

**REPORT TO THE
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
STATE OF HAWAII
2007**

**ON-LINE PERMITTING
AND OTHER
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
IMPROVEMENTS**

**Pursuant to Act 160 – 2006 Session Laws
Section 18.2**

**Prepared By:
Environmental Health Administration
Department of Health
State of Hawaii**

December 2006

Act 160

This report meets section 18.2, 2006 Session Laws of Hawaii (Budget Act), which states:

Provided that of the federal fund appropriation for environmental management (HTH 840) the sum of \$300,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, shall be expended by the department of health for the new online permitting and reporting project; provided further that the department shall prepare a progress report on the online permitting and reporting project that shall include a detailed timeline and cost breakdown from start up to projected completion and any accomplishments to date; and provided further that the department shall submit the report to the legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the 2007 regular session.

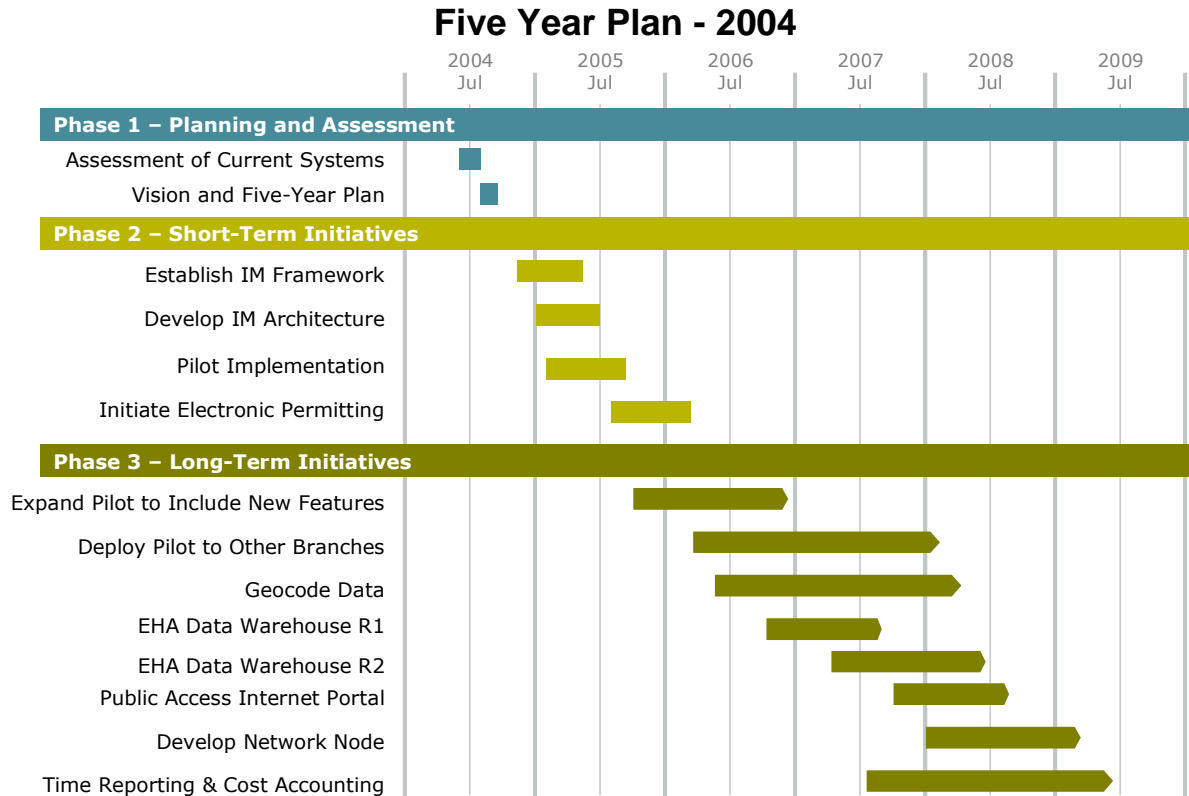
EPA Environmental Information Exchange Grant Program

The goal of the National Environmental Information Exchange Program is to advance the Environmental Information Exchange Network (Exchange Network) and States' and other partners' data integration efforts. The Exchange Network is operational with about 45 states participating, now including Hawaii. Detailed information about the Exchange Network can be found at www.exchangenetwork.net.

