factor in the program.
1.8	Identify Environmental Performance Business Indicators (EBPIs).	Completed. EPBIs were identified	This is a key outcome for the program.
1.9	Conduct ERP evaluation.	Completed. In accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, Ecology notified the Union of the proposed contract. The Union requested negotiations regarding the contract. Ecology and the Union came to an agreement allowing for the contract to go forward. A consultant, Cascadia Consulting Group, was hired through the General Administration's "Professional Consulting Services" contract. Work on the evaluation began in September, 2010 and was completed in September 2011.	See: : http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/hwtr/lsp/erpautob.html
1.10	Participate in the state ERP Consortium and national ERP events to share results on the Washington State ERP/VLP model	We continue to participate in these efforts as needed.	We would be pleased to participate or host a webinar on our project results with other states.

Task 2 – Voluntary Environmental Leadership (VLP), EMS & Sustainability

Task	Commitment	Accomplishment	Upcoming Milestones /Observations
2.1	Implement the EnviroStars Cooperative MOA.	Completed.	The MOA was a useful tool to partner with our local governments.
2.2	Process ERP Auto Body EnviroStars self-certification application and goals sheet. Coordinate regional technical assistance and outreach activities; review ERP self-certification compliance and coordinate with local government partners.	Completed.	EnviroStars is an important regional program. See: http://www.envirostars.org
2.3	Work with the EnviroStars Cooperative to develop member recognition certificates, press releases and recognition events.	Completed. Shops who qualified for the ERP EnviroStars certification have received a special 3-Star EnviroStars Certificate.	The more proactive businesses and industry leaders were more inclined to participate most in this program.
2.4	Track EnviroStars goals and conduct follow-up activities to track progress. Ecology will summarize the list of EnviroStars goals.	This data was collected and reviewed by Ecology.	The program has been completed.
2.5	Provide funding and technical assistance for the Spokane EnviroStars initiative. Support the Eastern Regional Office partnership with key stakeholders, assist with implementation, incentives development, membership requirements, measurement, recognition and long-term funding needs.	Ongoing. Ecology entered into a grant agreement with Spokane River Forum to provide funding (\$10,000) for Phase 1 of the Spokane EnviroStars pilot project. As of December 2010, 18 businesses had been certified as EnviroStars and there were 11 potential certifications in progress. We are continuing to support this effort.	Ecology is proud to have helped support the first EnviroStars program in eastern Washington. Over 80% of the participants reported waste reduction achievements. See: http://www.envirostars.org/documents/EnviroStarsMCC2011.pdf

Task	Commitment	Accomplishment	Upcoming Milestones /Observations
2.6	Conduct ERP / EnviroStars evaluation.	Completed. In accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, Ecology notified the Union of the proposed contract. The Union requested negotiations regarding the contract. Ecology and the Union came to an agreement allowing for the contract to go forward. A consultant, Cascadia Consulting Group, was hired through the General Administration's "Professional Consulting Services" contract. Work on the evaluation began in September, 2010 and will be completed by April, 2011.	Completed.
2.7	<p>Update the Ecology EMS Alternative for Pollution Prevention Planners</p> <p>Ecology staff propose the following (revised August 2011):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update Ecology's EMS policy guidance - Conduct staff training (1-3 day EMS training) - Conduct at least two EMS site visits, as resources allow. 	Ongoing. Ecology has been working to incorporate the EMS criteria into our new P2 planning reporting system. Ecology will develop a scope of work to conduct the training by June 30, 2012.	Scope of work completed. Starting the contracting process.

Task	Commitment	Accomplishment	Upcoming Milestones /Observations
2.8	<p>Update Ecology's Sustainability Report Support to meet GRI Standards – Ecology will purchase XBRL software to use GRI taxonomy to tag GRI report(s) and perform other XBRL operations.</p> <p>Ecology staff propose the following:</p> <p>Detailed comparison of Ecology plan and GRI Guidelines.</p> <p>Index Ecology plan to GRI's G3 standard.</p> <p>Create an Ecology GRI report based upon Ecology's plan to achieve "Application Level B" status.</p> <p>Conversion of new Ecology GRI report to XBRL tagged version.</p> <p>Create a web version of Ecology's GRI report.</p> <p>Write a brief project report including findings & recommendations.</p> <p>Publish results on a web page of our existing plan at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/sustainability/ecoaction.html)</p>	<p>Ongoing activity. Ecology has completed the agency's sustainability plan.</p> <p>We will be working toward the GRI level C or B status.</p> <p>It is not clear if Ecology will purchase the software, since XBRL continues to evolve as the standard.</p> <p>Ecology has assigned this task to Linda Glasier at Ecology HQ to assist with the completion of the project.</p> <p>Ken Zarker and K Seiler will work with senior management to complete the project by June 30, 2012.</p>	<p>HWTR Pollution Prevention staff formed a GRI Advisory team to focus on the next stages of the GRI project.</p> <p>The team has devised a detailed work plan that is divided into manageable segments. Staff is working on the second draft of the entire application to meet Level C status. Staff have structured regular meetings with management to ensure a well rounded and timely project for submittal to GRI.</p>

Part 4 – Financial Report

Ecology has expended a significant portion of the funds. The remaining expenses will be primarily used for the EMS training deliverables.