



Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) Final Meeting Minutes: November 13, 2008

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 a.m. Tom Cady (HC-V) corrected 1,2-Dibromoethylene (in Site Remediation) to 1,2-Dibromoethane. Dan Miguel (AAR) made a motion to accept the corrected September 11, 2008 minutes and Steve Reduker (IAL) seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as corrected. Tom had everyone around the room introduce himself or herself.

Subcommittee Reports

Laboratory Certification Program: Debra Waller (NJDEP/OQA) discussed the SW-846 update and letter designations. If NJ is the primary accrediting body, it depends upon the program as to which method will be accepted. OQA cannot answer questions about the programs. If NJ is the secondary accrediting body, they will offer reciprocity for what the primary offers. Deb stated it is recommended that labs apply the most stringent criteria of both. She also said everything has been added to Part III, NY is using the old letter designations, PA and NJ offer both. Tom Cady (HC-V) asked if labs needed SOPs for one or both methods. Deb answered they should use one SOP with the most stringent criteria, but address all method considerations. She added labs should contact their lead certification (not audit) contact if they have any questions.

Debra went on to discuss *Standard Methods*. Adoption of the 21st edition has not been published in the *Federal Register* and only NELAC is mandated to use the most current version. The blue book (N.J.A.C. 7:18) allows for use of any method, but NJDEP will opt for the most stringent QC. The online version of *Standard Methods* is more stringent than the 20th edition. She said if the 21st edition has equivalents date to that of the online version, the 21st edition can be used but metals must follow those published in the *Federal Register*. When questioned about showing which edition of *Standard Methods* on the ACPL, Deb replied the tendency is to not show the edition but the auditors must know which to use.

PT Program: Rachel Ellis (NJDEP/OQA) reported there were no updates. The state contract for the proficiency samples went out to bid. There will be a lot more analytes in the new PTs starting in June 2009 when all the NELAC compounds will be included in the NJ PTs.

TNI: No updates.

Sludge (Biosolids): No report.

Communications and (OQA) Website: Sharon O'Toole (MAEL) reported the minutes had been sent to Deb Waller to be posted.

Old Business

Bureau of Safe Drinking Water: Karen Fell (NJDEP/BSDWI) reported the feds have decided not to regulate perchlorate. However, this may be revisited with the new administration. She added the state is moving ahead to regulate it, with a limit of 5 ppb.

Karen also reported revising the BSD rules may have to be tweaked with OQA rules. She added she will make a brief presentation at the December ELAC meeting for a brief overview. Karen explained that if groundwater tests positive for Total coliform, the raw water must be tested and then confirmed, probably with E. Coli (about December 2009) but fecal is ok in the distribution system. If all the water is purchased, the source must be notified and they must test.

Karen went on to say a letter will be going out to the transient non-community informing them all samples from July 2009 must be submitted electronically. Karen added both the lab must be registered and the system registered and only transients can be option B. Linda Bonnette (NJDEP/BSDWI) said BSDW has to test the system when you first start using to debug it. Sharon Ercolani (GSL) informed everyone this system is very different from PWTA entry.

Linda Bonnette (NJDEP/BSDWI) reported there were QA issues concerning electronic data in that clients do not get the QC only the results. She added the Inorganics form is back on the website. Nickel is a primary analyte. There is no MCL but monitoring is required. She added there will be changes to the secondary form and that she would send the form to ELAC for distribution to the membership.

PWTA: No report.

Site Remediation: Greg Toffoli (NJDEP/SRP) brought up PQLs and percent solids where the not detected PQL exceeded the limit due to dry weight correction. He said a meeting has to be scheduled, hopefully next week. Greg reported LSP is going very fast but people on committees are on legislative committees; SPP is being discussed the legislature.

Tom Cady (HC-V) asked a question about the 5035 policy with En Cores and was it 48 hard hours or rounded hours. Greg replied it was hard hours for SRP.

Greg reported there are five labs in the EPH round robin. This method will be relatively fast-tracked as they would like to see it in effect in Spring of 2009, with the six-month grandfathering, replacing DRO and QAM.

Concerning the hydrocarbon limits of 4800 v. 10,000, between now and March 16th, SRP does not care which is used nor do they care which contingent – VOC+10 or BN+15 – is used. Tom Cady (HC-V) mentioned most clients have switched to the BN+15 contingent because the field sampling is easier.

Greg also reported there will be significant method and deliverables changes to TO15 as they are trying to make it more user friendly.

Tom Cady (HC-V) asked which method – 8011 or 504 – should be used for EDB in groundwater. Greg replied either method as long as you can get down to the required level.

New Business

Tom Cady (HC-V) brought up the question of hold times for PCBs. NJ has 7 days and 14 days for water and soil, respectively while the feds have 1 year for water and no hold time for soil. He questioned which hold time should be followed.

Nominations for the 2009 ELAC officers were made. Sharon O'Toole (MAEL) was nominated for Chair and Jeri Rossi (HC-V) for secretary.

There were no other new issues. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on December 11, 2008 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room.

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