

**Agenda (amended)**

**Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee**

**September 10, 2009**

**10:00 AM**

**Welcome/Introductions:**

Cynthia Bain, Chairperson

Steve Baker, Assistant Bureau Chief, Laboratory Services

**Review & Approval of June 25, 2009 minutes**

Cynthia Bain

**Items for Discussion**

On-line License Application

Suganya/ADHS

Director Approval Process

Barbara Escobar

DMRQA

Kathryn Wangsness

**ADEQ Update**

DWAR forms

Julie Hoskin

Multi Incremental Sampling (MIS)

Julie Hoskin

**Subcommittee Reports:**

Rules

Steve Baker

TNI/NEMC

Baker/Escobar

LOD/LOQ TNI Sub-Committee

Prabha Acharya

Training

Matt Rexing

**Set Next Meeting Date & Adjournment**

**New Business:**

# ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 10, 2009

## MINUTES

### Members Present

Matthew Rexing  
Cynthia Bain  
\*Robert Teece  
Laura McCasland  
\*Nancy Turner  
Linda Johnson  
(*Stephanie Archabal* for  
Evelyn Dawson)  
Anne Nichols  
Mary Tyer  
Rick Amalfi  
Jim Williams  
Elizabeth Proffitt  
Randy Gottler  
Robert Vertefeuille

\* **By Phone**

### Members Absent

Christina Krosnicki  
Michael Dew  
Elizabeth Wueschner  
Lee Hecht

### Guests Present

Melinda Jacobson  
Vic Nielsen  
Jennifer Calles  
Dipti Shah  
Christina Hoppes  
Trina Spangle  
Yu Min Shi  
Tracy Dutton  
Kim Caggiano  
Garry Brussels  
Kim Eberenz  
Dave Verati  
Anupa Jain  
Gail Adams  
\*Dawn Weyer  
\*Terri Garcia  
\*Nancy Powell  
\*Shawneen Michaud  
\*Leanne Nieukirk

### SLS Staff

Prabha Acharya  
Steve Baker  
Galan Larson  
Gary Shipley  
Ali Mayfield  
Barbara Escobar

### ADEQ Staff

Julie Hoskin

## **CALL TO ORDER**

## **WELCOME/INTRODUCTION**

Cindy Bain called the meeting to order; she welcomed everyone. Everyone introduced themselves.

Steve Baker welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming; discussed the new municipal labs coming on board, some of them are good; but have problems with others; wondered if ADEQ or MALA can train them on lab procedures and documentation? Both MALA and ADEQ train the operators on sampling techniques, not on lab procedures.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from June 25, 2009 meeting was approved.

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

### **On-line License Application:**

Barbara and Suganya gave an excerpt on the new on-line application; ADHS has to make sure first that the correct methods, instrument list, and fees are calculated properly; the system will automatically calculate the sum and produce a neat invoice so that the labs does not have to deal with it. The labs that are due for renewal in October will be asked to fill in application forms side by side, both the on-line and the hard copy to make sure they are no glitches; credit cards are not taken.

There was a demo on how to use the on-line application: A month prior to renewal, labs will be sent User Name and Password; Part A needs to be notarized and mailed with the fees; there is no requirement to sign in the Part B, and need not be mailed; Part C has the parameters the labs are currently licensed for, they can be edited (from a drop-down menu) and saved; Director Approved methods will be added to the Application form soon after it gets approved; each program can be selected; Part D can be edited as well; Part E has no more methods in it, only the instructions for Director Approval process; once the final confirm button is clicked, no more changes can be made; must contact the office for reactivating it; repeat log-ins can be made before the final confirm; interim method add-ons can be made after informing the office. Emails in Part B will be the contact person and a 2<sup>nd</sup> person can be added.

### **Director Approval Process:**

The requirements are: A licensed lab requesting the new method/parameter, the rule or permit requiring the method/parameter. DA approval fee of \$50.00, equivalent method fee and if instrumental fee is applicable; documentation required are SOP, MDL/IDOC and PE results (where applicable).

