

NTRD Program Disclaimers

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**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
New Technology Research & Development (NTRD) Program
Monthly Project Status Report**

Contract Number: **582-5-65591-0003**

Grantee: ***The University of Texas at Austin***

Date Submitted: ***May 10, 2005***

Report for the **Monthly** period:

Starting Date ***January 5, 2005***

Ending Date ***January 31, 2005***

Section I. Accomplishments

Summary of progress during reporting period:

- General guidance on site locations obtained from TCEQ staff
- Specific measurement sites identified (except for offshore platform) and site visits performed
- Information necessary for soliciting equipment bids obtained

Notice to proceed was issued on January 5, 2005. Activity during the project period focused on identification of monitoring sites along the Texas-Louisiana border.

The measurements made through this New Technology Research and Development (NTRD) Grant will complement measurements made as part of a large air quality field measurement program (the second Texas Air Quality Study or TexAQS II), to be undertaken concurrently with the NTRD measurements and analysis. Therefore, during the first month of the project, the NTRD project team (Vince Torres, David Allen) met with staff at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to identify sites for the NTRD measurements that would complement TexAQS II measurements. Six (6) sites were identified, two at the northern end of the eastern border of Texas, two in the central portion of the border, and two along the southern end of the border. These sites are:

Two (2) sites in northeast Texas (near Clarksville and just north of Texarkana)

Two sites in far eastern Texas (near San Augustine and Newton)

Two sites near the coast (near Smith Point and on an offshore platform in the Gulf)

Discussions with TCEQ staff regarding site location identified general areas for the sites, but specific site locations had to be identified by UT/NTRD project staff. Vince Torres (UT) began visiting the general areas identified by TCEQ staff, except for the offshore site. Some of Mr. Torres' travel to visit these potential NTRD sites was coordinated with visits to nearby TexAQS II sites. For the offshore site, discussions were initiated with offshore rig operating companies and the Mineral Management Service (MMS) to identify candidate platforms.

As discussions proceeded with TCEQ regarding the location and operation of these NTRD sites, TCEQ staff requested that, in some cases, additional measurement equipment be deployed at the NTRD sites. Any additional equipment to be added will be purchased and operated using funds dedicated to TexAQS II. Addition of this equipment will not detract in any way from the goals of the NTRD project, and will, in fact, provide data that complement the objectives of the NTRD project. In addition, it was agreed that the operation of the off-shore site was beyond the scope of the NTRD project and that the operation of that site would be funded through the TexAQS II budget. It was agreed that any savings to the NTRD project associated with this change would be dedicated to additional monitoring equipment to be deployed at the offshore platform.

During this reporting period, UT/NTRD project staff also began developing site access agreements and ordering equipment necessary for the sites, and UT/NTRD project staff began incorporating site locations into models that will be used to evaluate ozone transport

Indicate which part of the Grant Activities as defined in the grant agreement, the above accomplishments are related to:

Task 1: Quantitatively characterize ozone entering the state by estimating the ozone flux at ground level

Section II: Problems/Solutions

Problem(s) Identified	None
Proposed Solution(s)	Not applicable
Action(s) Conducted and Results	

Section III. **Goals and Issues for Succeeding Period:**

The primary goals for the next reporting period will be:

- Identify specific measurement sites
- Begin negotiation of site access agreements
- Obtain equipment bids

_____ Date: 5/10/05

Authorized Project Representative's Signature

NOTE: *Please attach any additional information that you feel should be a part of your report or that may be required to meet the deliverable requirements for tasks completed during this reporting period.*