

# Florida Organics Recycling Center for Excellence (FORCE) DEP Contract: SW204 Annual Report -Year 6

The Florida Organics Recycling Center for Excellence (FORCE) was created to centralize a facility capable of promoting and supporting focused, comprehensive, and integrated organics recycling throughout the State of Florida. The FORCE project commenced as a cooperative effort among Sumter County (County), the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and public/private researchers. The partnership between these entities is intended to offer an ideal combination of practical experience, research capability, and public education resources. FORCE is designed to provide the structure necessary to develop Florida's organics recycling infrastructure and to support it with research and development of processing and marketing technologies.

This report will describe the events and activities of the sixth year of the FORCE project. Some of the more significant highlights include completion of research and demonstration (R&D) projects, the Compost Regulatory Report, and the results of the feedstock testing trials.

The accomplishments conveyed below are grouped according to the six project activities:

- Design
- Construction
- Operation
- Market Development, Education, and Training
- Evaluation, Monitoring, and Testing
- Project Management

# 1.0 Design

# 1.1 Engineering, Planning, Construction, and Inspection:

Throughout year 6, all of the necessary engineering work related to facility items has been continually reviewed by County and FORCE staff as well as Kessler Consulting, Inc. (KCI) to ensure proper planning and inspection of the FORCE site and relevant equipment as required by the DEP's Tampa office.

# 1.2 Plan Certification and Permitting:

The following regulatory documents are continually reviewed to meet the local DEP permit requirements and deadlines to operate the digester purchased through FORCE. KCI is currently

responsible for overseeing Sumter County Solid Waste staff, PBS&J, The Colinas Group, and Test America to meet deadlines and maintain proper communication with the DEP Tampa office.

- 1. Composting Permit
- 2. MRF Permit
- Model Consent Order

All of the Model Consent Order items have been completed. The County is still awaiting word from the local DEP district office on its submitted Contamination Assessment Plan (CAP).

FORCE staff is finalizing discussions with the DEP Tallahassee office regarding performing a yard and food waste demonstration project at the Sumter County composting facility in Year 7. The Tallahassee office is assisting the County with communication with the local district office in Tampa. A conference call was held in March between DEP Tallahassee and FORCE consulting staff regarding the direction for the project methodology, testing, and permitting work. The minor permit modification documents were initiated by KCI and PBS&J in the last quarter of Year 6 and will be transmitted to the DEP.

#### 2.0 Construction

# 2.1 Office Space Trailer:

During the past year, skirting was purchased and was installed around the modular office. The FORCE specialist received approval of this purchase from the DEP contract manager. A pressure washer was also purchased with half of the cost of this item charged to FORCE and the other paid by the County. The pressure washer will be used to keep the FORCE trailer and equipment (lawn mower and tractor) clean.

#### 2.2 Demonstration Farm Site Preparation and Maintenance:

County staff continues to mow and maintain the farm site as needed each quarter throughout the year.

*UF/Dr. Rockwood's Forestry Project:* 

Work continues on the FORCE demonstration site. See Section 4.3 – UF/Rockwood project update, which is occurring on the FORCE 40-acre farm.

# 2.3 Installation and Maintenance of Digester:

The digester has not been operating, County staff ordered a short- and long-term maintenance manual/program from A-C the digester vendor. Per the long-term storage procedures outlined in the manual, County staff continues to maintain the digester by turning it on 10 minutes per week to keep the gears lubricated. County staff disassembled the gear boxes and all gears are currently stored as recommended by the vendor.

# 2.4 Laboratory:

Throughout Year 6, the laboratory was maintained by County staff. No purchases were made for the laboratory this year.

#### 2.5 Irrigation System and Maintenance:

A meter was placed on the irrigation system this year. The meter will allow for the appropriate water costs for the farm to be calculated each quarter. Additionally, filter and pressure regulator was installed on the irrigation system that provides water to Don Rockwood's forestry farm project. The irrigation lines were flushed out to remove any sediment and full time irrigation began.

# 3.0 Operation

# 3.1 Process Technology Procurement and Testing:

The research and review continues of relevant technology information for uploading of vendor information onto FORCE website and hard copies into the FORCE library at the modular office.

Wright Environmental System (Grant Project): See Section 4.3 – Wright Environmental System update.

Earth Tub (Grant Project): See Section 4.3 – Earth Tub update.

