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Quarterly Research Performance Progress Report (Period ending 12/31/2013)

Methane Hydrate Field Program
Project Period (October 1, 2012 – December 31, 2013)

Submitted by:
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United States Department of Energy
National Energy Technology Laboratory

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Office of Fossil Energy
ACCOMPLISHMENTS:
The primary objective of the project is to conduct scientific planning that will help enable future scientific ocean drilling, coring, logging, testing and analytical activities to assess the geologic occurrence, regional context, and characteristics of methane hydrate deposits along the continental margins of the U.S. with an emphasis on the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic margin.

What are the major goals of the project?
The goals that must be reached to obtain the objective are to assemble the Methane Hydrate Science Team led by a community liaison. Engage the hydrate community through a community workshop and to develop an implementable “Methane Hydrate Field Research Plan” for a future methane hydrate field sampling program.

What was accomplished under these goals?
The major activities and accomplishments of this reporting period were to:

- The Methane Hydrate Field Research Plan was finalized and distributed.

A list of the milestones and associated completion dates are listed in the chart below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone Title/Description</th>
<th>Planned Completion Date</th>
<th>Actual Completion Date</th>
<th>Verification Method</th>
<th>Comments (Progress towards achieving milestone, explanation of deviation from plan, etc.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secure Lead Community Liaison</td>
<td>5-Oct-12</td>
<td>5-Oct-12</td>
<td>Email notification to DOE</td>
<td>Completed. Tim Collett will serve at LCL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend the project kickoff meeting</td>
<td>15-Oct-12</td>
<td>15-Oct-12</td>
<td>Participate in online Meeting</td>
<td>Completed. Team attended online meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finalize Hydrate Science Team</td>
<td>9-Nov-12</td>
<td>31-Dec-12</td>
<td>Email list to DOE</td>
<td>Completed. Team finalized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete review of historical projects</td>
<td>4-Jan-13</td>
<td>31-Mar-13</td>
<td>Email report to DOE</td>
<td>Completed. Compiled report, circulated for hydrate team review, finalized draft and sent to DOE. Now preparing for website distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create workshop plan and send invitations</td>
<td>4-Jan-13</td>
<td>5-Feb-13</td>
<td>Email plan and invitation to DOE</td>
<td>Completed. Generated the draft workshop plan and invitee list. COL sent out invitations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hold workshop and complete Workshop Report</td>
<td>21-Jun-13</td>
<td>13-Aug-13</td>
<td>Execute workshop plan</td>
<td>The workshop was successfully completed on June 4-6, 2013. The final workshop report was circulated in early Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete Methane Hydrate Science Plan writing meeting</td>
<td>5-Jul-13</td>
<td>26-Jul-13</td>
<td>Hold science plan writing meeting</td>
<td>Completed. Draft science plan created and being edited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulate the Methane Hydrate Science Plan draft for review</td>
<td>16-Sep-13</td>
<td>25-Nov-13</td>
<td>Email draft plan to DOE</td>
<td>Completed. The draft science plan was circulated to DOE and the Methane Hydrate Science team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finalize and submit Methane Hydrate Science Plan to DOE</td>
<td>30-Sep-13</td>
<td>17-Dec-13</td>
<td>Email science plan to DOE</td>
<td>Completed. Methane hydrate science plan was disseminated by mail, email and web</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What opportunities for training and professional development has the project provided?
Nothing to report

How have the results been disseminated to communities of interest?
A website was established in the first quarter, and located at www.oceanleadership.org/methane. This has been used for disseminating workshop information, meetings reports and other pertinent documents to the communities of interest.

What do you plan to do during the next reporting period to accomplish the goals?
The project has been completed and no activities will be conducted during the next reporting period.

PRODUCTS:

What has the project produced?
The Historical Methane Hydrate Project Review and Synthesis document was reviewed and finalized by the Methane Hydrate Science Team and sent to DOE during a previous reporting period. The project has also conducted a community workshop that has energized the community and effectively solicited information needed to write the Methane Hydrate Research Science Plan.

During the reporting period, digital and hard copy versions of the final Methane Hydrate Field Research Plan were sent to DOE and circulated to the Methane Hydrate Science community.

These documents have been posted on the project website located at www.oceanleadership.org/methane.

PARTICIPANTS & OTHER COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS:

Who has been involved?
What individuals have worked on the project?

**Greg Myers-COL**
PI
Nearest Person Month Worked: 0.25
Contributions to the project: Led the project
Funding Support: N/A
Collaborated with individual in foreign country: Yes
Countries of foreign collaborators: Korea, Norway
If traveled to foreign country(ies), duration of stay: 0
David Divins-COL
PI
Nearest Person Month Worked: .25
Contributions to the project: Led the project
Funding Support: N/A
Collaborated with individual in foreign country: Yes
Countries of foreign collaborators: Korea, Norway
If traveled to foreign country(ies), duration of stay: 0

Tim Collett-USGS
Lead Community Liaison
Nearest Person Month Worked: 0.5
Contributions to the project: helped lead the workshop and science team
Funding Support: N/A
Collaborated with individual in foreign country: Yes
Countries of foreign collaborators: Korea, Norway
If traveled to foreign country(ies), duration of stay: 0

What other organizations have been involved as partners?
Nothing to report

Have other collaborators or contacts been involved?
We continue to utilize the Methane Hydrate Science Team to discuss project issues and deliverables.

IMPACT:
By engaging academic and industry experts in the field of marine methane hydrates, the Methane Hydrate Science Team heightened the awareness of work being initiated by DOE-NETL. Through the community workshop, the methane hydrate community has been energized and the project now has the information need to create an impactful Methane Hydrate Research Science Plan. The Methane Hydrate Research Science Plan will be the driving document needed to select, plan and execute the next offshore methane hydrate field sampling project.

CHANGES/PROBLEMS:
None

SPECIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
Nothing to report

BUDGETARY INFORMATION:
See SF-425 under separate cover
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