

# PROJECT FACT SHEET

**CONTRACT TITLE:** Water & Waste Regulatory Analysis - Headquarters Project/Energy & Environmental Impact Analysis

**ID NUMBER:** FEW 3 (49648/49658)

**CONTRACTOR:** Argonne National Lab

**B & R CODE:** AB0555000

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**PROJECT SITE**

**CITY:** Washington

**STATE:** DC

**CITY:**

**STATE:**

**CITY:**

**STATE:**

**CONTRACT PERFORMANCE PERIOD:**

10/01/1996 to 09/30/1998

**PROGRAM:** Environmental-Gas

**RESEARCH AREA:** Environmental

FUNDING (\$1000'S)	DOE	CONTRACTOR	TOTAL
PRIOR FISCAL YRS	250	0	250
FISCAL YR 1998	150	0	150
FUTURE FUNDS	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL EST'D FUNDS</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>400</b>

**OBJECTIVE:** This project provides regulatory and analytical support on water and waste issues relating to gas and oil exploration and production.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Work to be performed:

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION (Continued)****Background:****PROJECT STATUS:**

**Current Work:** As of April 1998, all prior year work is completed and the FY98 were received in March. New work will include: reviewing and preparing comments on draft general permits for offshore oil and gas discharges; participating in DOE/EPA/Industry work groups dealing with synthetic-based drilling fluids and oil and gas industry NPDES permits; participating in a U.S./Russian government workshop on offshore oil and gas discharge standards; assisting in gaining approval for disposal of drill cuttings in wetlands to create new wetland habitat; and providing assistance to state agencies that are trying to establish programs for disposal of oil field waste in salt caverns.

**Scheduled Milestones:**

**Accomplishments:** - Conducted detailed review of final coastal oil and gas industry effluent guidelines and provided comments for submittal to EPA and OMB.

- Provided technical support to the DOE/EPA/industry Synthetic Drilling Fluids Discussion Group that has been successful in removing regulatory barriers to the wider use of innovative, more cost-effective synthetic drilling fluids.

- Provided assistance to oil and gas regulatory agencies in Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana, and New Mexico as they are working to set up salt cavern waste disposal programs.

- Added significantly to the public knowledge on the promising use of salt cavern for disposal of oil field waste. This was accomplished through studies on the feasibility, legality, cost, and risk of cavern disposal and through numerous conference presentations and publications.

- Contributed valuable comments on EPA general permits that resulted in lower compliance costs for operators. This work has led to numerous publications and conference presentations (available upon request).