### **DMRQA:**

There was no report.

## **ADEQ UPDATE:**

### **DWAR Forms:**

Julie Hoskin provided information on the updated ADEQ Inorganic DWAR forms; in the old forms for some of the compounds, for e.g., nitrite and nitrate, the reporting limit was at the MCL which made it difficult to take decisions when the samples had hits at MRL. There is another complicating factor, for inorganics, the Detection Limits in the 40 CFR is method dependent; 40 CFR is also not very clear on defining Detection Limit, but ADEQ has decided to interpret the Detection Limits to be MDLs after reviewing the information provided by ADHS and comparing the interpretations made by other states; the labs are supposed to achieve 40 CFR limits for MDL studies (ADEQ will not enforce that); the new forms are effective as of August 2009. Except for nitrite and nitrate which have the lower trigger levels, for the other compounds the action will not be taken unless the results are >MCL; the new MRLs are between 1/2 to 1/5 the MCL, the labs should not have any difficulty achieving those limits. Julie asked the labs to report lower limits than specified if they can achieve.

### **Multi Incremental sampling (MIS):**

Julie introduced a new wave in sampling, MIS, where 30 to 100 samples are taken over an area, the labs would grind the sample and take a representative sample from it for analysis; DOD has started to implement it because of the increased accuracy and precision results obtained; MIS is currently done on explosives (method 8330B) and metal testing. This is the wave of the future

## **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **Rules:**

Steve reported that the old GRRC which reviewed the draft rules is now gone and replaced by a committee made up of representatives- 1 from governor's office, 5 from senate and 5 from the House of Reps; this is to make sure the statutes are being implemented correctly. The rules have been delayed until October, the program is in budget crisis, and state funds are used to supplement the program expenses; now the priorities are the inspections of new labs and their one year follow-up inspections, inspections of DW labs once in 3 years and the investigations which have not gone away. TNI provided travel expenses to Barbara to attend the San Antonio conference.

### **TNI/NEMC:**

Barbara reported that there was still confusion on Method Modifications; for Clean Water Act Program, the approval must be obtained from the Regional EPA offices as well; if the labs are licensed in several states, then the approval might have to be sought in more than one Region Offices; even for solid waste methods, in spite of the flexibility built in to the methods, MICE is always approached and try to get their comments in writing. The next conference is in Chicago in January, which is for TNI only.

### **LOD/LOQ TNI Sub-Committee:**

TNI has formed a sub-committee to generate a guidance document on LOD/LOQ and Prabha reported that she has attended 2 to 3 meetings as a member, she has realized how complicated and ambiguous the NELAC standards are on this topic and the lab community will not be happy with the sub-committee's product; compared to this new process, MDL appears much simpler and straight forward even though nothing much was done after the MDL was derived except to multiply by an factor to get the RLs; LOD which is defined as a concentration which can be detected 100% of the time, according to the standards, must be spiked on each clean matrix at 1-3 to 4x the LOD, taken through the extraction process and resulting extract must contain analytes which can be qualitatively confirmed that it is present. TNI Standards do not specify how to determine LOD concentration, committee tried to come up with it, due to lack of consensus, it was dropped and now it is up to the labs to determine the concentration; one criteria that must be met is, LOD must be lower than LOQ. The committee is now working on different ways to confirm LOD in spiked matrices and trying to split the criteria by technologies.

There was some more discussion on TNI/committees.

### **Training:**

- . Matt Rexing gave a report: October 6, 7 and 8<sup>th</sup> is SW/GW workshop, a 3 day, 21 PDHs will be given. November 3 and 4<sup>th</sup> is Basic Chemistry and Microbiology workshop, 8.25 PDHs will be given; Chemistry intro will be covered by CAS and Micro intro by Legend Technical; there will be plenty of hands-on, on the techniques, sampling and so on.

### **SET NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURNMENT:**

The next meeting was scheduled for December 10, 2009; the meeting was adjourned at 11:49 AM.