



Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) Final Meeting Minutes: September 11, 2014

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, Eileen Snyder (Alpha Analytical). Meeting minutes were taken by the ELAC Secretary, Dorothy Love (Eurofins Lancaster Labs Env). The August 2014 ELAC Meeting Minutes were approved, with a motion by Charles Anzolut (Agra Environmental) and seconded by Steve Reduker (IAL).

Environmental Laboratory Certification Program (ECLP): A program update was provided by Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA).

No new business to communicate at this time. There are still 41 labs that have not submitted certification renewal packets to NJ DEP.

Discussion was brought up regarding the need for field (“analyze immediately”) parameters to be performed by an NJ DEP accredited entity. Many consultants are not maintaining accreditation for these tests. As a reminder, these must be performed by an employee of a facility that holds the accreditation. If a consultant rents “certified equipment” for doing the test, this is not compliant unless the person performing the test is employed by a company that holds the accreditation. NJ DEP has been checking for this during lab inspections. If the accreditation is not in place, the liability is with the LSRP who signs off on the data, not the laboratory.

Proficiency Test (PT) Program: A program update was provided by Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA).

Drinking water makeup PTs were due 9/11/14. The wastewater PTs were shipped by Phenova the week of 9/8/14 and are being shipped by ERA the week of 9/15/14.

Drinking water letters are to be sent out at the end of October for the January study.

The department has received some questions from labs on how they can change their PT schedule. The TNI labs must stay within their 5-7 month schedule. However, if the lab wishes to shift their schedule they could start at the front end or back end of the timeline which would gradually shift their months.

The cryptosporidium and giardia FoPTs go in effect next month. Labs will need 2 PTs per year. October and April are the only times that these PT studies will be offered.

Questions on the PT Program may be emailed to Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA) at: rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov

The NELAC Institute (TNI): A program update was provided by Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA).

TNI is planning to compile a 2015 Standard. The committees are working on revisions to the individual modules. Watch the TNI website for updates regarding comment periods, etc.

The PT volume Voting Draft Standard should be ready at the February TNI meeting.

Sludge / Biosolids: No program updates were reported. For questions regarding this program contact Anthony Pilawski at Anthony.Pilawski@dep.nj.gov, 609-633-3823.

Division of Water Supply/Safe Drinking Water: No update was provided.

The Drinking Water Roundtable meeting is scheduled for 9/17/14 at the Horizon Center in Hamilton NJ.

Questions on the Drinking Water Program may be emailed to Linda Bonnette (NJDEP-BSDW) at: linda.bonnette@dep.state.nj.us

Site Remediation Program: No update was provided.

The Remediation Standards (NJAC 7:26D) are being updated. The proposal is slated for publication in June 2015 with a one year comment/adoption period. Reporting limits will need to be at or below the standard limit. ELAC will be notified if the committee posts updates, minutes, etc, during this process.

Implementation of the Technical Guidance and NJ DKQP process continues.

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

Standard Methods Notice:

Please note the following communication that was distributed by the department:

Standard Methods Publishes Memo on Multiple Dilution Blanks for BOD The Standard Methods Joint Editorial Board (JEB) has issued a memo in response to inquiries about determining acceptance criteria with multiple Dilution Water Blanks for BOD. The memo states that multiple Dilution Water Blanks in the same batch using the same dilution water are to be treated as replicates and averaged. The average of the dilution water blanks in a batch must not be more than 0.20 mg/L. http://www.standardmethods.org/PDF/BOD_Multiple_Blank_Memo_20140801.pdf

Subcommittees:

MUR Subcommittee: No update was provided.

Electronic Data Deliverables Subcommittee: An update for the SRP-EDD Subcommittee was provided by Andy Geary, Henry Kindervatter, Roger Page, and Ken Liao (NJDEP-SRP-BIS).

The discussion this month again centered on qualifiers. Please review the discussion summary below and provide feedback. Little feedback was received by the department. If lab specific qualifiers are used, NJ DEP would like a list of those so that they can compile a glossary. NJ DEP will draft a list and also send that out to labs for review. This list will be based on the qualifiers listed in the Technical Guidance.

The department is setting up the program to use a “;” delimiter for the lists of qualifiers. The qualifier field will not be a null field so it will need to be populated with the “;” if there are no qualifiers. The “;” will also need to be at the end of the list of any qualifiers.

A question was posed regarding the dioxin and furans and congener methods 1613B, 8290, and 1668. Are EDLs and EMPCs required under each of these method references? Labs are requested to provide feedback.

Questions and comments may be directed to Andy Geary (NJDEP-SRP-BIS) at: andy.geary@dep.nj.gov

Communications / OQA Website:

ELAC Chair, Eileen Snyder (Alpha Analytical) reported that the NJDEP-OQA **website** is up to date. ELAC members and stakeholders are encouraged to sign up for both the NJDEP-OQA and NJDEP-SRP listserv options to receive email notifications from NJDEP. Please check your email address to be sure it is correct. They are noticing a number of undeliverable emails.

NJDEP has migrated to MS Office 365 which involves a change to their domain name to “dep.nj.gov” that in turn results in changed email addresses. There will be a one-year phase in period until the old email addresses are removed.

Meeting Schedule: The Meeting was adjourned with a motion by Charles Anzolut (Agra Environmental) and, seconded by Greg Tomkovich (Accutest). The next scheduled ELAC Meeting will be held on **Thursday, October 9, 2014 at 9:30AM**, at NJDEP, 401 East State Street, **5th Floor Conference Room** in Trenton, New Jersey. Those planning to attend must email the ELAC Secretary, Dorothy Love at: dorothylove@eurofinsUS.com by Monday, September 29, 2014.

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.*