# 3.2 Feedstock Procurement/Processing:

There is no activity to report this year.

# 3.3 Administrative Costs – Supplies and Travel:

Various administrative office supplies/costs are charged to this line item, such as telephone services, satellite-internet access, cleaning services, utilities, etc. Most travel expenses are reported and billed in task 4.4.

# 4.0 Market Development, Education, and Training

# 4.1 Educational Analysis, Outreach, and Website:

#### Newsletter:

In an attempt to enhance communications and better serve Florida's organics recycling industry, FORCE will continue to offer a periodic e-newsletter. The newsletter was sent to approximately 310

members of the organics and recycling industry each quarter. This distribution list continues to grow as visitors to the new website can now request to be added to the FORCE electronic newsletter distribution list. Three electronic newsletters were published this year. They are as follows:

- 1. Spring 2006 E-Newsletter
- 2. Fall/Winter 2006 E-Newsletter (double issue)
- 3. Spring 2007 E-Newsletter

This newsletter provides updates on upcoming events throughout the state, the status of FORCE grant projects and grant opportunities, website updates and pertinent organics recycling information. The goal is to provide timely, relevant and useful information as well as to solicit feedback from readers. Should the DEP like to include information in this newsletter, please contact Christie Revennaugh or Miriam Zimms. A copy of all three electronic newsletters is attached.

#### Website:

FORCE and County staff have updated the previously created *organics directories*. Various Florida organics reports have been converted to PDF files and have and will continue to be uploaded on the FORCE website. The Calendar of Events is updated regularly to reflect the latest in organics recycling news. FORCE staff also uploaded a Home Composting Brochure to the website. The brochure was created through the Earth Tub Research and Demonstration grant. Also added to the website this year was a list of state and national organic and composting workshops and training classes; and an organics BMP and Guides spreadsheet with relative links was added. Each year all quarterly and final contractual reports as well as the Research and Demonstration project reports. All of these items can be found on the project website. A copy of the Home Composting Brochure is attached.

In addition, the *technology database* has been updated to remove any companies no longer in the business of selling organics equipment or ancillary items or to update any company/contact information that has changed. A mailing was distributed to all vendors listed on the database to ensure that all of the information still accurately represents each vendor. Initially, 15% of the mail-out was returned as undeliverable. FORCE staff developed a spreadsheet to keep track of what was being returned and the replies made. The vendors with returns were contacted for one last attempt to get their information. Eight percent (8%) replied with new/updated information. Seven percent (7%) of the vendors were not able to be reached and were removed from the website. The remaining eighty-five percent (85%) did not acknowledge the request.

During Year 6, FORCE worked with the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) Department to provide a link, on their website, to the FORCE website. The link can be viewed at <a href="http://sumter.ifas.ufl.edu/">http://sumter.ifas.ufl.edu/</a>.

To date the FORCE website has received approximately 9,002 hits. The email address on the website, info@floridaforce.org, receives a ½ dozen emails per month regarding assistance on organics information. Inquiries are met with research or educational information to the party

requesting the organics information. In the last quarter there has been a slight increase in organics information from the private sector – small farmers, corporations, and large food retailers.

#### FORCE 1-800 Number:

The FORCE toll-free line is being monitored by Christie Revennaugh, FORCE Specialist. Calls continually come in and staff provides answers, solutions, and/or direction as appropriate. On average, this toll-free number receives about ½ dozen calls per month. In the last quarter there has been a slight increase in organics request for information and assistance from the private sector – small farmers, corporations, and large food retailers.

#### USCC Listserv:

The USCC listserv is monitored by KCI regularly for items of relevance to the FORCE program. Additionally, industry journals and the Florida Clipping Services are monitored for articles of relevance to the project and appropriate articles are forwarded to appropriate FORCE staff, TAG members and industry representatives.

#### *Industry Articles and Publications:*

Preliminary discussions were had with *Biocycle Magazine* regarding the FORCE compost regulatory report and potential of a future article. In addition, an article on the recent equipment demonstration event was developed for Recycle Florida Today (RFT) and KCI spring edition enewsletters.

FORCE and Sumter County were featured in a November 2006 *Biocycle Magazine* article by Nora Goldstein and Robert Spencer titled "*Mixed MSW Composting is Steady as She Goes.*" A copy of the November 2006 Biocycle article is attached.

