

1st Quarterly Report Public Report

Date of Report: January 25, 2016

Contract Number: **DTPH56-15-T-00012**

Prepared for: US DOT

Project Title: **Emissions Quantification Validation Process**

Prepared by: NYSEARCH/Northeast Gas Association

Contact Information: Daphne D’Zurko; 973-265-1900, ext. 214; ddzurko@northeastgas.org

For quarterly period ending: December 31, 2015

Funds and Work Completed During this Quarterly Period

1. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the proposed work include: collaborative identification, consensus-building and application of a methodology for validating quantified methane emissions rate measurements in gas distribution systems. This project is intended to ensure that new technologies that are being applied to quantify methane emissions from handheld and mobile platforms can be properly validated for application in the complex gas distribution environment; particularly those systems in urban and/or congested areas.

2. TECHNICAL STATUS

Task 1.1: *Initial Operator Survey & Data Collection*

Initiated

The Operator Survey work was initiated in late November with a kick-off meeting/conference call among the NYSEARCH funders and the NYSEARCH and PHMSA project managers. Due to the timing of the work to gain data from the funders' Operators, it was decided to delay drafting and issuance of the Survey.

Task 1.2-A: *Data Analysis from Surveys and Other Literature*

Not Initiated

As the Survey issuance was delayed, the time to collect data and analyze the necessary information would be delayed as well to the second or third quarter. This progress also depends on a parallel effort where we are conducting a second round of Controlled testing for three methane emissions technology providers. In this parallel effort, field testing that was planned for fall 2015 was delayed because of high variability in the findings from the first round of controlled tests with the (3) technology service providers. It is possible that the data gathered from these controlled tests and the subsequent planned live field tests could also feed into the information gathered for use in the construction and development of the emissions quantification validation process.

Task 1.3-A: *Meeting with Operators to discuss optional validation approaches*

Not Initiated

The NYSEARCH project manager has begun promoting the need for a meeting with the operators but will work with the funders to time this meeting as the survey data is being collected and information from the parallel program is being disseminated.

Task 5.1-A: *1st Quarterly Report*

Completed

With this report and related kickoff meeting, this task is completed.