

## Get Ready for WellSTAR!

STAR = State Tracking and Reporting

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

Greetings from WellSTAR!

Since my last column, there has been a flurry of activity in support of the WellSTAR (Well State Tracking and Reporting) Project. The Proof of Concept (PoC) officially began in Bakersfield on January 21, 2016 and I am pleased to announce preliminary feedback is positive.

We conducted product demonstrations of the Colorado RBDMS in Bakersfield, Cypress, and Sacramento.

We also held a data collection kick-off meeting with our industry operator partners in support of our Project-by-Project effort in Bakersfield on January 27, 2016.



*Thom Kerr from GWPC, demonstrating the Colorado version of RBDMS in Sacramento*

In my last newsletter, I encouraged all of you to actively participate in this effort and to challenge yourself to find new and more efficient ways of doing business. I am already seeing evidence of participation across multiple organizations: The Division, Department of Conservation (DOC) leadership, DOC Enterprise Technology Services Division (ETSD), industry operators, industry associations, California Department of Technology, and the Governor's Office, just to name a few. To me, this demonstrates a commitment to the vision of transforming how California regulates the oil, gas, and geothermal industries in California.

I made a statement at the Project-by-Project kick-off meeting in Bakersfield on January 27, 2016 that the Division will become a paperless operation. The WellSTAR Project is the first step on this journey to transform the Division into the digital era. The plan to become a paperless operation is not only reasonably attainable, but supported by technology that has long been available to support this plan. As a state entity, we have a responsibility to the residents of California to use available technology to avoid unnecessary waste and inefficiency. Again, I am pleased with our progress thus far and I look forward to working with you to transform the Division into a fully digital organization.



*Ken Harris, Supervisor, Department of Conservation*

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***“The WellSTAR Project is the first step on this journey to transform the Division into the digital era.”***

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*— Ken Harris*

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## In the Field – Business Process and Site Visits

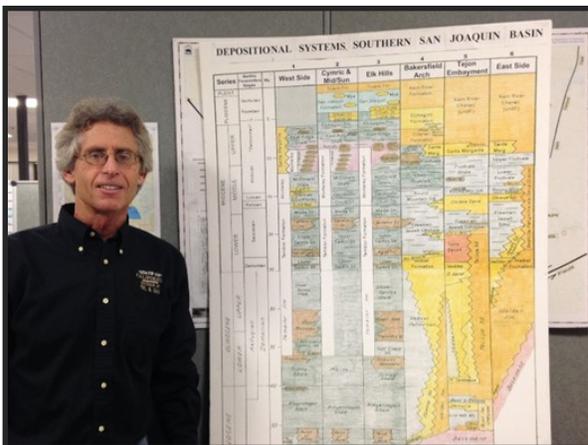
*By Brenda Callen and Kelly Elo*

February 1<sup>st</sup> kicked off the Organizational Change Management (OCM) Team's As Is Business Process effort. OCM Team Members Kelly Elo and Brenda Callen will be working with Headquarters and District offices' SPOCs, Super Users, and other subject matter experts to document the As Is Business Processes impacted by the implementation of WellSTAR. This is the first of several efforts designed to bring conformity to the Division's processes for the successful implementation of WellSTAR.

Kelly and Brenda have begun by reviewing the Division's Manual of Instruction and other policy and procedure documents. Once this review is completed, draft business process models will be built, then reviewed with Division and District staff to ensure the models fully depict current processes. Kelly and Brenda will be scheduling District office visits over the next three months to confirm each District's individual and specific process steps. This effort is anticipated to be completed by April 1, 2016.

Once completed, the As Is Process Models will become the basis for many OCM activities. The models will be used to verify all current processes are addressed in the WellSTAR design and to assist in the development of the To Be Business Processes. The OCM Team, with assistance from the Ground Water Protection Council (GWPC), will develop the To Be Business Process Models depicting the new business processes supported by WellSTAR. These models are critical to the development of the new business process training and the WellSTAR training curriculum.

Once the To Be Models have been developed, the next step for the OCM Team will be to complete a Business Process Gap Analysis (BPGA). The BPGA is the analysis of what has changed from the As Is Processes to the To Be Processes. To determine exactly what has changed, the BPGA answers such questions as the following: What previous manual process steps have been automated? Have any forms changed? Are there new reports available? The results of the BPGA will be communicated to the Districts and Division via the OCM Team to address the effects of the changes and best prepare for the acceptance of the new business processes and WellSTAR. Any questions regarding this effort can be sent to [WellSTAR@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:WellSTAR@conservation.ca.gov).



**Well Tour with Mike Toland:** On January 6<sup>th</sup>, Mike Toland, Senior Oil & Gas Engineer, was kind enough to take three of us (Casey Lovato-Winston, Kris Lea, and Kelly Elo) on a morning tour of several oil fields close to the Bakersfield office. The tour was so informative and Mike was very patient in answering all of our questions—thanks again, Mike!

## Contact Us (WellSTAR OCM Team)

Visit us on the web at [http://docinsider/DOGGR/Pages/WellSTAR\\_Project.aspx](http://docinsider/DOGGR/Pages/WellSTAR_Project.aspx).

