



WESTAR QUARTERLY REPORT

2nd Quarter 2013

July 25, 2013

Grant No. XA –00T68001

I. Operations Project

The purpose of the Operations project is to develop, implement, and support the technical activities at WESTAR that benefit member states. Funding for this project comes entirely from member state contributions.

a. Status of work plan activities and expected results

<i>Expected Result for CY2013</i>	Results/Outcomes	
	<i>2013 Q2</i>	<i>Year-to-date</i>
10 air director conference calls, documented with minutes posted on WESTAR’s website	2	4
2 business meetings, documented with minutes and presentations posted on WESTAR’s website	1	1
24 Committee conference calls	6	12
16 Ad hoc Work Group conference calls	7	12
1 specialty conference on a technical and/or policy topic	0	0
1 meetings held to address priority, emerging topics	0	1
2 trips by committee representatives to attend national meetings and report back to WESTAR membership	1	2

b. Significant activities:

- WESTAR held its spring business meeting in San Francisco. Presentations and a meeting summary are posted at www.westar.org/downloads.html . One outcome from the meeting was that the directors voted unanimously to accept WRAP's request to become a part of WESTAR and directed staff to begin the process of incorporating WRAP into WESTAR immediately.
- WESTAR established a cloud-based data system for states to report their exceptional event submissions and evaluate other WESTAR state submissions.
- WESTAR completed its work with the ad hoc Work Group to improve state responses to the health impacts posed by wildfires.
- WESTAR continued discussions with EPA and states on guidance for ozone exceedances resulting from wildfires.
- WESTAR continued discussions with EPA, states and stakeholders on the Woodheater NSPS.
- WESTAR co-hosted an EPA presentation and listening session in Denver on how to address regional transport in light of the recent court ruling on CSAPR. CENSARA also contributed to the meeting.

II. Training Project

WESTAR's Training Program addresses the near-future training needs of western air quality agencies by identifying critical needs, and offering training courses and workshops that closely match these needs. To accomplish these tasks and responsibilities, WESTAR Training Manager works closely with Training, Planning, Sources, Mobile, and Technical Committee members, Air Directors, WESTAR's staff, western air agency staff, and reviews written comments/suggestions on course evaluations.

WESTAR's Training Program offers two types of educational opportunities:

- 1) State/Local Directed:
 - a. Western state/local air agencies are asked to review agency business objectives for the upcoming year;
 - b. Assist WESTAR's Training Manager in reviewing the objectives, agendas, and topics of numerous training courses to identify the education opportunity that most closely matches agency business objectives;
 - c. Conducted as geographically close to the agency as possible in order to reduce barriers and enhance opportunity for staff cross training; and,
 - d. These State/Local Directed educational opportunities generally utilize a standardized course format;
- 2) Specialty Courses:
 - a. Subject matter for Specialty Courses are generally identified by Air Directors and WESTAR's committees;

- b. These specialty courses address new/emerging air quality issues requiring extensive course development activities.

a. Status of work plan activities and expected results

<i>Expected Result for CY2013</i>	<i>Results/Outcomes</i>	
	<i>April/May/June</i>	<i>Year-to-date</i>
22 educational opportunities developed and delivered:	9	11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 9-11: Effective Permit Writing (APTI 454) • May 13-15: Principles and Practice of Air Pollution Control (APTI 452) • June 3-4: Theory & Application of A.P. Control Devices (NACT 299) • June 5: Stationary Reciprocating Engines (NACT 271) • June 6: Stationary Gas Turbines & Power Plants (NACT 272) • June 7: Industrial Boilers (NACT 273) • June 18: Greenhouse Gases (GHG) Prevention of Significant Deterioration • June 18-20: Effective Permit Writing (APTI 454) • June 25-26: AirVision Transition Training 		
500 students trained	215	272
1100 student training days	370	541

Note: WESTAR is on schedule to offer over 27 training courses during CY2013.

Note: The continued economic downturn and slow recovery have forced state and local agencies to tighten fiscal budgets, and invoke tighter scrutiny on all expenses including travel. As such, out-of-state attendees who in past years accounted for ~50% of attendees at WESTAR training courses now account for less than 10% of attendees. One positive outcome of the current situation is that many of the agencies are expecting staff to be more proficient in other program areas. In order to gain the knowledge, skills and abilities agencies require staff to participate in cross-training activities including WESTAR's training programs.

b. Other Activities this Quarter

- WESTAR staff chaired a committee that:
 - Reviewed all aspects of APTI-Learn.net (a Learning Management System (LMS) that serves as the center point for all national air quality training). The committee reviewed the tasks, activities and deliverables found in EPA's Performance Work Statement (PWS) and crosschecked against actual products, tasks, activities and deliverables found in APTI-Learn. Findings were communicated to EPA and contractor.
 - Reviewed all aspects of APTI-Learn.net in order to be able to identify important maintenance and enhancement recommendations. The committee created a "national" prioritize list of issues and presented the findings to EPA.
- WESTAR staff actively participates on NACAA/EPA's Joint Training Committee.

III. Budget Summary and Status

The following tables summarize the status of WESTAR's budget, comparing cumulative grant awards since the inception of the current grant (September 1, 2011) through the end of the most recent quarter. While authority to spend against the new grant began on September 1, 2011, WESTAR continued to spend down the prior grant until November 1, 2011. Thus expenditures for the first two months of the project period were paid out of the prior grant.

Cumulative Grant Awards by Project CY2011-2013

Project Title	Total Anticipated Project Period Cost	Total Awards Project Period to Date as of 6/30/2013	Percentage
Operations	840,000	560,000	67%
Training	1,102,500	735,000	67%
Ad hoc Travel	410,961	253,974	62%
Totals	2,353,461	1,548,974	66%

Cumulative Expenses by Project 12/1/2011 through 6/30/2013

Project Title	Total Awarded	Work Plan Budget	Actual Expenses	Percent of Total Budget
Operations	453,155	670,851	415,835	62%
Training	594,765	880,493	481,732	55%
Ad hoc Travel	244,434	395,859	153,305	39%
Overhead	256,620	406,260	202,517	50%
Totals	1,548,974	2,353,461	1,253,389	53%

Cumulative Expenses by Object Class 12/1/2011 through 6/30/2013

Object Class	Budget	Actual	Percentage
1. Personnel	812,623	417,019	51%
2. Fringe Benefits	206,051	98,076	48%
3. Travel	439,487	256,897	58%
4. Equipment	0	0	
5. Supplies	0	0	
6. Contractual	54,037	99,305	184%
7. Construction	0	0	
8. Other	409,544	179,573	44%
9. Indirect Expenses	431,719	202,517	47%
Totals	2,353,461	1,253,387	53%

IV. Other Activities

- Staff participated in a LEAN event with staff from the state of Arizona focused on improvements to the SIP planning process.
- The WESTAR exceptional events workgroup was re-activated to provide feedback to EPA on possible changes to the exceptional events rule. The workgroup includes state and local agency representatives from non-WESTAR agencies.