

Testing Subcommittee Meeting
January 24, 2006
DHSS Environmental Laboratory
Ewing, NJ

DWQI Testing Subcommittee Members Present: Steve Jenniss, Barker Hamill, Jean Matteo
Support Members Present: Bernie Wilk & Stu Nagorney from OQA, Julian Trexler & Joe Dierkis from DHSS, Michele Putnam, Diane Pupa, & Linda Bonnette from Water Supply, and Lee Lippincott from DSRT

Agenda Item 1- Opening Remarks

Steve opened meeting at 9:35 A.M. He gave a summary of the A280 List of 2a and 2b chemicals listed in Table 3 of the Health Effects Subcommittee handout and where the responsibility as the testing subcommittee falls regarding these seven compounds.

There were six handouts distributed for the Jan 24th meeting. These were:

- 1) the Testing Subcommittee Agenda , January 24, 2006
- 2) the Table of MCLs and DHSS MDLs and RLs
- 3) Copies of pages 1-18 from the Introduction of the New Jersey Drinking Water Quality Institute Maximum Contaminant Level Recommendations for Hazardous Contaminants in Drinking Water dated September 26, 1994
- 4.) copies of pages viii-xvi from the Executive Summary of the above document
- 5) Table (3) Contaminants Recommended for Testing Subcommittee Review
- 6) Discussion Items for Jan. 24, 2006

Agenda Item 2- NJ Office of Quality Assurance (OQA) Regulatory Proposal

At the last full meeting of the DWQI, it was mentioned that NJDEP's OQA was in the process of collecting analyte MDLs of methods for which labs hold NJ certification. Harvey Klein (Garden State Labs) suggested that this data would be useful to the DWQI in the acquisition of information needed as the basis for lowering the MCLs for the relevant compounds. For this reason OQA was asked to explain the NJQL rule and process.

The NJQL was initiated as a directive by the (former) commissioner to establish universal method analytical practical quantitation limits (PQL) that would be applicable to all drinking water, surface water, and ground water and that would be used by the various programs within NJDEP. This regulation is written as an amendment to Lab Cert Regs 7:18 titled as, *New Jersey Quantitation Limits*.

Stu Nagorney (OQA) presented some background information regarding OQA's rule proposal on NJQLs. OQA is requiring that all certified labs enter their analyte MDLs for each of their certified methods in an electronic deliverable database. Data reported will include the results of seven replicates, the MDL spike level, the low and high calibration concentrations, the laboratory check concentration and its %recovery. This data will be acquired for each OQA certified analyte by method, matrix and program. OQA will take the median MDL value and multiply it by a factor of five. This will become the NJQL for that method. OQA will decide when they feel that they have sufficient data from labs in order to develop each method NJQL. This is because there is a disparity in the number of labs that hold certification for different methods. For instance there are about 60 labs that analyze for volatile chlorinated compounds certified in EPA Methods 502.2 or 524.2. However there are very few that run the EPA Method 504.1 for chlorinated volatiles. This is one reason OQA reserves the right to decline a NJQL that is not appropriate.

The NJQL rule is presently with the DAG for review. The rule states that any lab that cannot achieve the NJQL will not be able to report data to the state. OQA feels that most labs should be able to attain this number on a routine basis. Because of the skewed distribution of data that is anticipated, the number of labs not able

to achieve the NJQL cannot be predicted. This was found to be the case when collecting data during the PQL study for the A280 compounds.

The database is ready and has been tested with some labs. OQA expects to have real data to work with in the fall. Once NJQLs are developed, they will be published in the NJ Register. The NJQLs will not be up for comment/review. This collection of MDL data will occur every 5 years.

Stu said that he would provide a template of their Excel spreadsheet for obtaining NJQL data for the seven compounds that the testing committee is reviewing.

NOTE: S. Jenniss learned later that day from OQA that the NJQL's will be open for public comment once they are proposed in the NJ Register. What was reported at the Subcommittee meeting was in error.

Agenda Item 3 – Initial PQL Assessment

Bernie then gave a brief update of the PQL data that he was trying to obtain from labs. At the recent Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC). Bernie requested that laboratories that are certified for methods to analyze these 7 chemicals submit data on a customized spreadsheet to him. However, As of Jan 24th, only one laboratory had responded.

Bernie could not find approved EPA methods for formaldehyde and hexane. Barker said that 5 NJ water systems that disinfect using ozonation would have formaldehyde data. Data and occurrence information on formaldehyde can also be obtained from the EPA's Information Collection Rule database.

Bernie needed to know what type of chlordane (Technical, alpha or gamma) and PCB (Arochlors or PCB congeners) data he should request data of. He asked if we would specify a CAS number for the chlordane and PCBs. BSDW staff said that they would ask Gloria and Perry from the Health Effects Subcommittee which type they reviewed.

Agenda Item 4 – General Discussion

Upon initiating the SDW-SOC program there were no detections over the MCL for chlordane and PCBs so both compounds became part of the state waiver program. For that reason, , there is limited data for these compounds within the BSDW. Barker said that since PCBs are an issue with watersheds, streams and intakes data can probably be collected from the Rahway River, lower Passaic and lower Delaware Rivers' water systems. It was suggested that Judy Louis may know of a DEP PCB expert. Site Remediation may also have chlordane and PCB data.

Barker suggested addressing the seven Table 3 chemicals as three separate groups:

- 1) Hexane and Formaldehyde
- 2) PCBs and Chlordanes
- 3) Chlorinated Volatiles

The following action items were assigned:

Hexane/Formaldehyde:

See if Hexane or formaldehyde was(is) an analyte with the past or current EPA Unregulated Contaminant Rule- Linda

See if Fred Dickert in his private well letters sees hexane or formaldehyde. –Diane/Linda

Investigate USGS methods for hexane and formaldehyde.-Lee

See if Site Remediation has any hexane or formaldehyde ground water data and monitoring well data- Diane/Linda

For Formaldehyde go to the Information Collection Rule database and get NJ data.-Linda

Water systems that ozonate include Passaic Valley, United Water, Canal Round- Etown, Matchaponix and NJ Delaware

Continue polling laboratories for their PQL information – Bernie

PCBs and Chlordanes

Determine what type of PCB and Chlordanes were reviewed by the Health Effects Subcommittee-Diane

Ask Judy Louis if some in DSRT has PCB data –Diane/Linda

See if PCB or Chlordanes are(were) included in one of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rules -Linda

Get some information on the fate and transport of PCBs and Chlordane- Lee

Look into the ICR Database for occurrence data on Chlordane and PCBs- Linda

See if Site Remediation has any PCB and Chlordane data- Diane

If limited data is available may have to take low and high flow samples for PCBs at the lowest intakes of Rahway, Passaic and Delaware Rivers. – Linda

Continue polling laboratories for their information – Bernie

Chlorinated Volatiles (Carbon Tetrachloride, Tetrachloroethene, 1,2 Dichloroethane)

Determine which labs do the bulk of the analysis for these compounds per method for the previous 3 years.- Linda

See if any of these volatiles were part of the current or past Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rules.-Linda

Set up spreadsheet of information derived from BSDW data - Linda

Steve mentioned that we should reconvene sometime at the end of February or first week of March.

Jean asked that if information is available prior to our next meeting can it be emailed to everyone on the subcommittee. Steve agreed that it would be helpful to review any data prior to the meeting.

Minutes prepared by: Linda Bonnette & Diane Pupa

NJDEP-BSDW

Feb.3rd, 2006

Updated: May 2, 2006