



WESTAR QUARTERLY REPORT

Reporting Period: January – March 2025

Report Date: April 30, 2025

EPA Grant No. XA-97T12601-0

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 2024-2027

Note: Work on activities and spending against this grant began September 1, 2024.

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 through the end of the most recent quarter.

**EPA Core Grant 2024-2027
Expenses by Object Class through 3/31/25**

Object Class	Budget	This Quarter	Cumulative Expenses	Percentage
1. Personnel	503,172	126,545	291,592	58%
2. Fringe Benefits	116,832	28,816	66,945	57%
3. Travel	119,982	3,975	72,895	61%
4. Equipment	0	0	0	
5. Supplies	0	0	0	
6. Contractual	124,745	72,886	72,886	58%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	233,993	60,020	119,630	51%
9. Indirect Expenses	246,759	43,782	123,491	50%
Totals	1,345,483	336,023	747,439	56%

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>	<i>Results/Outcomes</i>	
	<i>2025 January- March</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
30 Air director conference calls, documented with minutes posted on WESTAR’s website	3	6
6 Business meetings, documented with minutes and presentations posted on WESTAR’s website	0	1
72 Committee and ad hoc workgroup conference calls	9	18

<i>Expected Result for Project Period</i>	<i>Results/Outcomes</i>	
	<i>2025 January-March</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
3 Trips by committee chairs to brief air directors on committee activities	0	2
1 Specialty conference on a high priority topic	0	0
2 Meetings held to address emerging topics	0	1
9 Trips by committee representatives to attend national meetings and report back to WESTAR membership	0	0

2) Other Activities this Quarter – Operations Project

* WESTAR staff, states, and Tribal air agencies continue to meet monthly as an ad hoc committee to exchange information about implementing EPA’s oil and gas rules for methane. The discussion centers around implementing section OOOOc and efforts to implement meaningful engagement requirements.

* WESTAR is participating with NESCAUM in the independent wood heater testing project. WESTAR continues to participate in the National Residential Heating Task Force, including in work groups formed to refine wood burning emission estimates and source classification codes, and giving input on how to revise the wood heating NSPS.

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>2025 January-March</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
75 Educational opportunities delivered:	2	13*
* Effective Permit Writing – Online		

<i>Expected Result for Project Period</i>	<i>Results/Outcomes</i>	
	<i>2025 January-March</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
* Basic Inspector Training – Portland, OR		
1650 Students <i>trained</i>	55	357
4025 Student training days	152.5	785
1 Training course developed/updated	1	2

* WESTAR sponsored 11 training courses during Q1, didn't account for the Advanced NSR/PSD course held in Denver, CO on Dec 17-20, 2024 including an additional 11 students trained bringing the total Q1 students trained to 302..

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 on the logistics of the training priorities that agencies identified as important training need(s) for FY2025.
- WESTAR continues its leadership role on the National Joint Training Committee (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.
- WESTAR is a member of the workgroup tasked with improving course materials on EPA's SharePoint site
- WESTAR is working with other MJOs on improvement options for the New Solution Program
- WESTAR continued efforts to support member agencies by creating an ISIP training course
- WESTAR staff continues to work with the JTC to move classroom training courses to online training, when appropriate, to serve better the current needs of state, local, and tribal air quality professionals.

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>	<i>Results/Outcomes</i>	
	<i>2025 January- March</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
75 Work Group and Subcommittee Conference calls	2	5
30 Technical Steering Committee conference calls	2	3
2 Face-to-face WRAP Board meetings	0	0
30 Travel support provided to local agency and tribal WRAP Board members	0	1
1 Technical Steering Committee Face-to-face meetings	0	0
30 WRAP Board calls	1	3

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 Air Data Management System (ADMS). Linked to the ADMS are the Technical Support System v2 and v3, which support Regional Haze analysis for the WESTAR/WRAP region. The ADMS also houses the Federal Land Manager’s Environmental Database (FED). Development to support the Intermountain West Data Warehouse (IWDW), a web application for accessing various modeling platforms, has stopped, and efforts to redesign an application for accessing modeling platform data are underway. The WESTAR/SCAQMD EE Demo App will also be moved from the R Shiny environment to the ADMS in 2025. The WESTAR/WRAP website was migrated to ADMS servers in the fall of 2024. Moving forward, the WRAP Regional Technical Center framework can support additional regional modeling tasks and deliverables from WESTAR contracts.
- 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. This included meetings with workgroup co-chairs to discuss workgroup goals and meeting schedules for 2025. The Regional Haze Planning Workgroup and the Oil and Gas Workgroup are on hiatus, pending federal updates and rule revisions. The Fire and Smoke Workgroup, the Regional Technical Operations Workgroup, and the Tribal Data Workgroup hope to meet quarterly in 2025.

- The WRAP Technical Steering Committee and Co-Chairs of WRAP Work Groups met in January and March.
- The Fire and Smoke Work Group's Exceptional Event Support Team met January 15 and also helped organize a EE Demo App training offered nationally on April 2, 2025. The EE Demo App volunteer group met biweekly for 15 minutes to discuss any issues/questions, with follow-up meetings always an option if needed.
- The Tribal Data WG met once in March
- The Fire and Smoke WG EE Support Team met in January
- The Oil and Gas WG did not meet this quarter
- The Regional Haze Planning WG did not meet this quarter
- The Regional Technical Operations WG did not meet this quarter.

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. On September 11, 2023, the necessary 2/3 vote of the membership was achieved, and the proposed amendments were accepted. The new charter is now in effect and posted to the WESTAR website as part of the WRAP organizational documents.

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 coordinates a quarterly national call on Regional Haze planning.

WESTAR participates in a number of HAQAST projects.

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 continues to assist in a lead role with the inventory collaborative group to develop the 2022 Emissions Modeling Platform.

WESTAR organized an Air Data Management System (ADMS) Steering Committee for agencies that are funding and/or supporting the ongoing development of the ADMS. This group meets quarterly. This first meeting was in May 2024. WESTAR/WRAP facilitated

an ADMS workshop for members of the Steering Committee to learn more about the structure, data flows, websites, and products that make up the ADMS.

3. CONSOLIDATED EXPENSE SUMMARY

Cumulative Expenses by Object Class and Funding Source through 3/31/2025 All Active Accounts

	EPA	
Object Class	Core Grant 2024-27	Totals
1. Personnel	291,592	291,592
2. Fringe	66,945	66,945
3. Travel	72,895	72,895
4. Equipment	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0
6. Contractual	72,886	72,886
7. Construction	0	0
8. Other	119,630	119,630
9. Indirect	123,491	123,491
Cumulative Expenses	747,439	747,439
Budget	1,345,483	1,345,483
Balance Avail	598,044	598,044

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

	EPA	
Object Class	Core Grant 2024-27	Totals
1. Personnel	126,545	126,545
2. Fringe Benefits	28,816	28,816
3. Travel	3,975	3,975
4. Equipment	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0
6. Contractual	72,886	72,886
7. Construction	0	0
8. Other	60,020	60,020

	EPA	
Object Class	Core Grant 2024-27	Totals
9. Indirect	43,782	43,782
Total Expenses	336,023	336,023