



Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) Meeting Minutes: September 14th, 2017

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 Nick Straccione (EMSL Analytical, Inc.), ELAC secretary.

The July 2017 ELAC Meeting Minutes were approved with a motion by Eileen Synder (Alpha) and seconded by Rose Koplin (Accred. Analytical).

Nominations for the Secretary and Chair positions are to take place in November and elections in December. Any interested parties should contact Dorothy Love or Nick Straccione

Environmental Laboratory Certification Program (ELCP): Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA) provided an update via email.

The OQA is working on adding the additional methods noted in the 2017 MUR to the part III, and we are developing an implementation plan for compliance with the new methods. There will be an implementation grace period for compliance with the new methods, once the updated methods are added to the PART III. However, there will not be an implementation grace period for the new MDL procedure. As of September 27, 2017, any annual MDLs due after that date must be completed using the new procedure found in the 2017 MUR. A listserv regarding the changes in the MUR will be sent out by the OQA shortly.

Link to new MDL procedure: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2011-title40-vol23/pdf/CFR-2011-title40-vol23-part136-appB.pdf>

Also, as a reminder, all previous versions of the SW846 methods will be removed from all ACPLs effective 7/1/2018. All applicable laboratories must ensure they are in compliance with the most current approved version of the SW846 methods as of that date.

In addition, as of October 1, 2017 the OQA will be enforcing the requirements noted in NJAC 7:18-2.5 for all future initial certification/modification requests received after that date. Any modification applications for any initial certification must include all required documentation necessary for review before the application will even be processed. A listserv notification detailing the submittals required will be issued on or before October 1, 2017 detailing the minimum submittals required. If an application does not include the minimum required submittals it will not be considered received until all the required documentation is submitted. We will no longer accept modification requests that only include a cover letter requesting an addition, if you want it added to your ACPL full documentation must be supplied for review with the request.

A question was proposed to NJDEP OQA if some implementation guidelines can be provided to the labs on how to proceed with the new MDL procedure. Can labs use the initial MDL procedure for the first time under the new procedure, or does the data need to be compiled over a 2 year period?

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

Proficiency Test (PT) Program: No update.

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

The NELAC Institute (TNI): Dorothy Love (Eurofins) provided an update.

The Chemistry Module is now posted on the TNI website and up for vote for members of TNI.

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

Division of Water Supply/Safe Drinking Water: Linda Bonnette (NJDEP BSDW). No update

The new rule proposal for PFNA's, Radiological parameters and 1,2,3 trichloropropane in the Private Well Testing Act (PWTA) has been published and comments are due October 6th.

The BSDW is looking for information from laboratories in relation to “Too Numerous to Count” samples in relation to confluent growth during the membrane filtration technique. How often do labs see these types of samples and is a new sample requested when it is found?

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)

On September 18, an update to the soil Remediation Standards (N.J.A.C. 7:26D) will be published in a Notice of Administrative Change in the New Jersey Register. David Haymes, SRWMP Program, was in attendance to provide a summary of the changes. It is important to note that once the updated standards are published they will become effective and operative. However, there will be an option for a 6 month phase in period depending on the status of either the remedial action workplan or the remedial action report. The NJDEP will post a courtesy copy of the Notice, the list of affected contaminants, an updated courtesy copy of the Remediation Standards, and guidance for implementing the updated soil remediation standards on September 18 (see www.nj.gov/dep/srp/guidance/#remstds or www.nj.gov/dep/srp/rs). The NJDEP will also issue a listserv announcement.

Notes:

- Soil remediation standards are being updated for a total of 19 contaminants: standards for 11 contaminants are increasing; standards for three (3) contaminants are decreasing less than an order of magnitude; standards for three (3) contaminants are decreasing by an order of magnitude or more (more information below); Thallium will no longer be regulated and is being removed from the list; and 1,1,1 trichloroethane will no longer be regulated for the non-residential exposure scenario.
- 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane is included on the list because the IRIS toxicity factor was updated, however, the soil remediation standard remains unchanged.
- Soil remediation standards for 3 contaminants decreased by an order of magnitude: 1,1 Biphenyl (both residential and non-residential standard), Total Cyanide (both residential and non-residential), Nitrobenzene (non-residential only).
- There is an error in the Notice of Administrative Change that will be published on September 18 in the New Jersey Register: the residential standard for 1,1,1-trichloroethane will be listed as 22,000 mg/kg; this is incorrect. The **correct** standard is 160,000 mg/kg. The various documents posted by the NJDEP will include the **correct** remediation standard. The Notice of Administrative Correction will be published in the October 16 New Jersey Register.

All the above changes and issues were discussed at the September 13 Cooperative Venture Program/Site Remediation Advisory Group (CVP/SRAG) meeting on September 13. The ELAC committee is requesting that a representative from ELAC be in attendance for future CVP/SRAG meetings to distribute information regarding SRWMP and keep the laboratories informed.

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

New Business:

A question was raised in relation to how labs should handle not meeting the PQL of a low standard, such as Benzene, when there is a high concentration of another contaminant preventing the lab from meeting the standard. The consensus was that the lab has to be provided a sample that is capable of reaching the standards required. The fault in these types of cases is the contaminated sample, not the laboratory. Staff from SRWMP will meet internally to discuss the language used when corresponding with responsible parties, LSRPs, and laboratories, so each group is aware of its responsibilities regarding this issue.

A new committee is being formed to review and potentially revise the Field Sampling Guidance Procedures. The ELAC committee agreed that it would be helpful if a representative for ELAC be involved in these meetings. This would keep the laboratories informed and provide an opportunity for input as well.

- On a related note the topic of wipe sampling was discussed and how there is little guidance on collecting wipes. It would be a good idea to incorporate this into the new guidance to standardize the wipe procedures across all labs.

A question was raised regarding what control limits should be used for a concrete matrix. The DKQP limits do not necessarily apply to concrete matrix. Concrete is a non-standard matrix and the DKQP limits were created for soil and water matrices. LSRP's should make judgements on how limits are to be applied in non-standard matrices.

EDD Subcommittee Ken Liao and Roger Page (NJDEP-SRWMP-BIS).

No updates, continued background programming being done. This committee will be placed on hold for the time being until the NJDEP-SRWMP-BIS department notifies the ELAC committee of any changes.

Questions and comments may be directed to Ken Liao (NJDEP-SRWMP-BIS) at ken.liao@dep.nj.gov

Communications / OQA Website:

ELAC Chair, Dorothy Love (Eurofins) reported that the NJDEP-OQA website was up to date with the approved minutes, ELAC bylaws, and 2017 calendar.

On NJDEP's OQA website was updated with new PT tables set for 2018.

Meeting Schedule: The Meeting was adjourned with a motion by Charles Anzolut (Agra) and seconded by Steve Reduker (IAL). The next scheduled ELAC Meeting will be held on **Thursday, October 12th, 2017 at 9:30AM**, at NJDEP, 401 East State Street, in **5th Floor Conference Room** in Trenton, New Jersey. **Those planning to attend must email the ELAC Secretary, Nick Straccione at: nstraccione@emsl.com by Friday, October 6th, 2017.**

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.***