

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

**La. Multimedia Oil and Gas Environmental Results Program
Assistance Agreement No. EI-966314-01
Quarterly Report
Jan 2007 – Mar 2007**

Project Synopsis

During this period we held biweekly meetings since January 2007 with internal staff from Permitting, Surveillance, Enforcement and Small Business. The outcomes generated from those meetings include project organization structure, project plan and a clear understanding of the goals of this project.

On April 4, 2007 we held the first external stakeholder meeting. Attendees representing industry LDNR and EPA Region 6 were provided an overview of the program, its goals and timelines. Action items generated from the meeting include:

1. Event calendar for organizations that would be interested in ERP presentations and compliance assistance training.
2. Schedule the meeting between LDNR and LDEQ to lay down the data and technology needs for the data exchange.
3. Develop the compliance checklist strawman
4. Develop preliminary technical specifications/design documentation for online system

The next meeting is scheduled for May 15th at 1:30 at LDEQ. During this meeting LDEQ will review the status of previous meeting's action items.

Project Tasks and Milestones

The following is a listing of project tasks, descriptions, milestones, timelines as well as status. Please note that the start and end dates are given in calendar quarters.

Task Name	Task Description	Start Date	End Date	Status/Notes
Final Grant Proposal	LA will work in a cooperative fashion with EPA to refine and more fully develop a workplan as a first step after the grant is approved, and periodically throughout as milestones are met and reviewed.	7/10/06	Upon grant award	Finished
Outreach	Outreach to internal and external stakeholders (including targeted facilities) about the project. Milestones: production of mailing list; letters; e-mails/phone follow-up.	Upon grant award	June 2009	Not started yet.
QAP submission	Development and submission of QAP to EPA for approval Milestones: QAP submission and approval	Upon grant award	60 days after grant award	Finished
Facility Identification	Compile a list of oil and gas production facilities from reliable sources. Milestones: Development of initial and final list.	Dec 2006	Sept 2007	Currently underway. This effort relies heavily on the data exchange with LDNR. LDEQ is in the process of evaluating the data elements for use.
Statistical Methodology	Finalize the methodology to drive performance measurement and analytical tasks. Milestones: Meetings, reviews, and finalized methodologies including stratification strategy for samples by stakeholder/reviewers.	Sept 2006	Mar 2007	Not started. Delayed due to contract development.
Data Input and Management	Data system modifications and data input processes to cost-effectively input and manage the ERP information Milestones: development initiation, database testing	Sept 2006	June 2007	Delayed. System upgrade has delayed progress in this activity. se efforts and the LDEQ will be upgrading its facility database
Performance Tracking	Environmental Business Performance Indicators (EBPI's) and Best Management Practices (BMP's) developed Milestones: EBPI's and BMP's	Sept 2006	June 2007	Underway. The EBPI's are currently under development and once they are complete then the BMP development will follow.

Task Name	Task Description	Start Date	End Date	Status/Notes
Develop Inspection Forms	Multi-media inspection forms and training provided to Inspectors. Milestones: Development of draft forms, review completion, final form production	Sept 2006	June 2007	In progress. Draft forms are under development
Assistance Materials	Develop workbooks, informational/assistance materials, and workshop curriculum. Milestones: Review of materials, draft workbook and materials, final product available for distribution.	Sept 2006	June 2007	Delayed. This effort is connected to EBPI and BMP development
Baseline Inspections (establishing a performance measures baseline)	Inspections at facilities to establish a baseline for performance measures. Milestones: Training of inspectors and selection process for conducting baseline.	Sept 2007	Dec 2008	
Baseline Assessment	Assessment of inspection data to establish a baseline for the project's performance measures. Milestones: Review of assessment protocol and efficacy of data, and completion of assessment and documented	Mar 2008	Sept 2008	
Facility Assistance	Delivery of compliance/technical assistance to facilities, which is expected to take the form of workbooks, fact sheets, workshops, and on-site assistance. Milestones: Information mailings, kickoff and completion of workshops, follow-up of on-site assistance requests.	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	
Self-certification	Implementation of a voluntary facility self-certification approach. Milestones: System design, testing and implementation Return of self-certification, follow-up reminders, tally at deadline.	Sept 2006	Mar 2009	In progress. The design specifications for water have been developed. Air is under development.
Assessment of Self-certification Results	Assessment of self-certification data, with primary purpose of identifying opportunities for selective follow-up (next step). Milestones: Summary of assessment produced, citation of issues/problems, and plan for follow-up.	Dec 2008	Mar 2009	

Task Name	Task Description	Start Date	End Date	Status/Notes
Follow-up Inspections	Inspections at facilities to establish whether sector performance measures (and other measures) have changed since the baseline. Inspection data also used to cross-check self-certification data at inspected facilities. Milestones: Inspection sites verification, inspection summary documented.	Mar 2009	June 2009	
Data Assessment	Assessment of baseline, self-certification, and follow-up inspection data to understand change in facility performance and overall outcomes of interest. Milestones: Compilation of findings, status of data documented	June 2009	Sept 2009	
ERP material availability	ERP documentation provided on website and to interested parties Milestone: website postings	Sept 2006	Sept 2009	
Reporting to the USEPA	Reporting shall include quarterly, annual, and final reports. Milestones: Draft report for review, final report ready for distribution.	Sept 2006	Sept 2009	

Project Synopsis

The EBPI development is the most resource intensive at this point in the project due to the level of complexity and developments in the Air Permits Division. For both air and water there are numerous regulations and policies that potentially apply to the oil and gas production sector. To expedite the development of the EBPI's the work has been divided up for easier assignments. LDEQ's Air Permitting Division is currently developing regulatory permits that include the oil and gas sector. Therefore, some discussion has been made concerning the possible overlap with regulatory permits and ERP. Further progress on the EBPI's is needed to know whether ERP impacts regulatory permits.

Industry representatives raised excellent points as to what would motivate companies to participate, what types of facilities were subject to this program and why couldn't LDNR and LDEQ combine their checklists into one. Even though that is not within the scope of this project, LDEQ and LDNR discussed opportunities to assist each other with facility updates and compliance alerts. A memorandum of understanding is being developed to further the effort.

Financial Report

Financial Information removed by EPA as confidential business information.