



WESTAR QUARTERLY REPORT

Reporting Period: 2nd quarter 2023

Report Date: July 31, 2023

EPA Grants No. XA-99T67301-0

NPS Agreement No.

P19AC01205

Regardless of funding source, all of the projects and activities conducted by WESTAR are consistent with and intended to achieve the purposes of the organization spelled out in Article 2 of WESTAR's Articles of Association, including promoting the exchange of information related to air quality management, developing procedures to meet air quality objectives and to protect environmental resources, to establish workgroups to investigate specific topics, and to develop recommendations for the consideration of the membership. This report summarizes activities and outcomes for this reporting period.

Reporting Organization:

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1. EPA CORE GRANT 2017-2019

Note: Work on activities and spending against this grant began December 2017.

a. Budget Summary and Status

The following tables summarize the status of WESTAR's Core Grant budget, comparing cumulative grant awards from the current grant's inception (October 1, 2017) through the end of the most recent quarter.

**EPA Core Grant 2017-23
Expenses by Object Class through 6/30/23**

Object Class	Budget	This Quarter	Cumulative Expenses	Percentage
1. Personnel	2,451,513	128,863	2,323,832	95%
2. Fringe Benefits	615,484	24,900	542,589	88%
3. Travel	675,505	21,642	475,011	70%
4. Equipment	0	0	0	
5. Supplies	0	0	0	
6. Contractual	1,044,710	16,641	1,292,316	124%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	798,105	84,795	924,190	116%
9. Indirect Expenses	1,642,158	81,703	1,518,046	92%
Totals	7,227,475	358,544	7,075,986	98%

a. Activity Summary: Operations Project

The purpose of the Operations project is to develop, implement, and support the policy and technical activities at WESTAR that benefit member states. Funding for this project comes entirely from member-state contributions. In addition, personnel from member states and federal land management agencies contribute their time and expertise to many of the tasks performed under this project.

1) Status of work plan activities – Operations Project

<i>Expected Result for Project Period</i>	<u>Results/Outcomes</u>	
	<i>2023 Q2</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
67 Air director conference calls, documented with minutes posted on WESTAR’s website	2	56
14 Business meetings, documented with minutes and presentations posted on WESTAR’s website	1	11
245 Committee and ad hoc workgroup conference calls	5	181

<i>Expected Result for Project Period</i>	<i>Results/Outcomes</i>	
	<i>2023 Q2</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
28 Trips by committee chairs to brief air directors on committee activities	2	21
6 Specialty conference on a high priority topic	0	5
6 Meetings held to address emerging topics	0	3
21 Trips by committee representatives to attend national meetings and report back to WESTAR membership	0	6

2) Other Activities this Quarter – Operations Project

* WESTAR continued participating in the National Residential Heating Task Force, including work groups formed to refine wood burning emission estimates and identify clean appliances for changeout programs.

* WESTAR staff attended and coordinated with EPA to plan the National Wood Heating Workshop Training in Denver, Colorado.

* WESTAR staff are working with South Coast Air Quality Management District to create an online app to help air agencies create exceptional event demonstrations. Volunteers from air agencies across the Country are creating and reviewing the various parts of the app.

b. Activity Summary: Training Project

The purpose of the Training Project is to: (1) deliver high-quality training courses/workshops that meet the needs and expectations of state and local air agency staff within the fifteen-state WESTAR region; (2) develop needed, cost-effective, responsive, and western-states-focused training opportunities; and (3) act as the main point of contact for information and educational training opportunities related to air quality training.

1) Status of work plan activities – Training Project

<i>Expected Result for Project Period</i>	<i>Results/Outcomes</i>	
	<i>2023 Q2</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
100 Educational opportunities delivered:	6	88
* Continuous Monitoring Systems - NC		
* Intermediate NSR/PSD - CO		
* Principles of Compliance/Enf - HI		
* Electrostatic Precipitators – ID		
* Industrial Boilers – ID		
* Continuous Monitoring Systems - ID		
3000 Students trained	116	2328
5750 Student training days	278	5802
1 Training course developed/updated	0	0

Other Activities this Quarter – Training Project

- WESTAR continues to work with state, local and tribal air quality government agencies in the fifteen Western United States to identify each agency’s most important training need(s) for FY2023.
- WESTAR continues its leadership role on the National Joint Training Committee (JTC) Steering Committee and will remain in this position until December 2023. In this capacity, WESTAR assists in developing agenda topics and serves as moderator for the JTC’s annual face-to-face meeting in RTP. In this role, WESTAR staff develops and leads the agenda for its monthly conference calls.
- WESTAR and EPA completed the beta test of the Continuous Monitoring Systems training course on April 25-28, 2023, in RTP.
- WESTAR partnered with EPA to provide SLT SMEs to beta-test its Fabric Filters training course.
- WESTAR staff continues to work on the development of a State Implementation Plan (SIP) training course.
- WESTAR staff worked with the JTC training group to move classroom training courses to online training to better serve the current needs of state, local, and tribal air quality professionals.
- WESTAR staff serves as a member of the JTC Steering Committee. The Steering Committee oversees the operations of four work groups by providing guidance, evaluating resource needs, identifying priorities, assigning projects, providing assessments, and fostering communication. The four work groups are: 1) Communications; 2) Curriculum; 3) Training Delivery; and 4) Learning Management Systems (LMS)
- WESTAR staff is a co-lead for the Training Delivery work group, which is working on instructor recruitment, incorporating ADA/508 compliance, instructor evaluations, and self-instructional course evaluation.