FORCE staff continues to monitor the local and regional newspapers to identify any articles that may have been written about the project. The newspapers being reviewed include the Sumter County Times, The Villages Daily Sun, The Ocala Star Banner, the Lake County Daily Commercial, and the Florida Clipping Services.

#### 4.2 Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Committee Meetings:

FORCE staff are in contact with various TAG members as needed, including, Josh Boan, DOT representative and Chris Snow, Hillsborough County regarding the USCC 2007 Conference held in Orlando, Florida on January 22-24, 2007. As a part of the DOT funded yard waste project, evaluation and demonstration on equipment that effectively screens out plastic bags was held on January 25, 2007. Personnel from DOT, DEP, counties, cities and private processors were invited to come and watch how well the equipment separated plastic bags from yard trash.

The DEP confirmed that there will be no Year 6 TAG meeting required for the Year 7 Operating Plan, therefore no TAG meeting was held this year.

# 4.3 Market Development:

The information below provides an update on the status of the Research & Demonstration projects funded through FORCE. KCI conducted various research and funding information for Our Vital Earth, as well as conducted further discussions regarding their composting operation and recommended they make a presentation at RFT conference in June 2007. Feedback was provided to the City of Tampa regarding limited potential for food waste composting program at the St. Pete Times Forum. Also, vermicomposing, organics research and grant information was provided to Gabriel Emery and Peter Jordan of Apopka, FL.

# Research, Demonstration, Marketing, and Outreach Projects (Grant Projects):

# State Organics Regulatory Research Report: (KCI Researcher and Manager)

The Florida Composting Regulatory Report was drafted during Year 5, however a Florida Composting Regulatory Report Stakeholders meeting was held in Hillsborough County on May 23, 2006 with approximately 13 participants. This meeting was held to ensure that the report included the regulated community's perspective, comments and recommendations. The announcement for the Florida Composting Regulatory Report Stakeholders meeting and the attendees list is attached.

The Florida Composting Regulatory Report was revised per the feedback received at this meeting and is now complete. The final report has been uploaded onto the website. An electronic Microsoft Word version was sent to DEP representative Richard Tedder. Chris Snow of the FORCE TAG and Hillsborough County presented the results of this report at the USCC conference held in Orlando, FL from January 22-24, 2007. Mitch Kessler was scheduled to make the presentation, but became ill and had to leave the conference. A similar presentation was conducted by Mitch Kessler and Chris Snow at the SWANA conference in Tampa, Florida held February 26-28, 2007. A copy of both Florida Composting Regulatory Report presentations is attached.

An organics regulatory rule workshop will be held by the DEP on May 9, 2007 in Orlando, Florida. Information about this workshop has been distributed by RFT, SWANA Florida Chapter, Tampa Matters and to the TAG, Monica Ozores-Hampton, Aziz Shiralipour and FORCE project team members.

#### UF-IFAS/Dr. Rockwood's Forestry Project:

Dr. Rockwood continues to monitor the growth and effectiveness of tree responses using Sumter County Compost. A Year 3 project extension was requested by Dr. Rockwood and has been granted. The addendum was fully executed in May 2006. A fourth year extension request by Dr. Rockwood has been made. Verbal approval was granted upon receiving notice that the FORCE program will be extended for year 7. The project team developed an extension approval letter to Dr. Rockwood that is expected to be transmitted early next quarter along with the addendum.

Dr. Rockwood's assistants came in May 2006 to apply 1,155 yards of compost with assistance from the Sumter Correctional Work Squad. Selected rows were applied 8" thick. County staff mowed in

between rows prior to the compost application. An auger was used to dig thirty-three holes to install lysimeters. Lysimeters are ceramic cups on the ends of five foot long clear plastic tubes. Lysimeters are used to obtain samples of ground water at certain depths, for monitoring nutrients. These lysimeters were installed four to five feet deep, under the root zone of the trees. A slight vacuum can be created by pulling air out with a syringe and ground water will seep into the ceramic cup, which then can be extracted and analyzed. This will enable the determination if nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus from the compost or commercial fertilizer are leaching past the root zone of the trees into the groundwater. Unfortunately, one-third of the lysimeters that were initially installed broke and had to be replaced. It is unknown at this time what is causing the pipes to break.

On December 2, 2006, at the AgriTunity 2006 Conference held at the County's new Agriculture Center, Dr. Rockwood gave a tour of the demonstration farm.

