



Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) Final Meeting Minutes September 10, 2020

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 9:35am by ELAC Chair, Rose Koplin (Accredited Analytical Resources, Inc.), Meeting minutes were taken by Steve Witkowski (New Jersey Analytical), Acting ELAC secretary. This meeting was held via Microsoft Teams.

The June ELAC Meeting Minutes were approved with a motion by Nick Straccione (EMSL) and seconded by Eileen Snyder (Alpha).

Environmental Laboratory Certification Program (ELCP): Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA) provided an update.

The NJDEP is currently working remotely as well as shift staggering in the office. The main phone line is still open and can handle any calls.

Any modifications are being processed once a week.

Announcement letters have gone out to all laboratories that already have SCM PCB certification by SW-846 8082A via mail and email about adding PCBs in Oil to the SCM category via SW-846 8082A. Laboratories wishing to add the lines to their ACPL's must submit a modification request by December 23, 2020. The OQA will wave the modification fee for these analytes until December 23, 2020 for all laboratories that received this letter. Laboratories will have to obtain certification for the waste dilution prep method (SW-846 3580A also if they do not already hold this certification.

In state on site audits are set to resume mid-September. The OQA will be asking for more data up front before the audit such as data packages, SOPs, etc. OQA is recommending a file sharing platform such as Google Drive to share large files with the OQA. Please make sure if you are using a password protected file for sharing to also give the password to your auditor.

The OQA is investigating being able to process ACPLs and enforcement letters via email to the laboratories.

Questions on the certification program should be directed to Rachel Ellis at rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov.

Rule Amendment:

No Update

Proficiency Test (PT) Program: Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA) provided an update.

NPW study is currently going on and results are due November 6, 2020. SCM initial study will be in October 2020 and letters are currently out. The SCM letters were missing the attachments and they have been emailed to the laboratories. Drinking water letters will be going out shortly for the January 2021 study.

Questions on the proficiency testing program should be directed to Rachel Ellis at rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov.

The NELAC Institute (TNI):

TNI has cancelled its Forum on Environmental Accreditation, scheduled for August 3-6 in Minneapolis, MN, as part of the 2020 Environmental Measurement Symposium due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The National Environmental Monitoring Conference (NEMC) portion of the Symposium will continue as a virtual event. For more details, go to <https://nemc.us>. Some TNI committees may decide to hold virtual public meetings in late July or early August to solicit feedback on various issues that are underway. Monthly TNI teleconference calls will continue as normal.

Check the TNI website for additional information <http://www.nelac-institute.org/>.

Division of Water Supply/Safe Drinking Water:

No Update

Questions on the Drinking Water Program may be emailed to Kelly Meccia Kelley.Meccia@dep.nj.gov or Joanna Caporossi joanna.caporossi@dep.nj.gov

Site Remediation & Waste Management Program (SRWMP):

No Update

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

New Business:

Harvy Klein (Garden State Labs) asked about certification for SARS-COVID 2 in wastewater as there are labs offering this testing. There are currently no plans to offer certification.

EDD Subcommittee

No updates, continued background programming being done. This committee will be placed on hold for the time being until the NJDEP-SRWMP-BIS department notifies the ELAC committee of any changes.

Questions and comments may be directed to Ken Liao (NJDEP-SRWMP-BIS) at ken.liao@dep.nj.gov

Communications / OQA Website:

All minutes are up to date on the website.

Meeting Schedule: The Meeting was adjourned at 10:02am with a motion by Eileen Snyder (Alpha) and seconded by Nick Straccione (EMSL). The next scheduled ELAC Meeting will be held on **October 8, 2020 at 9:30am**, via Microsoft Teams. **Those planning to attend must email the ELAC Chair.**

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.***