- WESTAR staff is a committee member on the Communications workgroup, Learning Management System (LMS) workgroup, and the Curriculum workgroup.

c. Activity Summary: Regional Technical Support Project

The purpose of the Regional Technical Support project is to provide technical support to member agencies related to the analysis of monitoring data, analysis and preparation of emissions inventories, regional modeling analyses, and operation and maintenance of web databases – all for member agencies to use in their air quality management and planning activities.

1) Status of work plan activities – Regional Technical Support Project

<i>Expected Result for Project Period</i>	<u>Results/Outcomes</u>	
	<i>2023 Q2</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
175 Work Group and Subcommittee Conference calls	5	389
70 Technical Steering Committee conference calls	2	61
14 Face-to-face WRAP Board meetings	1	8
72 Travel support provided to local agency and tribal WRAP Board members	0	37
7 Technical Steering Committee Face-to-face meetings	0	5
70 WRAP Board calls	1	50

2) Other Activities this Quarter – Regional Technical Support Project

- The WRAP Regional Technical Center provides access to all types of air quality data, made possible through the storage and dissemination capabilities built into the Intermountain West Data Warehouse (IWDW). Linked to the IWDW is the Technical Support System v2, which supports Regional Haze analysis for the WESTAR/WRAP region. Moving forward, the WRAP Regional Technical Center framework can support additional regional modeling tasks and deliverables from WESTAR contracts.
- Planning for budget and scopes of work through the end of 2023 continues. Staff continued to work with state and federal agencies, including regional EPA offices, to discuss and collect input on regional technical analysis needs in the western U.S.
- Migration from the current WRAP website to the new WESTAR/WRAP website was completed in the 4th quarter of 2022. The new WESTAR/WRAP page went live in the 1st quarter of 2023. The new website tracks Work Groups and Technical Steering Committee products, including disseminating reports from projects, meetings, and

calls, as well as data and summary results. The WRAP membership will continue to explore options to simplify data sharing within the new website's framework.

- The WRAP Technical Steering Committee meets regularly. The Fire and Smoke and Work Group Exceptional Event Support Team met once, covering the EE Demo App in detail. Other MJOs were invited to this call. The Fire and Smoke WG had a joint call with the National Wildfire Coordination Group (NWCG). The Oil and Gas WG had two calls; one to review draft survey results with a small team, and the second to finalize the report with the larger work group. The Tribal Data WG held a combined call with the WRAP Tribal Caucus to discuss CPRG funding and ways WRAP can help Tribes in the west with technical analyses for grant implementation. Regional Technical Operations, and Regional Haze Planning did not meet this past quarter.
- The Technical Steering Committee and Co-Chairs of WRAP Work Groups meet monthly on a Coordination call.
- The Regional Technical Operations and Regional Haze Planning WG co-chairs met twice to plan a kick off RTO/RHP meeting on July 12.

The Technical Steering Committee and Work Groups continue to implement the WRAP Board-approved “Future project prioritization topics” from the Board’s December 2, 2020, meeting. In September 2021, the Technical Steering Committee updated the Board-approved topics with a status report to track progress on those topics going forward and reported progress at the WRAP Board and TSC meeting on December 9, 2021. The TSC provided another update to the WRAP Board in December 2022 and January 2023. The work topic list was revised this quarter with the help of the Technical Steering Committee members. The new format will be reviewed by the Technical Steering Committee in the 3rd quarter. The new format makes tracking, updating, and revising work topics in the WRAP easier.

In February 2022, the WRAP Board approved proposed amendments to the WRAP charter. The proposed amended Charter was sent to the membership for approval on January 20, 2023, and is still acquiring the necessary 2/3 vote of the membership to pass the amendments.

2. OTHER SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

WESTAR co-chairs the Federal/State Technical Work Collaboration Group and organizes monthly and quarterly conference calls to share information about EPA and MJO technical work.

WESTAR is working with its members to develop an application for exceptional events demonstrations.

A small group of WESTAR/WRAP members (MT, OR, USFWS) and WESTAR staff are developing a Desktop CAMx modeling approach that all WESTAR/WRAP members can use for multiple modeling projects.

WESTAR drafted an article describing the western region’s issues with PM2.5, wildfire smoke, and exceptional events for the May 2023 issue of EM Magazine.

3. CONSOLIDATED EXPENSE SUMMARY

Cumulative Expenses by Object Class and Funding Source through 06/30/2023 All Active Accounts

Object Class	EPA	
	Core Grant 2017-23	Totals
1. Personnel	2,323,832	2,323,832
2. Fringe	542,589	542,589
3. Travel	475,011	475,011
4. Equipment	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0
6. Contractual	1,292,316	1,292,316
7. Construction	0	0
8. Other	924,190	924,190
9. Indirect	1,518,046	1,518,046
Cumulative Expenses	7,075,986	7,075,986
Budget	7,227,475	7,227,475
Balance Avail	151,489	151,489

Current Quarter Expenses by Object Class and Funding Source – All Active Accounts

Object Class	EPA	
	Core Grant 2017-2023	Totals
1. Personnel	128,863	128,863
2. Fringe Benefits	24,900	24,900
3. Travel	21,642	21,642
4. Equipment	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0
6. Contractual	16,641	16,641
7. Construction	0	0
8. Other	84,795	84,795
9. Indirect	81,703	81,703
Total Expenses	358,544	358,544

