NATIONAL GEOSCIENCE DATA REPOSITORY SYSTEM

PHASE II: PLANNING AND PILOT STUDY

PROGRESS REPORT

**2nd Quarter
April - June, 1995**

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NATIONAL GEOSCIENCE DATA REPOSITORY SYSTEM

Activities Report — April-June 1995

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Task 1. Planning and Specification

1.1 & 1.2 Organization, Operations and Management Plan

A task force has been established to develop a business model for the management and operation of the repository system. Operation plans for management of other national repositories — DISKOS and CIDAI — have been reviewed. Unit cost models for cataloging, indexing, and retention of core, seismic, and analog data have been developed. The current business model and unit cost models are being reviewed and critiqued by sponsor companies.

1.3 Data Audit and Prioritization

Most time was spent on defining metadata requirements based on POSC standards (1.3.2) and on criteria for data retention and purging (1.3.5). Review of POSC text, plus research on metadata requirements in general, continued. Workgroup recommendations from 1.1.4 are necessary to complete this section.

1.4 Data Preparation, Transcription, Imaging, and Preservation

Work on this task centered on Sections 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.4.4, and 1.4.6. Review of data, data sources, and transcription methodologies continued. An initial outline has been written. Contacts for data transcription methods have been made with three companies. Questionnaires on data storage and transcription methods are being considered, including use of the Internet for information acquisition.

1.5 Data Catalog and Indexing

A preliminary outline has been written, while the gathering and review of information continues. Cataloging and indexing standards and methods are the focal point at the moment because the transfer of MobilView and its C&I system appears imminent.

1.6 Data Access, Distribution, and Delivery

An initial outline has been written, and will be fleshed out and modified. A questionnaire of potential users is being contemplated, again possibly through the Internet.

Task 2. Directory of Geoscience Data Centers

A repository survey questionnaire has been developed to capture the primary geoscience data types by geographic area. The questionnaire is currently being reviewed and will be modified based on input from reviewers. Onsite visits were made to six data repositories to develop material for use in preparing the questionnaire. Mailings have been sent out to AAPG and SEG affiliated societies, state geological surveys, and other organizations asking for their assistance in identifying geoscience data repositories in their area. A database of operating repositories — both public and private — is being compiled and will form the basis for a mailout of the survey questionnaire.

Task 3. Pilot Projects

3.1 Digital Seismic Data Transfer

A dataset has been chosen and arrangements are underway to transfer it from the donor (Mobil) to the NGDRS. Minor problems have arisen concerning the amount of data to be donated, and whether or not to duplicate the data before shipping. Such being the case, the transfer is taking longer than expected. Still no real problems are showing up and transfer is expected to take place soon.

3.2 Core and Cuttings Processing

A core set has been selected, transferred from its storage site, and processing in to the Bureau of Economic Geology (BEG) core repository. Digital scanning methods for the core have been determined, vendors contacted, evaluated, and chosen, and arrangements made to transfer and digitize the core. The scanning transfer is underway.

3.3 Catalog and Index Database

Activity centers around the acquisition of MobilView by American Geological Institute. In anticipation of MobilView's release, contacts have been made with I.N.T., Oracle, and Sybase to obtain license to some of their software products which MobilView uses. Alternatives to MobilView are being also evaluated, as a fallback position.

3.4 Paper Records Data Capture

The integrated paper dataset has been identified and certain transfer procedures are underway. Companies for data conversion have been identified and contacted to review their costs and methodologies.