

Get Ready for WellSTAR! STAR = Statewide Tracking and Reporting

By Ken Harris, State Oil and Gas Supervisor, Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources (DOGGR)

WellSTAR Update and Change Control

We are moving closer to our goal of having a centralized data management system! A new contract amendment is in place with GWPC to initiate the WellSTAR analysis phase. This phase is a critical foundation to designing, developing, testing, and ultimately implementing our new data management system. Our analysis phase will cover a 90 day period and will focus on finalizing our requirements inventory as well as prioritizing and establishing a requirements baseline. We have a lot more requirements than we can possibly implement within our current budget and timeline. Our requirements have grown to nearly 1,000. This is why a requirements baseline within the next 90 days is so important. We need to define the target (scope) of what WellSTAR will be for Phase II (Phase I was the PoC) and the requirements baseline does this.



The change control process was presented and discussed during the recent OCM team site visits. Change control allows DOC to evaluate the impact of proposed changes to both WellSTAR, legacy systems, and existing operations holistically. A Change Control Board has been established to make decisions on changes going forward to ensure we are moving forward in alignment with WellSTAR while at the same time addressing and prioritizing the immediate IT needs of DOGGR. I believe a change control process provides the needed structure for DOGGR and WellSTAR to evaluate the multitude of program initiatives and determine what technology and data changes need to be made now and what decisions can be made later without impacting the delivery of WellSTAR.

The change control and change request process has been approved and is now in effect. I recognize as we move forward with executing this new process we will discover ways to improve change control. I would like all of you to become familiar with the process and provide any feedback you may have to your designated Single Point of Contact (SPOC). Your SPOC will be sharing the Change Control process in each of your respective areas and are your points of contact for more information, suggestions, and questions about change control.

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The SPOC for DOGGR are:

HQ – Emily Reader: Emily.reader@conservation.ca.com

Coastal – Tyson McKinney: Tyson.mckinney@conservation.ca.gov

Inland – Amanda Parks: Amanda.parks@conservation.ca.gov

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Southern – John Huff: john.huff@conservation.ca.gov

“I believe a change control process provides the needed structure for DOGGR and WellSTAR to evaluate the multitude of program initiatives...”

Ground Water Protection Council

Collaborating Partners

By Jessica Kane with Paul Jehn

Three C's

The Ground Water Protection Council (GWPC) is excited to be working with DOGGR to help bring the next generation of regulatory tracking software to California. Combining GWPC's 20+ years of regulatory software experience with California's modern regulations and needs has created a unique partnership. The work that we are doing together with the oil and gas agency staff will set a new standard for tracking oil and gas data for regulatory agencies across the nation.

GWPC has been assisting state and federal regulatory agencies with software to track regulatory data since 1992. Both technology and the regulatory environment have changed over the years, but the GWPC's unique collaborative RBDMS model has endured. It has done so by making software that meets the **Three C's: Comprehensive, Consistent and Consolidated.**



DOGGR and the Solution Provider hard at work

Comprehensive: By working with regulatory agency staff throughout the country, GWPC is familiar with the many complex tasks involved in regulatory tracking. This allows them to model a **comprehensive** solution to meet the ever-growing needs of multiple regulatory agencies. When a state starts working with GWPC, the vast majority of the necessary functionality is already built into RBDMS.

Consistent: Although oil and gas regulations vary from state to state, the fact is that many states work on the same tasks. Years of experience has allowed GWPC to figure out how to benefit states through reliable regulatory software. Through upgrades in technology and changes in regulations, GWPC's software solutions have always delivered the same **consistent** and full-featured functionality that makes it easy for regulators to do their jobs from year to year.

