Section 1. Goals and Accomplishments

Goal 1: MISSION / PURPOSE: The mission of the Center for Environmental Radiation Studies (CERS) is to promote research on the dispersion and biological/ecological effects of ionizing radiation, to advise government agencies on means to reduce risks to human health and environmental contamination, and to assess and predict the dispersion of radionuclides released by natural and man-made events. CERS develops databases from its studies of radioactive contamination around the world and provides expertise important to strategic planning for the state of Texas, U.S. national homeland security and international nuclear safety.

- CERS faculty have received funding from the US Department of State to assist the government of Iraq in dismantling their former nuclear complex.
- CERS faculty have received funds from Great Britain's Ministry of Finance and Industry to train personnel for nuclear dismantlement. This training was conducted near Chernobyl, Ukraine.
- CERS faculty have played an active role as US delegates to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, Austria for assisting Iraq with nuclear dismantlement.
- CERS faculty have traveled multiple times to Iraq to work with Iraqi scientists at nuclear compounds.
- CERS faculty have met with key personnel at the Ministries of Science and Technology and Environment in Baghdad to plan dismantlement activities.
- CERS faculty have established links between Iraq and Ukraine for assistance in radio-metric analysis of samples taken at Iraq's nuclear facilities.
- CERS faculty have trained key Iraqi personnel on methods for assessing biological and human health in regions near their nuclear complexes. These programs were conducted in Jordan and Ukraine.
- CERS faculty hosted a training program for Radiation Worker Safety for nuclear personnel in Amman, Jordan.
- CERS faculty have met with key personnel from Great Britain, Italy, Jordan, Ukraine, France, Germany, and the United States on nuclear dismantlement programs relevant to our goals in Iraq.
- CERS faculty have been successful in procuring funding to extend this program. This program has been active since 2005.
Section 2. Universal Quantitative Data

There are no Universal Quantitative Data for this area/unit.
### CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RADIATION STUDIES

#### Area/Unit Specific Information

**Section 3a. Quantitative Information**

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<th>Calendar Year</th>
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There is No Area Specific Data in Fall Section.
There is No Area Specific Data in Fiscal Year Section.
Section 3b. Qualitative Information.
There is no qualitative information for the current year.
Commentary:

There are no undergraduate students involved in this program. Graduate student involvement has been, and will continue, to stress student activities associated with training, data analysis, sample assessments, and preparation for interactions. Only one student has been included as a US delegate to the IAEA meetings in Vienna. Students have played active roles in training programs in Ukraine and Jordan. These interactions have been very valuable for our students for building international experience and training in science diplomacy. CERS faculty and students meet regularly with officials from the U.S. Department of State and Department of Energy. These planning sessions establish our statement of work and milestones for the coming months/year.

Implementation Plan:

Funding has been approved by the U.S. Congress to continue this program at least for one more year. Legislation is pending (October 2009) for annual funding to continue our interactions with Iraqi personnel. We will continue to address the stated and written goals and programs assembled by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Embassy, Baghdad. CERS faculty will seek ways to expand our funding base for scientific research and scientific diplomacy in various countries. There is a real need to recruit young(er) faculty into this area.