



Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) Final Meeting Minutes: August 13, 2009

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 9:35 a.m. The minutes were approved with the motion made by Greg Tomcovich (Accutest) and seconded by Tom Cady (HC-V).

Subcommittee Reports

Laboratory Certification Program: Deb Waller stated that TOC via the 1978 Lloyd Kahn method will become a certifiable parameter. Labs will need to have DOCs, SOPs, and PTs. In addition, NJ will have a state specific method for undissociated (unionized) Hydrogen Sulfide. The method is based upon the method in the 18th addition Standard Methods. There are 2 possible determinative steps: methylene blue or iodometric. The regulatory standard is 20ppb which is achievable via the methylene blue method. The stated sensitivity for the iodometric method is 100ppb. A lab must prove their ability to reach 20ppb via the iodometric method prior to use. The method includes a flocculation step that should be performed in the field. Harvey Klein (GSL) expressed concern regarding the ability of the samplers to perform this step correctly. It is under review. Certification for the NJ Undissociated Hydrogen Sulfide will not require PTs (they are not available), simply DOCs, SOP, and proof of sensitivity for the iodometric method. The method will be distributed to the ELAC mailing list upon completion. Harvey Klein (GSL) stated that the EPA has published drinking water volatile method 524.3. The purge volume is 5ml as opposed to the 25ml in the old method. This method also allows SIM for EDB and DBCP. Some of the QC requirements have also been altered. Five other methods were added which were primarily the addition of different manufacturers methods.

PT Program: Rachel Ellis (NJDEP OQA) stated the July drinking water study closes August 20. Invoices for the SHW study are due September 1. Solids samples are now available for pH PTs. If a lab only does water pHs, it must be specified as such otherwise they will receive a solid sample PT. For the drinking water study, the Total and Fecal coliform spikes were very low. The VHS data looks very good. There will be no TCLP-metals PTs for the SHW study.

TNI: No update. TNI is holding a meeting in San Antonio this week.

Sludge (Biosolids): Tony Pilawski (NJDEP BPR) thanked all for comments on the Sludge Sampling and Analytical Guidance document. There is still time for additional comments. A new draft should be completed by the end of the month

Communications and (OQA) Website: Deb Waller (NJDEP OQA) indicated the website is current.

Old Business

Bureau of Safe Drinking Water: Linda Bonnette (NJDEP BSDWI) stated that Safe Drinking Water reports for transient, non-community sources must be in E2 format after July 1, 2009. The targeted date for E2 reporting for non-transient, non-community sources is April 1, 2010 with community systems to follow shortly afterward. She warned that some parameters such as radiological analysis cannot be reported via the E2 system. Soon a letter will be sent to all the labs regarding the changes/modifications/inclusions required by the Groundwater Rule. Also, there will soon be a version of the water watch available on the water supply webpage. This document will provide details regarding water supply monitoring data.

PWTA: John Shevlin (NJDEP BSDWI) stated a new remote systems portal was installed which resulted in a few problems. The E2 system was down from August 6 to August 13. There may still be sporadic issues. Please contact John if you have trouble accessing E2, are not receiving confirmations regarding data downloads, and/or email trouble. Secondly, the PWTA spreadsheet will be updated September 1st. The Borough of West Paterson has changed its name to Woodland Park Borough. A few new validation checks have also been added. Third, there will be some minor rule changes in the fall regarding definitions. The perchlorate rule is expected by the end of the year.

Site Remediation: Greg Toffoli (NJDEP SRP) reported the LSRP rule is continuing on schedule. The EPH method should be published soon and be added to part III certification. Certification will be on a 1st come/1st served basis. The guidance will likely contain a 6-month grandfather clause. The new method will subsequently completely replace OQA QAM025.

New Business

The October and December meeting will be held at the 7th floor conference room.

There were no other new issues. The meeting was adjourned with the motion made by Terry McIntyre (Merck) and seconded by Steve Reduker (IAL).

The next meeting is scheduled for September 10th at 9:30 a.m. in 5th Floor Conference Room.

Note: All visitors must show one form of identification with a photo, or two non-photo IDs, when signing in at a DEP building. This will be performed at all DEP main lobbies in the Trenton complex (401, 501, 440 and 428). All visitors should be prepared to verify their identification.