

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES PROGRAM: Ongoing Studies

Region: Headquarters

Planning Area(s): North, Mid, and South Atlantic

Title: Synthesis, Analysis, and Integration of Air Quality and Meteorological Data for the Atlantic Region

BOEM Cost: \$000,000

Period of Performance: FY

Conducting Organization(s): ICF International and Air Resource Specialists, Inc.

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Description:

Background: Federal and private organizations have collections of meteorological, air quality and emissions data for the Atlantic Region. These data can be used to support various air quality related data analyses and modeling activities. A data synthesis study can assemble all available data from a variety of resources into a single dataset so that an integrated analysis of the data can be conducted and a baseline for the Atlantic Region can be drawn. This study is to be similar to GOMR studies; 2009-055, 2009-056, 2009-057 and 2009-058.

Objectives: The objective of this analysis is to prepare an integrated dataset that can be used to provide the basis for an improved understanding of the relationships between meteorology, air quality and emissions in the Atlantic region; and to support future regulatory data and modeling analyses related to ozone, fine particulate matter and regional haze. The data synthesis study will also include some basic analysis of the data to ensure the integrity and usability of the dataset, and to provide new information about meteorological and air quality conditions in the Atlantic region.

Methods: This data synthesis will incorporate pre-existing data and study results, as well as new. For example, data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Air Quality System (AQS), the National Weather Service (NWS) and the National Data Buoy Center (NDBC) can be included. The deliverable will be an interactive database tool that has query capabilities in order to retrieve specific subsets of the data based on criteria such as date range, location and parameter type. The interactive database developed in Microsoft Access currently used in GOMR studies 2009-055, 2009-056, 2009-057, and 2009-058 will be modified with relevant data to suit this study for the Atlantic Region.

Products: Microsoft Access interactive database and final report.

Importance to BOEM: The Atlantic region is lacking baseline data for the purposes of environmental analysis, modeling, state regulatory compliance, and siting.

Current Status: Awarded and in progress. The kick-off meeting took place November 10, 2011 in Herndon, VA.

Final Report Due: September 30, 2013

Publications: None

Affiliated Web Sites: None

Revised Date: May 10, 2012

ESPIS: Environmental Studies Program Information System

All *completed* ESP studies can be found

here: http://www.data.boem.gov/homepg/data_center/other/espis/espisfront.asp