Please send your comments and questions to [WellSTAR@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:WellSTAR@conservation.ca.gov). We want to hear from you!

## Proof of Concept (PoC) Activities

By Jeff Newton and Kris Lea

**SPOC/SU Team:** There have been quite a few important activities that are aligned with the PoC. There are a team of people who represent all Districts and Headquarters who have recently formed to provide organizational support for both PoC and the next phase of implementation. This team is called the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) / Super User (SU) Network.

The SPOC/SU Network meets weekly and is involved in a variety of PoC activities, such as Evaluation and Training. One Evaluator said about the training experience, “The training was great and gave a fundamental understanding of the product that will allow for personal understanding growth as the product grows.”

Thanks and kudos to all who are participating as SPOCs, Super Users, and Super User Leads!

A list of the SPOC/SU network is on the WellSTAR Intranet page: [http://docinsider/DOGGR/Pages/WellSTAR\\_Project.aspx](http://docinsider/DOGGR/Pages/WellSTAR_Project.aspx).



PoC Evaluation Training on 1/26/16 in Bakersfield

## Data Management – PbP and US Well Number Standard

### Project by Project (PbP) Column: WellSTAR and PbP? Same? Different? Related?

By Tim Cleary and Catherine Kendall

A common question the WellSTAR team is getting asked is if the Project-by-Project Review (PbP) is part of the WellSTAR Project. The short answer is no, the PbP effort is not a part of the WellSTAR effort. However, the two are related and here is how:

The WellSTAR Project is about the implementation of a new well and data management system that will allow the Division to manage, monitor, and evaluate a well from cradle-to-grave in the State of California. WellSTAR will provide a single data repository that will become the Division and the State of California’s official ‘source of record.’ In order to accelerate the implementation of WellSTAR, the Division made the decision to eliminate the dependence on data conversion from existing data systems (e.g., CalWIMS, WellStat, etc.) prior to the implementation of WellSTAR. In other words, WellSTAR will be implemented with Day One new data.

The PbP effort is a data-gathering effort to collect clean data transmissions from our industry operator partners in support of the UIC Class II program project review requirements and for EPA compliance. The data collected in the PbP effort will be loaded into a staging database that is hosted at Division headquarters. The database structure we are using mirrors the WellSTAR database structure. The PbP effort is driven as a separate effort and is not a dependency for the WellSTAR Project. In addition, once we have data loaded into the staging repository, we can meet the EPA ‘searchable well database’ requirement, which is due by February 15, 2017. Because the database structure in WellSTAR and the PbP staging database are mirrored, our objective is to eventually convert and migrate the data in the staging repository into WellSTAR at the appropriate time. The ‘appropriate time’ will be determined by the WellSTAR release plan, which is not yet fully developed and will be available in March 2016.

Again, the two efforts are independent of one another in terms of success, as both stand alone—this is by design. At some point, the two will converge and until that occurs, the two efforts will remain independent.

Any questions regarding this effort can be sent to [WellSTAR@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:WellSTAR@conservation.ca.gov).

# The US Well Number Standard

By Rob Habel, David Slayter, and Tim Cleary

Well information is widely used and shared throughout the industry. The American Petroleum Institute (API) developed a standard for permanently and uniquely identifying wellbores drilled in the United States, called an API number (1). It is a foundation for the management and exchange of all information from or about all petroleum wells in the USA. Comprehensive data management is essential for the regulation, operation, and evaluation of wells and for mitigating safety and environmental risks. Maintenance of the API well number standard was transferred to the Professional Petroleum Data Management (PPDM) Association in 2010 (1).

As a revision to the API Well Number, PPDM termed the well identifier standard the US Well Number Standard (2). This standard assigns at least a 12-digit number to every wellbore. In connection with the WellSTAR project, it is expected that the Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources will move to the 12 digit API number to capture redrills and multi-lateral wells in the WellSTAR database (3). The format of the 12-digit API number is as follows (3):

State code	County code	Unique number	Redrill/multi-lateral identifier
04	xxx	xxxxx	xx

As an example, let's use a fictional US Well Number 040290000001. Alphabetically, California is the fourth state (state code 04) and each county in California is similarly assigned a consecutive number based on alphabetical order. In this case, Kern County is county 29. The first wellbore drilled is assigned the number 00. Subsequent redrills or laterals from the original wellbore are added sequentially. Therefore, in the example above, the API number represents a wellbore in Kern County, California with a unique identifier of 00000 and is the first lateral or redrill (01) from the original wellbore.

If you would like more detailed information about well numbers and the US Well Number Standard, please visit the PPDM Association link here: [Well ID US](#).

## References:

Professional Petroleum Data Management (PPDM) Association, 2014, The US Well Number Standard, version 1.0, <http://www.ppdm.org>

Rob Habel, Special Assistant to the State Oil and Gas Supervisor

## Brain Teaser – A fun quiz!

Be the first DOGGR staff member to answer this question correctly and win a \$5 Starbucks gift card (and be recognized in the next newsletter)!

**What are the top three most abundant elements in the Earth's crust?**

Send your answer to [WellSTAR@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:WellSTAR@conservation.ca.gov).

