

Notes of February 6, 2019, Oil and Gas Drill Rig Study Management Team (SMT) Call

1. Roll Call

Call participants included: John Bunyak, Mary Uhl, Tom Moore, Chris Owen, Rebecca Matichuk, Leiran Biton, Darla Potter, Cathe Kalisz, and Craig Nicholls

2. Updates

a. WESTAR Remaining Project Budget (Tom)

BLM provided some prior year funding to WESTAR to assist with the Oil and Gas Drill Rig Project. Using those funds, WESTAR entered into agreements with John Bunyak and Earth Systems Sciences to provide desired assistance on the project. Tom mentioned that the available WESTAR funding for the project will likely be spent by mid-April and asked that the study work groups provide their summary reports by that time.

b. CO Work Group (Rebecca)

Rebecca mentioned that the CO work group is continuing its efforts to document its analyses of the CO field study data. Specifically, the work group is developing a “Data Distribution Policy” that will discuss the process for publicly releasing the database. The work group is also finalizing a “Database Technical Support Document” that details the database and associated spreadsheets that the work group developed. In addition, the work group is preparing a “Database Summary Report” that will provide an overview of the field study and the work group’s analyses of the data. These three documents are currently works-in-progress and are at various stages of completion. Once these documents are completed, the work group intends to publish its results in a peer-reviewed technical journal. To facilitate document review and editing, Rebecca also established a SharePoint site for work group participants to use.

b. AK Work Group (Leiran)

Leiran mentioned that the AK work group developed a data set based on the original study data obtained from Conoco-Phillips. The work group drafted a report that discusses the field study and the work group’s analyses of the data. The work group is currently reviewing the draft study report and resolving comments and concerns raised by the group. Leiran also said the AK workgroup will review the CO work group data distribution policy (see above) to see if something similar should be prepared for the AK dataset. Similar to the CO work group, the AK work group also intends to publish its results in a peer-reviewed technical journal.

3. Next steps/Timelines for completion

The CO and AK work groups will continue their efforts to complete review of the respective study data and to finalize study reports. A target date for completing the study summary reports is April 15, 2019, with technical journal publication to follow.