



Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) Meeting Minutes: January 14, 2016

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, Dorothy Love (Eurofins). Meeting minutes were taken by the ELAC secretary, Nick Straccione (SGS Accutest Inc.)

The December 2015 ELAC Meeting Minutes were approved, with a motion by Eileen Synder (Alpha) and seconded by Allen Thomas (NJ Analytical Labs).

Environmental Laboratory Certification Program (ECLP): Deb Waller (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. Each scope must be checked line by line.

Many audits are scheduled for the following year. For out of state labs fees have changed, various expenses such as hotel and car must be pre-paid and the labs are responsible for airfare.

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.

Drinking water study is active now. No other updates.

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.

Rachel and Michelle will be attending the 2016 meeting in Tulsa, OK - January 25-28, 2016 .

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

Sludge / Biosolids: No update provided, will be removed from agenda.

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

At the request of Harvey Klein Linda Bonnette responded to when TRC should be tested or not depending on a positive result found for a non-chlorinated water supply. Linda B. is working on a series of questions and answers of what to do when certain situations occur. Each area of the department needs to be on the same page and this document will clarify when samples should be taken or not, analyzed or not. It was noted that in the HACH manual for DPD there can be a false positive interference for chlorine if peroxide is present.

Harvey Klein added that the sampling flush time is 2 minutes, not 20 which was previously stated. The 20 minutes was a typo.

Linda B. is currently working on a 1,2,3 TCP as a regulated compound in conjunction with the NJ-Drinking Water Quality Institute. Methods to meet this limit discussed were EPA 504.1 and 524.3 SIM.

The option to test total coliform positive original growth for the presence or absence of fecal coliform will no longer be allowed with the Revised Total Coliform Rule, effective April 1, 2016. Labs that want to continue to use the EC media option now has to add MUG to the EC media, apply and obtain certification for an E. coli verification method option with the EC + MUG media, and test for and report E. coli only.

It was noted by Charles Anzlout (Agra) that only a licensed well driller can open the well head of a public drinking water system.

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.

Following last month's inquiry regarding the hold time requirements for SPLP VOA Greg T. stated that labs should be digesting the sample in the ZHE within 48 hours for the time being. Currently Greg is still researching this requirement by reaching out to MICE and several other regulatory agencies but as of this time labs should follow the 48 hour hold time for digestion. Several states have different interpretations, CA does not allow extruding the sample and freezing to allow for a 14 day hold time but IL does. NJDEP SRP recognizes this will add cost to consultants performing work due to the fact that samples will miss hold time if they are slated for contingent analysis. Deb Waller added that that NJDEP is looking for the 48 hold time requirement during on site audits.

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. There has been much debate of over the use of 8260 SIM or 8270 SIM for 1,4 dioxane. Greg T. had mentioned that there is not good reproducibility in 1,4 dioxane by 8260 SIM. [Eileen S. (Alpha) mentioned that the data for 1,4 dioxane by 8260 SIM was not good at the new 0.4 ug/L limit. As noted by Eileen Snyder (Alpha), in 2010 NJDEP and select ELAC member Labs (Accutest, Alpha, Hampton-Clarke, and NJAL) participated in a round-robin study to evaluate the use of 8260-SIM to detect 1,4-dioxane at the recently lowered NJ groundwater criteria of 10ug/L; which was considered to be the outside capability of that approach. Recently some labs have evaluated the use of 8260-SIM to meet the new criteria of 0.4ug/L and found difficulty with ghost peaks and carry over issues. Some newer research points towards the use of method EPA 522, solid phase extraction. A question arose that if 1,4 dioxane was run by SW-846 8270SIM should a trip blank be collected as it was for SW-846 8260SIM. Greg T. confirmed that it is not necessary if it is being treated as a Semi-Volatile compound.

Further clarification was provided in regards to DKQP and method requirements. Labs are certified to method requirements, not DKQP or other program requirements. Labs must first follow method requirements then apply a program requirement. Should a lab receive instructions to deviate from a method NJDEP recommends that the lab receive those instructions in writing. .

Greg T. mentioned an article in the NY times of an attorney filing a suit against DuPont relating to PFOA. These perfluorinated compounds are becoming more prevalent in the industry and may be a possible new emerging market.

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

New Business: N/A

Subcommittees: N/A

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. There are two options being discusses, one is to create a table and have the labs match the valid values, and two accept a list from each lab and create the valid value table based on the lists provided from the labs. Several challenges mentioned were the use of old Standard method editions (18th, 19th Ed, etc.), different versions (B, D, etc.) and if SIM should be included. It was determined that the SIM is absolutely necessary.

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 Charles Hertz (Aqua PA) and seconded by Bill Giglio (NJ DWSC). The next scheduled ELAC Meeting will be held on **Thursday February 11, 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 February 1st, 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.**