



Office of Technical & Customer Assistance

Quarterly Project Report

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

Project Manager: Thomas E. Armstrong, Principal Environmental Planner
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Reporting Period: July 1 - September 30, 2008

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.

As of June 30, 2008, there were fifty-nine (59) of those licensees that were in operation as auto salvage yard facilities.

A no-cost time extension for the grant/project has been granted by EPA, until March 31, 2009.

Project Partners:

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
University of Rhode Island, Center for Pollution Prevention & Environmental Health
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Narragansett Bay Commission, Pollution Prevention Program

Project Activities Completed During Reporting Period:

- RIDEM staff reviewed post certification audit/inspection reports, follow-up with facilities requiring further action to comply, provide technical assistance to facility operators as needed
- Handle telephone, email, and in-person inquiries related to Compliance Certification Checklists received and questions about the program
- Handle requests for compliance or technical assistance as requested and needed with RIDEM staff and/or University of Rhode Island Center for Pollution Prevention and Environmental Health staff
- Worked on statistical analysis of post-certification inspection data.

Expenditures during Period:

During this reporting period, no expenditures were made using grant funding.

Travel: Richard Enander - attend ERP All Members Meeting in Reno Nevada
September 7-9, 2008
\$822

Remaining in grant: Travel: \$4,327
 Equipment: \$2,854

Major Activities Planned for Next Quarter:

- Complete statistical analysis
- Writing final report for grant, to be submitted as required no later than ninety days after the grant ends on March 31, 2009

NOTE:

Thomas E. Armstrong, Project Manager, will be retiring from State service on September 26, 2008. After that time, issues relating to this grant should be addressed to Richard Enander, at (401) 222-4700, Ext. 4411 or richard.enander@dem.ri.gov .