



Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) Final Meeting Minutes: March 8, 2007

Editorial 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 9:33 AM. Due to a technical problem in getting the minutes out, everyone was asked to review the minutes at their leisure and send their comments, corrections, etc. to Sharon O'Toole (MAEL).

Subcommittee Reports

Laboratory Certification Program: Renewals went out last week according Rachel Ellis (NJDEP/OQA). The Method Update Rule is scheduled to be published Monday, March 12, 2007. Labs are to review the method update list, adjust the ACPL accordingly and send in with the renewal materials. The old methods will continue until July 1, 2007. The USEPA will allow the old methods to continue until the permit expires. Permits may require uncertified methods. There are no changes to SW-846 methods but the NJDEP expects labs to "rev up" to the promulgated methods. Harvey Klein (GSL) asked how consultants will be informed of the withdraw of the freon methods. Greg Toffoli (NJDEP/SRP) stated all case managers have already been informed of the changes.

In addition to Joe Aiello (NJDEP/OQA) and Andy Fishman (NJDEP/OQA), three volunteers from ELAC have been asked to serve on the certification streamlining subcommittee. Sharon O'Toole (MAEL) will serve as chair. Ideas will be e-mailed and discussed among the subcommittee members before sending out to the rest of the ELAC membership.

PT Program: The visit from ERA (Environmental Resource Associates) has been cancelled. Wastewater suspension notices are going out. The Solid/Hazardous Waste PT samples are due to ship the beginning of April.

TPH: Rachel Ellis (NJDEP/OQA) informed the ELAC membership the OQA will require PTs for the QAM method, but which one has yet to be decided. Tom Cady (HC-V) reminded everyone of Mike Miller's (NJDEP/OQA) memo about TPH – QAM rev 5 expires June 2007 and rev 6 becomes the approved method.

TNI: Elections are now being held for the Board of Directors. Strategic planning meeting planned for early April. The new standards which have been finalized include: accreditation, on-site assessment and field activities; QC and PTs are still being worked on. NJ is under legal review for participation. Currently 12 states in NELAP but additional states recognize NELAP.

NJQLs:

Bioassay:

Sludge (Biosolids):

Communications and (OQA) Website: Tom Chipega (NJDEP/OQA)

Old Business

Bureau of Safe Drinking Water: Bernie Wilk (NJDEP-OQA) stated the NJ Drinking Water Quality Institute is reviewing the addition of 8-10 parameters including Formaldehyde and Hexane. The suggested Hexane method was 524.

John Shevlin (NJDEP-BSDW) stated the Perchlorate rule is still under review. The Bureau of Release Prevention study stated 1.9% of water tested in the United States failed the 4 PPB standard. For New Jersey, 1% of water tested failed the 4 PPB standard. Perchlorate has been added to the HSL. It has been proposed to be added in the New Jersey Register as an acute parameter. Mark Feitelson (Precision Analytical) asked if treatment technology exists. John Shevlin indicated ion exchange works well. Harvey Klein (GSL) stated hot spots of perchlorate have been identified as a result of Chilean fertilizer.

PWTA: John Shevlin (NJDEP-BSDW) stated the PWTA sunsets in 2007. The Department review begins next week. Please email any comments/suggestions to John very soon. Some possible changes are the addition of Arsenic monitoring for Sussex and Warren Counties and changes to the flushing time. Mark Feitelson (Precision Analytical) stated the lead results on the raw sample are directly correlated to the sediment in the pressure tank and the related turbidity. Les Glessner (LSA) asked what testing similar to the PWTA is done on public water. John Shevlin (NJDEP-BSDW) stated a random percentage of public water is tested by the NJDEP.

John Shevlin (NJDEP-BSDW) stated the Enterprise server should be functional in Q1 of 2007. SDWA system will go on-line first, then voluntary water monitoring, then PWTA, then NJQL.

Site Remediation: Greg Toffoli (NJDEP-ODQ) sent an email *“with regard to the soon to be dropped 413 (and subsequently 418.1), SRWM’s position is as follows. If GRO and/or DRO are the known contaminants, then 8015 GRO/DRO would be acceptable. Unknown source samples are to be analyzed by OQA QAM 025.”* Paula Blaze (NJDEP-OQA) indicated 418.1 would be removed as a certified parameter in the next renewal. Paula also indicated the Technical Regulations allow the use of the OQA QAM 025 method. Steve Reduker (IAL) asked when Site Remediation would stop accepting method 418.1? Mark Feitelson (Precision Analytical) asked if The Water Rule is delayed until after the next ACPL renewal cycle will 418.1 be acceptable for another year? Phil Worby (QC Labs) indicated there are limited labs certified for OQA QAM 025, probably less capacity exists than the market will require. Phil also questioned how the engineering & consulting community would be informed of the change? It was requested that the issue be on the agenda for January with Site Remediation participation.

New Business:

Water Rule: Harvey Klein (GSL) stated The Water Rule has not been published yet. Bernie Wilk (NJDEP-OQA) stated The Rule is still under technical review. May be a problem with a few of the methods.

By unanimous vote, Tom Cady (HC-V) was elected the Chair for 2007 and Sharon O'Toole (MAEL) was elected Secretary.

Lab Certification Fee Proposal: No Update

There were not any other new issues. The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for 09:30 AM on January 11, 2006 – 5th Floor Conference Room.

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