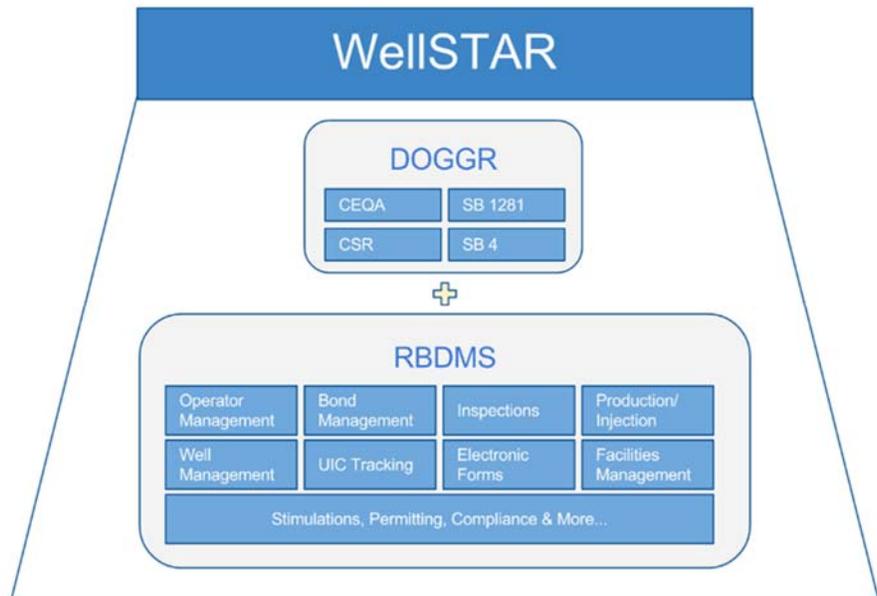
Consolidated: GWPC's network connects oil and gas regulators from across the country, bringing all of their ideas together to create the best tools possible. The RBDMS platform **consolidates** the many applications that agencies use to track information into one application suite. This allows agencies to perform better cross-boundary tracking both within the agency and with partner agencies.

RBDMS + New Requirements = WellSTAR

Three C's continued from page 2

Simply put, WellSTAR is the next generation of RBDMS. As technology has evolved and made it possible to have access to information almost anywhere, it only makes sense that regulators have their data accessible in the field. In the past months the GWPC has been reviewing DOGGR's requirements against RBDMS. RBDMS provides a solid base that meets the majority of functional requirements for DOGGR. A few areas must also be enhanced because of California's unique needs and leading edge regulatory requirements.

Together, DOGGR and GWPC are laying the framework for adding functionality related to programs surrounding areas like SB 4 and SB 1281. As part of WellSTAR we're also moving to a 100% web-based platform, which will make the application available to agency staff anywhere and anytime. Experience tells us that having the tools agency users need, when they need them allows a program to provide excellent, consistent and reliable service.



In The Field OCM Team Finish Site Visits

By Jeff Newton

The OCM team finished up their site visits earlier this month with the objective of providing staff with the latest project updates along with facilitating *Change Readiness* training for supervisors and managers. In all, 195 staff received the latest information on the WellSTAR project and 34 managers participated in the training. Feedback was positive from the site visits and it is clear that staff are enthusiastically waiting for key dates for the project implementation. The OCM team will continue communication with SPOCs and Super Users over the course of the next 90 days and will plan to schedule additional site visits upon release of the implementation plan from the solution provider.



For the latest updates, please check out the [WellSTAR project page](#).

As always, any questions or comments can be made to the WellSTAR email box at WellSTAR@conservation.ca.gov.

Brain Teaser – A fun quiz!

Look for the Brain Teaser to return next month with an even more exciting format!

Contact Us (WellSTAR OCM Team)

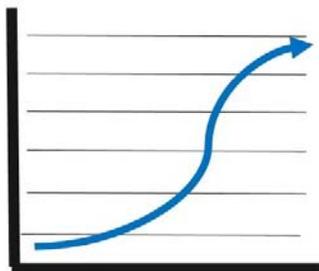
Visit us on the web (DOGGR/WellSTAR Intranet Page) at http://docinsider/DOGGR/Pages/WellSTAR_Project.aspx

or (DOGGR/Operator Internet Page) at http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/for_operators

Please send your comments and questions to WellSTAR@conservation.ca.gov. We want to hear from you!

WellSTAR's Solution Success Equation

$$Q \times A = E$$



The **QUALITY** of the solution is dependent upon the **ACCEPTANCE** of the solution. Combined, they equal the **EFFECTIVENESS** of the solution.

