R&D PROJECT PLAN
06_*SLT/NEI/TRI – PHASE 2*

2/20/2018

OVERVIEW

1. Participants

Participant Name (* = team leads)	Participant Organization	Participant Phone	Participant Email
Chun Yi Wu*	Minnesota	651-757-2833	chun.yi.wu@state.mn.us
Chad Wilbanks	South Carolina	803-898-4106	wilbanmc@dhec.sc.gov
Deborah Basnight	Georgia	404-363-7134	deborah.basnight@dnr.ga.gov
Stephanie Griffin	EPA/TRI-policy/regs	(202) 564-1463	Griffin.stephanie@epa.gov
Juan Parra	EPA/OEI/TRI-systems/reqmts	202-566-0499	Parra.Juan@epa.gov
Madeleine Strum*	EPA/EIAG	919-541-2383	Strum.Madeleine@epa.gov
Josh Drukenbrod	EPA/EIAG	919-541-0928	Drukenbrod.Josh@epa.gov
Rebekah Banas	Michigan	517-284-6739	BanasR2@michigan.gov

2. Project Description

The purpose of this project is to identify issues and solutions related to consistency of emissions data between SLT/NEI and TRI and to provide guidance to SLT/NEI/TRI programs to enhance data sharing between TRI and SLT/NEI data. We will explore differences in NEI and TRI data and conduct case studies to identify reasons for these differences. We will further explore the overlaps identified from the Phase 1 to develop guidance on harmonizing the overlapping fields to allow the data to be more readily shared. Calculation methods and control/treatment codes are two fields identified that we can work on.

3. Project Steps

1. Describe the overlap in the universe of TRI and NEI facilities- e.g., what percent of NEI facilities/emissions are in TRI and reasons for the differences.
    a. Develop information for a variety of metrics (emissions, numbers of facilities)
    b. Develop metrics by different levels of aggregation (e.g., NAICS, state, major source thresholds)
    c. Explore the reasons for the differences in the universes.
2. For facilities that are in both TRI and SLT/NEI – compare emissions by pollutant (include CAPs and HAPs) and determine the reason for the differences.

a. Analyze 2014 TRI vs SLT/NEI emissions – where are the largest categorical differences with respect to industry types, pollutants, states. For example, does one industry type or one pollutant have larger differences than others?
b. Select criteria for selecting facilities for conducting case studies further explain reasons for the differences.
c. Select facilities for case studies
d. Conduct Case studies to describe emissions differences. Case studies would be in states that are participating on this team – MN, MI, SC and GA

3. Explore overlaps in the emission calculation method codes and control/treatment codes in the SLT/NEI and TRI
    a. Examine the guidance for selecting and/or interpreting the codes used for reporting emissions/emission reduction activities.
    b. Determine overlaps in the codes across the 2 programs and developing mapping/guide
4. Gather information on data quality/QA approaches used by TRI and SLT/NEI involving cross program data sharing and communication
    a. Compile list of best practices for each program with regards to QA/QC
5. Develop guidance/recommendations for cross-program coordination – TRI-NEI-SLT
    a. In the current scenario (pre-CAER implementation) how can the TRI and NEI/SLT programs use each other's data to improve data quality.
        i) What data elements to address, what tools are available, what is ideal timing for assisting both programs, who are key players and how best to foster continued coordination? Including mutual communication between SLT and EPA/TRI – example, SLT finds an issue with TRI data – most efficient way to get that looked into/corrected?
    b. Guidance/recommendations with respect to the future CAER/Common Emissions Form (CEF) scenarios on the following situations for a pollutant included in both TRI and SLT/NEI:
        i) Emissions for a pollutant are reported to TRI but from emission units or facilities that are not required to report to SLT.
        ii) Emissions for a pollutant are reported to both TRI and SLT but at different levels of details with different values from emission units or facilities that are required to report to SLT
        iii) Emissions for a pollutant are reported to TRI but not reported to SLT EI from the emission units or facilities that are included in the SLT EI
        iv) Emissions reported to SLT but not to TRI (even where it should).

    The goal is to capture all emissions in a proper fashion in NEI.
    c. Develop guidance/recommendations for developing a CEF- the fields use of control and treatment codes and emission method to accommodate TRI / NEI programs, including definitions whenever possible.

4. Prior Work

We will use the terms/requirements comparison of Phase 1 that show both NEI and TRI use codes to describe the method for the calculation estimate and the emission reduction approach used. We will use the TRI to NEI pollutant crosswalk for looking at emissions comparisons. We will use the state survey of how TRI data are used in state submittals in our analysis of the emission comparisons and in the development of the guidance.

5. Deliverables

1. Metrics describing overlap of universe of NEI / TRI / SLT
2. Summary of analyses comparing 2014 NEI and SLT to TRI emissions
3. Summary of case studies of why emissions are different
4. Comparison of calculation method codes / control measure-treatment codes for both programs
5. Summary of comparison of QA/QC methods used by SLT TRI NEI
6. Guidance/recommendations for cross program coordination and data sharing
7. Guidance/recommendations for future common emissions form issues

6. Resource Needs

We expect we will need some support for report writing and but do not have estimates at this time.

7. Expected Workload

This R & D team will meet once a week and have about 2-3 hours of work per week, per person with some fluctuation during the 6-month period.

DELIVERABLES & EXPECTED COMPLETION DATES

Deliverable	Expected Completion Date
Metrics describing overlap of universe of NEI / TRI / SLT	March 31, 2018
Summary of analyses comparing 2014 NEI and SLT to TRI emissions	March 31, 2018
Summary of case studies of why emissions are different	May 31, 2018
Comparison of calculation method codes / control measure-treatment codes for both programs	March 31, 2018
Summary of how programs currently use each other's data for QA/QC - SLT TRI NEI	May 31, 2018
Guidance/recommendations for cross program coordination and data sharing	June 30, 2018
Guidance/recommendations for future common emissions form issues	June 30, 2018