# TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM
# QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Lead Agency (FHWA or State DOT): Texas Department of Transportation

**INSTRUCTIONS:**
*Project Managers and/or research project investigators should complete a quarterly progress report for each calendar quarter during which the projects are active. Please provide a project schedule status of the research activities tied to each task that is defined in the proposal; a percentage completion of each task; a concise discussion (2 or 3 sentences) of the current status, including accomplishments and problems encountered, if any. List all tasks, even if no work was done during this period.*

| **Transportation Pooled Fund Program Project #** *(i.e, SPR-2(XXX), SPR-3(XXX) or TPF-5(XXX)* TPF-5(327) | **Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period:** ☐ Quarter 1 (January 1 – March 31) ☐ Quarter 2 (April 1 – June 30) ☑ Quarter 3 (July 1 – September 30) ☐ Quarter 4 (October 1 – December 31) | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project Title:** State Responses to Energy Sector Developments | | |
| **Name of Project Manager(s):** Joe Adams | **Phone Number:** 512.416.4748 | **E-Mail** joe.adams@txdot.gov |
| **Lead Agency Project ID:** 9-1530 | **Other Project ID (i.e., contract #):** n/a | **Project Start Date:** 5/27/2015 |
| **Original Project End Date:** 8/31/2016 | **Current Project End Date:** 8/31/2016 | **Number of Extensions:** 0 |

Project schedule status:

☑ On schedule ☐ On revised schedule ☐ Ahead of schedule ☐ Behind schedule

Overall Project Statistics:

| Total Project Budget | Total Cost to Date for Project | Percentage of Work Completed to Date |
|---|---|---|
| $180,000.00 | $29,450.49 | 31.5% |

***Quarterly*** Project Statistics:

| Total Project Expenses and Percentage This Quarter | Total Amount of Funds Expended This Quarter | Total Percentage of Time Used to Date |
|---|---|---|
| n/a | $29,450.49 | 18.75% |

**Project Description**:

New and expanding energy sector developments - oil, natural gas, coal, wind, biofuels, and solar - are occurring in numerous states throughout the country. While states, counties and communities are realizing economic benefits from these activities, the impacts from energy development on transportation systems are immediate and extensive. Rural roads and bridges are especially vulnerable to the increased truck, but additional demands are also being placed on the rail, port, and aviation networks. State departments of transportation and other agencies are responding in numerous ways to increase truck traffic, infrastructure deterioration, and safety concerns.

The Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) will provide a mechanism for partner states to share information and experiences with each other and with experts in the field related to responding to energy sector development. TTI shall also identify areas for needed research that may be funded in future years of the Transportation Pooled Fund (TPF), the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP), or by other sources.

**Progress this Quarter (includes meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.):**

1) Researchers will continue work on Task 1 – Data and Information Collection. They will begin work on developing the data solicitation process, initiate contact with the participating states, and schedule on-site meetings.

2) The Project Supervisor will coordinate with the TxDOT Project Director to schedule and hold a kick-off meeting/conference call with the project panel and TPF members She will document the results of the meeting/conference call and distribute it to panel members. She will schedule an internal kick-off meeting with TTI researchers involved in the project.

3) The Research Supervisor continued work on Task 1 – Data and Information Collection. She continued the literature review with TTI Library support staff, reviewed previous TTI and NCHRP reports, and examined reports from other groups. She communicated by email and phone with representatives from the participating states to schedule site visits. Two site visits were held. The Research Supervisor travelled to Pennsylvania on August 17-18 and met with PennDOT Division and District staff and toured the areas impacted by Marcelles Shale developments. She traveled to Seattle, Washington on August 26-29 and met with WSDOT staff from the Freight Office and toured the railroad corridor impacted by the increase in volume of crude oil shipments by rail. She developed and distributed a list of topics for the meetings and began summarizing the major issues, opportunities, and research needs. She scheduled site visits for Ohio, September 8-10, North Dakota, September 16-18, Louisiana, September 22-23, and Montana, October 7-9. Researchers continued to work on an initial online information request and began exploring options for the meeting of representatives from the participating states.

4) A formal change request form, changing in the FY 15 and FY 16 budgets and slightly adjusting the schedule, was processed and approved.

**Anticipated work next quarter**:

Task 1. Data and Information Collection. The Research Supervisor will conduct site visits to Montana on October 7-9 and California on October 28-30. She will conduct the conference call with participating states on October 14. Researchers will continue to summarize the site visits, related reports, and other information.

**Significant Results:**

The formal project Kickoff meeting was held 7/15/2015, from 1:00pm to 2:00pm CST. Performed site visits to Pennsylvania (PennDOT), Washington (WSDOT), Ohio (ODOT), North Dakota (NDDOT), and Louisiana (LaDOTD).

**Circumstance affecting project or budget. (Please describe any challenges encountered or anticipated that might affect the completion of the project within the time, scope and fiscal constraints set forth in the agreement, along with recommended solutions to those problems).**

A change request adding funding from California, moving some funds from FY 15 to FY 16 due to difficulties scheduling the site visits to participating states in August, and slightly adjusting the schedule was submitted to TxDOT on July 29.

**Potential Implementation:**

none at this time.