



Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) Meeting Minutes: December 10, 2015

Note: Information communicated in these minutes is not to be used as official New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection policy or as an official Department notification. Contact NJDEP officials directly for official information regarding matters communicated in these minutes.

Administrative Business:

The meeting was called to order at 9:30am by the ELAC Chair, Eileen Snyder (Alpha Analytical). Meeting minutes were taken by the ELAC secretary, Dorothy Love (Eurofins).

The November 2015 ELAC Meeting Minutes were approved, with a motion by Rose Koplin (Accredited Analytical Resources) and seconded by Sharon Robinson (NJDOH), following some discussion on the SPLP/TCLP extrude and leaching practices in regard to what is required. Greg Toffoli and Paula Blaze of NJDEP will further evaluate to determine whether or not the samples are to be refrigerated or frozen once they are extruded. This process does extend the hold time from 48 hrs to 14 days to support SPLP samples marked "hold" pending results of the "totals" analyses.

Environmental Laboratory Certification Program (ECLP): Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA) provided a program update.

Certification renewals are complete. All labs should have received their update scope. These will need to be checked closely as there were database issues encountered which may have resulted in errors with the scope content.

Any requests for modifications to your scope are being processed in the order in which they are received and must be received with full payment and a completed application; the Department will no longer accept email summary requests.

Questions on the certification program should be directed to Rachel Ellis at rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov.

Proficiency Test (PT) Program: Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA) provided a program update.

The PT schedule is on the OQA website. Results for the soil October study are due 12/24/2015. The drinking water study begins January 1, 2016 with results due March 17, 2016. Letters for the wastewater will go out in January 2016. Completion of nonpotable water and soil dioxin/furan PTs are now required.

Questions on the certification program should be directed to Rachel Ellis at rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov.

The NELAC Institute (TNI): Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA), Dorothy Love (Eurofins), and Dr. Mike Miller provided an update.

The NEFAP Field Standard is adopted and the group is now looking to expand the number of Field Sampling Measurement Organizations (FSMO) that are accredited under the program. DoD will be adapting this standard for their program as well. However, NJDEP is not recognizing the NEFAP accreditation for their certification requirements.

The 2016 meeting schedule is: Tulsa, OK - January 25-28, 2016 and Orange County, CA - August 8-12, 2016. Registration is open for the January meeting.

Check the TNI website for additional information <http://www.nelac-institute.org/>.

Sludge / Biosolids: No update provided. For questions regarding this program contact Anthony Pilawski at Anthony.Pilawski@dep.nj.gov, 609-633-3823.

Division of Water Supply/Safe Drinking Water: Linda Bonnette (NJDEP-BSDW) provided a program update.

There are currently three revised Total Coliform Rule (rTCR) training sessions scheduled for December 2015. Two sessions were added for January 2016. Refer to: www.njwater.org for information and registration. Compliance with this rule takes effect April 1, 2016. The DWSG is in process of developing fact sheets which will explain how New Jersey will be implementing certain regulations within the federal rTCR rule. The drinking water laboratories will be notified via email when these fact sheets are available and posted on the NJDEP DWS&G website (www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply). One item clarified in an earlier session was that the repeat

sampling needed for every site can be identified by using the site address or a range of addresses. Other topics being clarified include handling of seasonal water systems and sampling sites/zones for large community water systems.

The NJ-Drinking Water Quality Institute is in the process of making a recommendation of 0.03 ug/L as an MCL for 1,2,3-trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP) (CAS# 96-18-4). Once 1,2,3-TCP becomes regulated, laboratory certification will be required for analysis and reporting of 123TCP for New Jersey water systems. Two methods approved for its analysis will be EPA Method 504.1 and EPA Method 524.3 (SIM). The PQL has been proposed as 0.03 ug/L. Linda will be contacting laboratories to ask what their achievable detection limit is and the estimated cost of the analysis. The decision whether to include 1,2,3-TCP in the suite of PWTA compounds is being deliberated. The updated health risk study information for 1,2,3-TCP is available at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pdf/he-sub-123tcp.pdf>.

Harvey Klein (Garden State Labs) has requested two items to be addressed by NJDEP:

- Certain treatment chemicals used by water systems can interfere with the chlorine residual testing by giving a false positive reading. It is requested that the NJDEP drinking water program provide direction as to what "positive" reading would be readily allowed in these type of scenarios so that the labs address this in a consistent manner.
- What document or regulation would indicate the inappropriateness of a particular water system's sampling protocol that stipulates the running of a tap in excess of 20 minutes in order to obtain a detectable chlorine residual reading prior to collecting a TCR sample?

