

NTRD Program Disclaimers

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

Contract Number: 582-5-70807-0019

Grantee: Sonoma Technology, Inc.

Date Submitted: June 3, 2005

Report for the **Monthly** period:

Starting Date February 2, 2005

Ending Date April 30, 2005

Section I. Accomplishments *(Please provide a bulleted list of project accomplishments as well as a description of their importance to the project.)*

During the above period STI completed the following:

- Developed a detailed project plan.
- Conducted bi-weekly project meetings with STI staff.
- Negotiated a lease for the Sodar equipment from Atmospheric Systems. The Sodar is one of the key instruments to be deployed on the platform.
- Began preparation and testing of the radar wind profiler, RASS, and surface instruments at our office in Petaluma, CA. This preparation has included creating a secure site to temporarily operate the instruments, providing a shelter and power to the site, testing the instruments, sending parts out for calibration and repair, and replacing bad parts.
- Worked with the Offshore Oil Committee to identify a platform in the Gulf of Mexico off Texas to operate the instrumentation. A platform in Shell's Alex Field has been identified.
- Worked with Shell on logistics for placing the instruments on the platform including safety requirements, instrument explosion proofing, siting, power, transportation, and communications. Note that our originally work scope had assumed that TCEQ would negotiate all platform logistics. However, in the interest in time and efficiency we have been leading this effort.

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

Preparation of RWP, RASS, Sodar, and surface meteorological instruments.

Section II: Problems/Solutions

<p>Problem(s) Identified</p> <p><i>(Please report anticipated or unanticipated problem(s) encountered and its effect on the progress of the project)</i></p>	<p><i>The Shell platform offered for instrument operations is rated Class 1 Division 2. This means that the instrumentation must meet strict explosion proofing requirements. These requirements are beyond what we have experienced in prior platform deployments. At this time, we are not certain how or if this issue will influence the schedule or the budget.</i></p>
<p>Proposed Solution(s)</p> <p><i>(Please report any possible solution(s) to the problem(s) that were considered/encountered)</i></p>	<p><i>We are currently working with Shell to understand how we need to modify our instruments to meet the requirements. The cost for these modifications probably can be covered using money initially allocated for helicopter flights because Shell has indicated that they will provide these flights for free. Alternatively, Shell has indicated that they may be able to provide us a variance to the requirements.</i></p>
<p>Action(s) Conducted and Results</p> <p><i>(Please describe the action(s) taken to resolve the problem(s) and its effect)</i></p>	<p><i>We are currently negotiating with Shell for a variance on the Class 1 Division 2 requirements.</i></p>

Section III. Goals and Issues for Succeeding Period: *(Please provide a brief description of the goal(s) you hope to realize in the coming period and identify any notable challenges that can be foreseen)*

In May and the first 2 weeks of June, we hope to:

- *have the RWP, RASS, and surface meteorological instruments upgraded, tested, repaired, and operational at our test center in Petaluma;*
- *resolve the Class 1 Division 2 issue described above by either 1) receiving a variance from Shell, 2) developing a plan to modify the instruments, or 3) by obtaining an alternate platform;*
- *purchase and test communications equipment; and*
- *perform an in-person inspection of the platform to detail the exact site layout.*



Authorized Project Representative's Signature

Date: _____

6/3/05

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.*