



January - March 2008



LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAM (LELAP) UPDATE AND NEWS

LELAP OUTREACH — The LELAP Outreach presentation has been completed. LELAP is accepting requests for attending the presentation. The presentation will be tentatively held in June and August, 2008 at LDEQ regional offices. Notification will be via email and letter to those who submit requests.

SOLID AND CHEMICAL MATERIALS (SCM) FIELD OF PROFICIENCY TESTING (FoPT) - As of July 1, 2007, SCM PTs are no longer experimental. Laboratories are required to analyze the SCM PTs. Details may be found in the TNI website http://www.nelac-institute.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=869462&module_id=17098

LELAP POLICY— LELAP has adopted new policies as follows:

Policy # 2 Method Version — Effective for fiscal year 2009, LELAP will only accredit the method version listed on the application submitted by the laboratories.

Policy # 3 Laboratory Codes— LELAP is assigning codes to laboratories to be used by proficiency test providers to send electronic copies of proficiency test results to a designated staff member of LELAP.

Policy # 4 Electronic Documents—LELAP will accept electronic and faxed documents only when they are followed by hard copy with the official signatures.

OTHER NEWS— Annual invoices and requests for renewal applications were sent to the laboratories in April, 2008. The deadline for submission of the renewal application package is **May 30, 2008**.

Airgas Specialty Gases and Scott Specialty Gases Inc. have been assessed to become stack test PT providers. Paul Bergeron, the LELAP supervisor, will be the Lead Evaluator of the team conducting the Florida Accreditation Body evaluation in July, 2008.

THE LOUISIANA WATER ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION (LWEA) MEETING LOCATION HAS MOVED

The Environment Association Spring Technical Conference has been set for April 23- 24 and will now be held at the Lamar-Dixon Center in Gonzales, Louisiana. The conference will offer sessions on laboratory, regulatory and technical issues relevant to all water professionals. In addition, a special laboratory session will be held with LELAP updates and a Ethics/Data Integrity Training Session. For further information contact Dugan Sabins at dugan.sabins@la.gov or 225-219-3553.

LABORATORY SERVICE DIVISION (LSD) REACCREDITATION

The LSD laboratory assessment by Florida Department of Health is on track. Currently, the General Chemistry section, the Air and Water Organics and Metals sections are NELAP-accredited. The Radiation lab has applied for initial accreditation.

LABORATORY SERVICES DIVISION STAFF UPDATE

Karen Varnado has retired from LDEQ after 20 years of service. Connie Payne has resigned to pursue other opportunities.

QUARTERLY ANALYTICAL UPDATE

The LDEQ laboratory has conducted 11,889 analyses in the 1st quarter of CY2008. These analyses were performed in the areas of General Chemistry, General Organics, Air Organics, Metals, and Radiation.

CLEAN METALS LABORATORY UPDATE

LDEQ Clean Metals Laboratory achieved the status of "Class 10,000 Room Certified." The projected date for running clean metals analyses is June 1, 2008.

METHODS INNOVATION RULE UPDATE

The Methods Innovation Rule (MM006ft) will be proposed on April 20, 2008 in the Louisiana Register. A public hearing will held on May 27, 2008 at 1:30 pm in the Oliver Pollock Room, C-111 at the LDEQ headquarter. The rule will be finalized on June 20, 2008

MINIMUM QUANTIFICATION LIMITS (MQLs)

EPA Region 6 lowered the MQLs for some pollutants for NPDES permits, and has sent guidance to the states so they will incorporate these changes into the permitting procedures.

We solicit your questions, comments, problems, and/or recommendations for this newsletter. Please send them to deqlaboratory@la.gov or call 225-219-9800.

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