DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, Environmental Health Administration

Program: Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST)

Award: $1,317,000

Project contact: Mr. Darren Park, Ms. Roxanne Kwan

1. For each group/category or program/project for which ARRA funds have been obtained, please provide the following information:
    a. A brief summary of the program/project, including goals
    Funds associated with the EPA's Leaking Underground Storage Tanks efforts to assess and cleanup petroleum releases from leaking underground storage tanks (LUST) sites in Hawaii; in particular, orphan or abandoned sites, where the owners/operators of the sites are unknown or unable to pay, of which there are approximately 200,000 in the U.S., and staff management and oversight activities that will leverage additional cleanups. The overall purpose is to clean up contaminated LUST sites effectively, maximize job creation/retention, and provide economic and environmental benefits to the citizens of Hawaii.
    b. Whether funds were appropriated for expenditure by a federal agency, were awarded as a formula/block grant to a State or country agency, or were awarded on a competitive grant basis;
    Funds were appropriated by the Environmental Protection Agency as a cooperative agreement to the State of Hawaii.
    c. Whether matching funds are required, and, if so:
        i. Are they available; N/A
        ii. Have they been secured; N/A
        iii. If they have not been secured, why not; and N/A
        iv. Will the State be required to continue that match or provide increased/full funding in the future in the future; N/A
    d. If there additional requirements to receive funds, what are they; N/A
    e. The amount of funds involved and the state/federal fiscal year within which the funds must be expended (e.g. SFY 2009 – 2010 or FFY 2009 – 2010);
    The award total was $1,317,000 and must be expended by the end of FFY 2011.
    f. What criteria were used to identify the program/project as a priority and how does the program/project meet them;
    Funds were intended to assess and cleanup petroleum releases from leaking underground storage tanks (LUST) sites in Hawaii; in particular, orphan or abandoned sites, where the owners/operators of the sites are unknown or unable to pay.
    g. Efforts undertaken to coordinate application for funds and administration of the program/project, including expenditure of funds, with other federal, state, and county agencies;

N/A

h. The criteria used to select activities for the program/project;
Sites that have been orphaned or abandoned sites with leaking USTs and where there are no responsible parties or owners/operators.

i. Efforts made to provide public notice and seek public comment/input or, if public comment/input was not sought, why;
ARRA money is earmarked for assessment and cleanup of sites with leaking underground storage tanks.

j. Efforts made during the bidding/award process to ensure that it was transparent and that the funds were awarded based on merit and in a prompt, fair, and reasonable manner;
Normal state and county procurement practices were followed and duly documented.

k. Measures employed to 1) reduce duplication of efforts, 2) ensure that funds were used for authorized purposes, and 3) prevent cost overruns, fraud, waste, error, and abuse;
The Department of Health has published draft guidance for internal programs as well as an internal ARR Oversight Committee to assure timeliness and accuracy, and to scrutinize for waste, fraud, error, and abuse. This Committee convenes monthly or as needed. In turn, the Department of Accounting and General Services and the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism also provide oversight and guidance.

l. Current status of the program/project, including percentage of awarded funds that have been obtained, percentage of awarded funds encumbered and/or expended, and what part(s) of program/project have been completed; and
- None

m. Actual or anticipated economic impact to the State of the program/project, including the number of jobs saved/created and the long-term public benefits of the program/project.
Jobs retained/created cannot be calculated at this time. The long-term public benefit of the project will reduce environmental contamination to the groundwater and soil, due to abandoned and degradation of these storage tanks (gasoline, oils, chemicals, etc.).