

NOTICE OF AN INTENTION TO CONDUCT A DEMONSTRATION AND PERFORMANCE VERIFICATION STUDY OF EXPLOSIVES FIELD ANALYTICAL DEVICES. Technical Contact: Roger Jenkins, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, 423-576-8594. EPA Point of Contact: Eric Koglin, National Exposure Research Laboratory, Environmental Sciences Division, Las Vegas, NV 702-798-2432.

As part of the Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) program, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Defense (DoD) Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP), in partnership with Oak Ridge National Laboratory, announces an intent to conduct a demonstration to test and verify the performance of various explosives detection technologies under field conditions. Contaminated soil and groundwater represent significant environmental problems at active and former explosives manufacturing and packing plants, burning grounds, and other disposal sites. The devices which will be tested are used to analyze samples which may be used to make site characterization, monitoring, or cleanup decisions.

Many EPA Regions, several Program Offices, DoD, and other Federal Agencies have expressed an interest in the performance of various explosives detection devices when tested under field conditions. To obtain this information, the EPA in cooperation with DoD will conduct a demonstration and performance verification study of commercial-ready explosives detection technologies. At least two well-characterized sites will be used in the demonstration to assess the performance of the technologies. To conduct the test, each developer will be given information on the site history and access to a target sampling area. Analytical data from these sampling points and other performance parameters such as accuracy, precision, sensitivity, cost, and sample throughput will be determined. As part of the demonstration, the developers will be expected to operate their technology in accordance with the experimental design of the study. The demonstration is expected to be conducted over a 3 to 4 day period at each site.

The primary goal of the ETV Program is to facilitate the acceptance and use of new and innovative technologies that are applicable to a wide range of environmental problems. ESTCP's goal is to demonstrate and validate promising, innovative technologies that target DoD's most urgent environmental needs. The ETV and ESTCP can meet their common goal by working with technology developers in planning and conducting demonstrations, evaluating the data generated, and promoting acceptance of the technology. In addition to a detailed technical report, ETV provides the developers with a verification statement, which summarizes the performance of the technology under the conditions of the demonstration. ESTCP provides a cost and summary report and aids in the dissemination of the results across the DoD.

This notice is one method being used to solicit interest in this program. This demonstration is sponsored by the Environmental Technology Verification program in cooperation with the DoD's Environmental Security Technology Certification Program. This program offers technical expertise to support the demonstration and provides access to the testing venues at DoD sites. The developer will be expected to contribute to the cost of verification and to secure the resources to support their participation in the performance verification process. To explain the demonstration process to potential participants, an informational meeting will be held March 5, 1999 in Orlando, Florida in conjunction with the Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy. Interested developers with appropriate technologies (i.e., commercially ready with proven field use) should contact Dr. Roger Jenkins (423-576-8594), and fax a one page letter of interest to Dr. Jenkins at (423) 576-7956.