Background

Governor Rick Perry issued Executive Order RP49 on October 27, 2005, requiring State agencies and Institutions of Higher Education to present a plan for reducing consumption of electricity, motor fuels, and natural gas. The Texas Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) submitted a response to this requirement on December 2, 2005. This Executive Order requires quarterly reports beginning in April 2006. This document is responsive to that requirement and is the fourth quarter report for fiscal year 2011.

The Texas Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) is largely a tenant State agency with the majority of occupied space in College Station on the campus of Texas A&M University. TEES also occupies space in Houston, Round Rock and San Antonio. The TEES energy efficiency programs are largely employee education related. We strive to be good tenants and have been proactively involved in and support the efficiency and conservation programs and activities of those whose facilities we occupy, including Texas A&M University.

On a broader impact perspective, TEES has an established reputation of excellence in conducting quality research and providing practical engineering solutions critical to the State and nation’s energy conservation needs. TEES continues to support Texas A&M University’s energy management plan and conservation goals to reduce energy use by providing information to employees on energy saving activities, procurement of energy saving equipment when possible, and supporting motor fuel management and conservation plans. Additionally, TEES continues to assist other State agencies and State universities with their energy procurement activities by receiving and evaluating the responses from providers on RFPs for electricity and recommending to the CFOs, Executive Directors and Chancellors who the electricity provider should be.

Motor Fuel Management and Conservation Plan

TEES continues its efforts in motor fuel management and conservation plans by adhering to the requirements of the State Vehicle Fleet Management Plan (SVFMP) as provided by the Office of Vehicle Fleet Management (OVFM), Texas Procurement and Support Services (TPASS). As a member of The Texas A&M University System (TAMUS), TEES also adheres to the TAMUS Component Compliance Plan as required by the SVFMP.

TEES continues to be proactive in the following fuel efficiency areas: identifying methods to improve preventive maintenance programs; ensuring consideration of fuel efficiency rating when purchasing vehicles; encouraging carpooling; utilizing teleconferencing for meetings when appropriate; increasing awareness of fuel efficiency procedures; implementing best practices when they are identified; and monitoring fuel efficiency utilizing reports available through the State Fleet Management System.
TEES is committed to reducing fuel consumption in its vehicles and will continue to strive for a goal of a three percent (3%) reduction in the total gallons purchased.

The combined fuel use data as provided by the State Fleet Management System indicates 2066.82 gallons of fuel purchased in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2011. The actual expenditure costs related to the cost per gallon for gasoline has varied over this time, therefore comparing the cost would not provide an accurate comparison for reduction purposes.

TEES remains committed to reducing fuel consumption where possible. Our fuel usage falls into two categories: administrative and research uses. Administrative fuel consumption is in large part the result of the relocation of TEES’ administrative offices to a facility located approximately 8 miles from the main campus. Interagency mail exchange and required meetings represents the bulk of required travel between the two locations. Research consumption is used to travel to various locations to conduct research studies.

The combined fuel use data, provided by the State Fleet Management System, indicates 2066.82 gallons of fuel purchased in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2011, a decrease of 148.73 gallons from the same period for fiscal year 2010. Fifty three percent, or 1092.11 gallons of the fuel purchased during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2011 was for research vehicles.

TEES Employee Awareness Program

TEES strives to be a good tenant and has been proactively involved in supporting the efficiency and conservation programs and activities of those whose facilities we occupy. Texas A&M University has an Energy Awareness Program, which includes an Energy Conservation Committee, TAMU Energy Office Website/Hotline, and an Energy Awareness Marketing Campaign.

TEES continues its proactive involvement in Texas A&M University’s energy conservation activities. As a member of the Texas A&M University System, the Office of Utilities and Energy Management website includes a hotline to report energy waste (http://utilities.tamu.edu). TEES continues to communicate information to our employees on Texas A&M University’s Energy Awareness Marketing Campaign, which includes newspaper articles, Aggie Hotline articles as well as other promotional material.