Questions on the Drinking Water Program may be emailed to Linda Bonnette (NJDEP-BSDW) at: linda.bonnette@dep.nj.gov

Site Remediation & Waste Management Program (SRWMP): Greg Toffoli (NJDEP-SRWMP) provided a program update.

Greg Toffoli noted that 1,2,3-TCP is listed in the Groundwater Quality Standards (N.J.A.C. 7:9C) with Criteria of 0.03ug/L. Frequency of testing depends on whether or not it is found at a site and at what level. Refer to: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/wms/bears/gwqs.htm>

(The Groundwater Quality Interim Standards went into) The Ground Water Quality Standards (N.J.A.C. 7:9C) Interim Ground Water Quality Criteria Table was updated effective 11/30/2015. For TCL/TAL compounds, this results in the need to analyze 1,4-dioxane to a reporting limit of 0.4 ug/l. This can be achieved using SW-846 8270SIM; however, the Department does not define which method is needed as long as the reporting limit can be met and the lab is certified for the method that they are using.

Following last month's meeting, further discussion was held in regard to NJDEP certification requirements to adhere to the methods and the DKQP requirements which many labs implemented on release of the NJDEP Analytical QA/QC Technical Guidance (April 2014). (are now using). Certification requires the methods to be followed; certification requirements take precedence over the guidance DKQPs. If the DKQP requirements are stricter than the method then that is acceptable but if there are method requirements not addressed by the DKQPs (example given was that not all method defined corrective action steps are being followed) then this could result in a certification issue and finding. A clear statement to the client in advance and on the report that the lab is following the DKQPs per the client may be sufficient clarification for the certification program. Deb Waller wanted to clarify that if a client should request any deviations from method requirements to get that agreement in writing. NJDEP certifies laboratories to methods, not DKQP or other certain program requirements.

As noted under the Administrative Business section of the minutes, further discussion was also held in regard to the handling of encore samples for SPLP and TCLP. The department clarified that the extruding of the samples needs to occur within 48 hours and then there is a 14 day hold for the leaching to occur. Clarification is needed in regard to the storage of the extruded sample – is it to be refrigerated or frozen? The department will look into this.

Questions on the SRWMP program may be emailed to Greg Toffoli (NJDEP-SRWMP) at greg.toffoli@dep.nj.gov.

New Business:

The elections were held for the 2016 ELAC office holders. A motion for a unanimous vote to elect the following candidates was made and passed as noted:

- Dorothy Love (Eurofins) was elected ELAC chair on a motion by Les Glessner (Landis Valley Sewerage Authority) and seconded by Harvey Klein (Garden State Labs).
- Nick Straccione (Accutest) was nominated for ELAC secretary on a motion by Charles Anzolut (Agra Environmental) that was seconded by Les Glessner (Landis Valley Sewerage Authority).

In the December meeting, further discussion was also held in regard to the handling of encore samples for SPLP and TCLP. The department clarified that the extruding of the samples needs to occur within 48 hours and then there is a 14 day hold for the leaching to occur. Clarification is needed in regard to the storage of the extruded sample – is it to be refrigerated or frozen? Can the department clarify this?

Subcommittees:

MUR Subcommittee: No updates provided

EDD Subcommittee: An update was provided by Greg Toffoli (NJDEP-SRWMP), Roger Page, Ken Liao and Henry Kindervatter (NJDEP-SRWMP-BIS)

Discussion of the subcommittee centered on the proposed valid values method tables. The group will evaluate options for allowing more open ended values that would match what various labs use without nailing the value down to an exact structure. They will work up a new list, compare it to the OQA method codes currently used and then send it out to a few labs to evaluate.

Questions and comments may be directed to Roger Page (NJDEP-SRWMP-BIS) at: roger.page@dep.nj.gov

Communications / OQA Website:

ELAC Chair, Eileen Snyder (Alpha Analytical) reported that the NJDEP-OQA **website** is up to date with the approved minutes, ELAC bylaws, and 2016 calendar.

Meeting Schedule: The Meeting was adjourned with a motion by Rose Koplin (Accredited Analytical Resources) and seconded by Nick Straccione (Accutest). The next scheduled ELAC Meeting will be held on **Thursday January 14, 2016 at 9:30AM**, at NJDEP, 401 East State Street, **5th Floor Conference Room** in Trenton, New Jersey. **Those planning to attend must email the ELAC Secretary, Nick Straccione at: nicks@accutest.com by Tuesday January 5, 2016.**

Note: *All visitors must show one form of photo identification, or two non-photo IDs, when signing in at the NJDEP main lobby in the Trenton, New Jersey complex (401, 501, 440 and 428 E. State Street buildings). All visitors should be prepared to verify their identification. Visitors must be escorted at all times by a NJDEP representative when in the building.*