

## **Using STORET as a Database Design Model**

**Deb Soule  
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services  
29 Hazen Drive  
P.O. Box 95  
Concord, NH 03302-0095  
Phone: (603) 271-8863  
Fax: (603) 271-7894  
Email: [dsoule@des.state.nh.us](mailto:dsoule@des.state.nh.us)**

Approximately 4 years ago, the NH Department of Environmental Services had monitoring data in paper only or in various assorted (some 40+) databases – many not well documented. Sharing data among the bureaus, with other agencies, or with the public was very difficult. Developing electronic data submittal processes with consultants and labs was also difficult since these groups would have had many templates to follow to be able to submit data. In order to solve these problems, different database models and programs were reviewed to see if any could be used as a standard template within the department. STORET was chosen as a model for developing an in-house database since it contained a good framework known nationally, documented the data well, and would assist in meeting reporting requirements. The in-house Oracle database (known as the Environmental Monitoring Database (EMD)) was built internally approximately 1 ½ years ago and the department's data is steadily being incorporated as time and resources permit. The EMD also integrates program specific (i.e., inspection or facility data) with the monitoring data and is linkable to the EPA's Assessment Database (ADB). Data can be extracted into SIM compatible files and easily uploaded to the department's in-house copy of STORET. Electronic data submittal from outside labs and consultants will begin in the fall of 2004.