The County received final outstanding travel documentation from UF grants office and is currently working through this information to bring closure to any outstanding invoice related travel payments. *Billing for any reimbursements are charged in this task line for Dr. Rockwood's project.* Dr. Rockwood's Forestry Project quarterly reports for the year are attached.

Ronnie Barron and Jim Stevens, Organic Matters (OM) – Food Waste to Animal Feed Project: This project is complete and the final report was submitted and approved by County/FORCE staff. The final payment to Organic Matters was made during the quarter ending June 30, 2006. A copy of the Organic Matters – Food Waste to Animal Feed Project final report is attached.

Department of Transportation – Improved Markets for Beneficial Use of Storm Debris: FORCE project team continues to contribute towards this project as part of its obligation for in-kind and matching contributions.

As a part of the DOT grant project, a public demonstration event was conducted on January 25, 2007 to evaluate yard waste processing equipment that separates plastic bags from yard debris. The demonstration event was held at the Seminole County Yard Waste Processing Facility. Two very different pieces of equipment were featured: 1) Komptech – Multistar L3, Star Screen with Air Classifier and, 2) Airlift Separator – AL 200D. The public demonstration was flanked by two days of sample testing, data gathering, and further equipment evaluations. Moisture tests on six samples, but not a broad spectrum of tests, were performed on the yard waste for the demonstration.

The goal was to identify equipment that will improve the marketability of compost and yard waste products that are often undervalued due to physical contaminants like plastic bags.

Announcements regarding this event were distributed to members of the following organizations: RFT, SWANA Florida Chapter, FORCE, TAG, DEP, DOT, Florida Solid Waste Directors, and Florida Recycling Coordinators. The event was a great success with over 50 public and private attendees. Both equipment vendors were invited to conduct further performance tests within Florida; the Komptech machine performed a follow up demonstration immediately after the public

event for Consolidated Resource Recovery at the Seminole County Yard Waste Facility. They were also invited to demonstrate in Okaloosa County on February 7, 2007, at the Wright Yard Waste Facility in Fort Walton Beach. The Airlift Separator was requested to perform another demonstration in Orange County with Bell Corp, immediately following the January 25, 2007 event. A copy of the demonstration flyer and data forms are attached.

# Environmental Assessment of Products Derived from Yard Trash:

KCI has been working on a project titled, Environmental Assessment of Products Derived from Florida Yard Trash. This project was initiated as a follow-up to a specific request from the DEP to evaluate contamination in yard waste derived products. The project assessed the issue of contamination from three perspectives: a review of existing published literature, an inventory and environmental assessment of herbicides and pesticides utilized in Florida, and lab analyses performed by major compost and mulch handlers in Florida. All work was coordinated by Kessler Consulting. The literature review was performed by Aziz Shiralipour.

The research and draft report were completed in Year 6. The final report has been completed and submitted to DEP during Year 7. The cover letter to the report is attached. And the report will be uploaded on the website next quarter.

# City of Tallahassee Water Efficiency Project – USGBC LEED Silver Certified Building:

The City, with funding assistance through FORCE, will possibly obtain up to two Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) credit points to obtain building certification through the United States Green Building Council's certification program for utilizing water conservation and organics products during the renovation of their Solid Waste Services (SWS) building.

The City requested funding in the amount of \$15,000 from FORCE for water efficiency points under the City of Tallahassee's project to obtain a LEED sliver certification for their SWS Building. These LEED points include the use of organic material, xeriscaping with native vegetation and no use of irrigation to conserve water usage. The project was initially expected to be completed by March 2007; however the City requested a grant extension until June 2007, which was granted by FORCE. The project team developed an extension approval letter for the City of Tallahassee that is expected to be transmitted early next quarter. The City of Tallahassee quarterly report document for the period is attached.

## Organics Educational and BMP Listing for Website:

Many Florida government agencies have developed Best Management Practices (BMPs) for a broad range of activities such as agriculture, construction, bioremediation, environmental control, etc. The goal of the project was to identify opportunities to enhance compost and mulch markets by identifying those BMPs and/or guides that contain organics information and those that did not. Those agencies that developed BMPs, but did not include organics information should be contacted at a future time in order to include organic information in the future. The BMP listing has been uploaded onto the FORCE website. A copy of the spreadsheet containing the listings and relevant information is attached.

