	SPARS	NEW SYSTEM
Technology	Oracle, PowerBuilder, Appeon, Toad	SQL, C#, .NET, XML
Custom or Off-the Shelf (O-T-S)?	Custom	Off-the Shelf (O-T-S)
Interoperability (e.g. Downstream Systems)	SPARS is connected to 6 other DNR databases – Stack Test, Construction Permit Search, AQWebApps, SPARS Data Download, Field Office Database, and Facility Explorer (One Stop)	The new system will consolidate 4 air quality databases into one and connect to SLEIS. Consolidated databases will include SPARS, AQWebApps, Construction Permit Search, and SPARS Data Download.
Costs	❌ • $2+ Million Development Costs between SFY 1996 - 2004 • $100,000/yr Support & Maintenance Costs	✔ • $809,000 Implementation/Deployment Investment • $16,000/yr Support & Maintenance Costs
Adaptability	❌ • Form changes require an experienced Oracle developer as well as programming not supported by state IT staff	✔ • Online forms are configurable and can be created and revised by a non-programmer
Simplify & Streamline	❌ • Users must first update their Site Management data before completing a permit application • Current forms are out-of-date • Numerous screens and tabs to click through	✔ • Users are guided through the permit application via a Data Entry Wizard • New applications can be pre-populated with existing data • User help text on each web page is configurable
Security	❌ • Does not meet all of the federal electronic reporting standards (e.g. CROMERR)	✔ • Meets federal electronic reporting standards (e.g. CROMERR)
Compatible	❌ • Requires installation of a web browser plugin and security setting changes	✔ • Supports Windows, iOS, Android platforms • Compatible with Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Firefox, and Safari browsers and is kept current and compatible with the latest versions

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	SPARS	NEW SYSTEM
Data Integrity	✖ • Minimal consistency controls results in data duplication • Minimal validation checks with confusing error messages	✔ • An equipment inventory master list is used to prevent future duplicates • Validation checks are performed before submission to the agency
Data Import	✖ • N/A	✔ • Supports data import • For example, bringing in large amounts of data to reduce data entry (e.g. Excel template)
Standard & On-Demand Reports	✖ • Limited canned reports • Additional software needed to create ad-hoc reports • Additional databases maintained solely for SPARS reporting services	✔ • SQL Server Reporting Services • User-defined data queries • Export reports to various formats (Word, Excel, PDF, TIFF, XML, HTML, etc.)
Scalable to Other Media	✖ • SPARS is a custom-built air quality data & tracking system	✔ • New system is used by several other states • Designed to handle the complexity of air quality permit applications and can be used for other environmental media
Project Tracking	✖ • Limited project tracking used to provide publicly available online status reports	✔ • Enhanced project tracking with configurable workflow management, including tracking of permit review tasks, resource assignments, due dates, status, billable hours, etc. • Customizable User Dashboards
ePay	✖ • N/A	✔ • Allows for integration of current DNR systems for accepting online payment

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