The Environmental Health Administration (EHA) of the Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) was awarded a \$500,000 One Stop Grant under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) One Stop Program to improve its information management practices. As discussed in the EPA Baseline Report on the EHA, prepared by Ross & Associates, three goals of EPA's One Stop Program are: "to reduce the burden of environmental reporting, to integrate information to support improved environmental management decision-making, and to enhance public access to environmental information." Grants awarded by EPA under the One Stop Program are intended to demonstrate real and successful innovations in best management practices of environmental information. One Stop Program grants are also intended to promote the exchange and use of environmental information between states and EPA.

DOH Implementation

Twelve initiatives have been identified to help EHA achieve its information management goals and were identified in the initial 2004 Five-Year Information Management Plan (Five-Year Plan), as shown below.



EHA completed both Phase 1 initiatives in 2004, completed one Phase 2 initiative in January 2006, and the remaining Phase 2 initiatives should be completed by June of 2007.

EHA adopted its Information Management Framework and hired its Environmental Information Manager in January 2006. EHA is in the final stages of implementing its pilot for permit streamlining and will follow with electronic permitting in the Wastewater Branch in collaboration with eHawaii.gov by June 2007. EHA also advanced development and completion of its EPA Network Node from phase 3 to phase 2 by taking advantage of a separate EPA grant award in October 2005. Early implementation of its Network Node lets EHA take advantage of the architecture for data sharing sooner for more data flows and meets EHA's grant commitment.

In November 2006, EHA amended its Five-Year-Plan to reflect actual developments and its latest analysis.

Item	Start Date	End Date	Description	Expenditure
<p>Assessment of Current Systems, Information Management Vision, and Five-Year-Plan</p> <p>Five Year Plan Phase 1</p>	05/2004	09/2004 (Actual)	<p>To achieve the goals of the One Stop Grant, the Hawaii Department of Health selected American Management Systems, Inc. (CGI-AMS) to assist DOH in the development of an Information Management (IM) Vision and Five-Year Plan to chart a course to improve EHA's information management systems and practices. In this first phase of EHA's Information Management Improvement Project (IMIP), AMS performed an assessment of current EHA systems, identified opportunities for business process improvements, created an information management vision, and developed a Five-Year Plan to achieve the vision.</p>	\$205,969.23
<p>Wastewater Branch Individual Wastewater System Pilot Project</p> <p>Five Year Plan Part of Phase 2</p>	05/2006	12/2006 (Est.)	<p>Working together with eHawaii.gov the Environmental Management Division selected the Individual Wastewater Systems (IWS) Approval Processing as the pilot for permit streamlining.</p> <p>The Wastewater Branch handles thousands of wastewater applications and building permit applications each year.</p> <p>The branch is integrating its disparate systems each located and managed on their respective islands. Final testing started</p>	\$7,500.00

Item	Start Date	End Date	Description	Expenditure
			<p>11/15/2006 and the anticipated production date is 12/31/2006.</p> <p>This system will provide statewide process management and reporting to health officials as well as integrate with the City & County of Honolulu Building Permit System. It also integrates with the statewide Tax Map Key (TMK) system.</p> <p>The branch plans to start e-permitting and payments on eHawaii.gov before July 2007.</p>	
<p>Clean Water Branch</p> <p>Five Year Plan</p> <p>Part of Phase 3</p>	<p>01/2007 (Est.)</p>	<p>12/2007 (Est.)</p>	<p>The Clean Water Branch is proposed to begin the process of re-engineering their Information Systems which will include permit streamlining, online permitting, and EPA integrated reporting through the EPA Central Data Exchange (CDX) network. Subject to confirmation</p>	<p>\$100,000.00 (Estimate)</p>
<p>Solid & Hazardous Waste</p> <p>Five Year Plan</p> <p>Part of Phase 3</p>	<p>03/2007 (Est.)</p>	<p>12/2007 (Est.)</p>	<p>The Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch is proposed to begin the process of re-engineering their Information Systems which will include permit streamlining, online permitting, and EPA integrated reporting through the EPA Central Data Exchange (CDX) network. Subject to confirmation.</p>	<p>\$100,000.00 (Estimate)</p>