## UF Local Extension, Sumter County - Earth Tub:

On April 10, 2006, Master Gardner volunteers helped remove and weigh 1,346 pounds of compost from the first batch of compost produced in the Earth Tub vessel. All compost was applied to the garden beds of the children's garden at the Sumter County Youth Center.

On April 18, 2006, FORCE staff met the principal investigator at the Earth Tub site to monitor the progress of the research. From April 20 through April 28, 2006, horse manure was added to the Earth Tub composting vessel; a total of 2,090 pounds of horse manure was added to the Earth Tub. The horse manure is very fresh and contains a great amount of saw dust. The Earth Tub was mixed approximately every third day and temperatures were taken before each mixing. On April 27, 2006, children at the Youth Garden helped fill the bio-filter with wood mulch. This second batch of compost will utilize the aeration system, although minor leaking occurred due to a crack in the threaded fitting in the Tub Port 00.

On June 28, 2006, Master Gardener volunteers helped remove and weigh 1,462 pounds of compost from the Earth Tub vessel. This compost was applied to the garden beds of the children's garden at the Sumter County Youth Center.

The FORCE project team has researched the potential costs to repair the crack in the compost vessel and for analytical testing on the compost being produced. It was determined that the vessel was not cracked. Staff identified two plastic inserts that go into the Earth Tub were broken; Jackey Jackson, FORCE Superintendent, ordered and received the parts and tools to repair the tub on March 23, 2007. The following information below details how the plastic inserts were fixed.

- o Thursday March 29, 2007: The track assembly was reattached under the push handle for the mixing assembly.
- o Friday March 30, 2007: Port 00 and Port 45 where taken out of the earth tub by hammer and chisel. Both holes were cleaned, both parts were replaced.
- o Monday April 2, 2007: After the glue had time to dry, the biofilter was hooked back up.

The Earth Tub is currently working well. In the upcoming quarter, samples of compost produced from the vessel will be collected and sent to a NELAC certified lab for analysis. The County is still trying to find a NELAC lab that can meet all the DEP requirements.

Initially, the County hoped to donate the Earth Tub equipment to the Extension Office for use at the County's Boys and Girls Community Youth Club, however this was unsuccessful. In August 2006, the equipment was transferred, at the County Board meeting, to the University of Florida. A letter from the University accepting the Earth Tub was presented at that time. Copies of the compost laboratory analysis, quarterly report, and final report are attached.

A composting brochure developed by the grantee was submitted and approved by the FORCE project team. A 4'x 8' composting sign developed by grantee was also submitted and approved. A copy of the brochure and signs are attached.

# UF-Wright Environmental System/Dr. Charles Kibert:

The addendum for this project to continue into Year 6 was fully executed in May. The System was delivered to the University of Florida's Agriculture and Biological Engineering Department (ABE) by the FORCE Superintendent on June 6, 2006. Upon delivery it was noticed by the University that the System required a three phase power supply that UF was not equipped for at the time. There was an incompatibility between the available 110 volt system on the site and the 220 volt requirements of the blowers and motors on the equipment. The initial estimate of bringing 220 volt power to the site was \$30,000. The research team examined the possibility of replacing the blowers and motors with 110 volt components. Another solution was to move the equipment to a different site where the 220 volt power is more readily available.

Because the UF research team did not know the length of time before the system would be in operation, the County reviewed the original UF proposal and the commitments for the project against the time remaining; in order to make a decision as to whether they will fund or terminate the project and whether or not to just donate the equipment to the University for research.

While the UF research team did eventually resolve the connection of the three-phase power to the composter by utilizing a single to three phase power supply; the project team has decided not to extend the project and has sent the University of Florida (Dr. Kibert) a letter stating the reason (two year delay to begin the project) for the decision. The decision has been made to donate the equipment to the University and they have been asked to submit an invoice for any expenditures and final report. The DEP concurred with the County's decision. County staff prepared a project timeline status report back up for the denial decision. A copy of the timeline and relevant quarterly reports are attached.

# Wendell Martin/Sumter County IFAS Extension, Water Conservation and Pollution Prevention Demonstration Event at the Agricultural Center (FORCE Specialist Manager):

An additional forty (40) yards of compost was delivered to Sumter County's New Agriculture Center for the *Sumter County Water Conservation & Pollution Prevention* project and a water conservation project using compost is now established at the site. This project was completed on April 30, 2006. A copy of the final report is attached.

#### 4.4. Conferences and Meetings:

On June 6, 2006, former FORCE Co-Director, Sandra Howell, gave a presentation titled, "FORCE Update: What's New This June" at the 2006 annual RFT conference in St. Petersburg Beach. A copy of the presentation is attached.

In January 2007, the FORCE Superintendent attended the 15th annual United States Composting

Council (USCC) and Tradeshow in Orlando. In conjunction with RFT, an exhibitor's booth was set up, Jackey Jackson manned the booth. While at the booth he distributed FORCE brochures, explained what the FORCE program is, he told people of the FORCE website and explained how it can be used to market products, search for and purchase products, find vendors, and that it provides information on other upcoming events. Filling in for an ill Mitch Kessler, Chris Snow, FORCE TAG member gave a presentation on the Organics Regulatory Report at the conference on January 22, 2007. A copy of the USCC exhibitor list notating FORCE and the presentation are attached.

The same technical presentation was conducted by Mitch Kessler and Chris Snow on February 26, 2007 at the SWANA conference held in Tampa.

FORCE Directors and TAG members assisted the DEP in developing the Organics Recyclers Regulatory Review Public Meeting agenda and workshop to be held in Orlando on May 9, 2007.

Meetings and conference calls were conducted regarding permitting options for food and yard waste composting demonstration event for Year 7, as well as the Sumter County MRF retrofit and operation proposal.

4.5 Demonstration Farm Operations

See section: 4.3 – UF/Rockwood project update, which is occurring on the FORCE 40-acre farm.

# **5.0 Evaluation, Monitoring and Testing:**

5.1 Scientific Advisory Council (SAC) Protocol Development:

The SAC protocol has been developed and was uploaded onto the FORCE website.

5.2 Feedstock and Products Testing:

Composting trials were conducted during Year 5 with various feedstocks. In Year 6, a final report comparing the results was completed and transmitted to the DEP. A copy has also been uploaded on the FORCE website. A copy of the final report is attached.

5.3 Environmental Monitoring:

The environmental tests required at the facility, as well as those requested by the DEP, in addition to the SAC protocol, are a part of the testing being performed by Test America of Orlando, FL for both Sections 5.2 and 5.3.

# 6.0 Project Management

It is the intent of the County to continue to house FORCE on-site at its existing location for the

duration of the existing contract period and beyond. No impact to FORCE objectives is expected as a result of the activities regarding the future changes to the Solid Waste, Recycling, and Composting Facility.

#### 6.1 Personnel:

The County feels that at this time, the FORCE project team has the goals and management of the FORCE objectives on track with a working combination of team players that understand the County's commitment to organics and its commitment to the requirements of the DEP contract and project objectives for the State. Appropriate Sumter County FORCE staff continues to be paid through FORCE funds for time spent on FORCE activities.

Christie Revennaugh has replaced Stacie Stokes as the new FORCE Specialist for Year 7. Ms. Stokes continues to work with Ms. Revennaugh and KCI to bring closure to outstanding items in Year 6. Ms. Stokes needed to resume her position and duties at the Sumter County solid waste facility due to staffing and budget cuts. Kessler Consulting, Inc. has provided the technical support to aid in this transition.

6.2 Administrative Fees – Indirect Costs:

No activity to report this year.

6.3 Annual Work Plans and Budgets:

All four quarterly reports were prepared and transmitted to the DEP.

#### 6.4 Project Coordination and Administration:

Mitch Kessler of KCI is the project co-director along with Sandra Howell. KCI continues to play its role as project technical consultant and is working with the County on every task, where applicable. In addition, KCI provides contractual support and management in conjunction with County staff. In addition, KCI is training the FORCE Specialist on all aspects of the project including contractual items, invoicing, R&D project coordination, database maintenance, and administration.

The FORCE project team meets once per month, or as needed, either by telephone conferencing or in meetings at the FORCE modular office, or at the FORCE Director's office located in the County Administration building to discuss all facets of the project.

It is the goal of the project team to continue to pursue additional legislative and private sector funding. Avenues of funding continue to be vigorously investigated, including state funds, the potential for additional legislative funds, and other Federal grants in the areas of solid waste, energy, water, and agriculture. It is the goal of Sumter County to continue to house and support FORCE through Year 7.