



## March - September 2014



### LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAM (LELAP) UPDATE AND NEWS

#### LELAP NEWS:

**CONTRACT ASSESSORS**— The current contractors for LELAP are Dade Moeller, Analytical Excellence and Tracmac.

**APPLICATION UPDATE**—The electronic application for accreditation has been updated to increase compatibility with Windows 7. The application may be retrieved from the webpage link: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/DIVISIONS/PublicParticipationandPermitSupport/LouisianaLaboratoryAccreditationProgram/LELAPAccreditationApplication.aspx>. Users are directed to the Utilities section of the application to backup the current application prior to installing the new application. Please choose the Excel format for data during the back up process. This data must be imported to the new application.

**STATE ASSESSORS' FORUM**—The new chair of the State Assessors' Forum is Donnell Ward of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals.

**LELAP REGULATIONS WORK GROUP UPDATE**— Laboratories will be notified of the opportunity to comment on the proposed regulations changes after the Notice of Intent has been published in the Louisiana Register.

**METHOD UPDATE RULE (MUR)**—Accredited and in-house laboratories that submit data to DEQ will be required to adhere to new US EPA guidelines effective June 18, 2012. LDEQ will implement the MUR as follows:

- 1) Accredited and in-house laboratories submitting data to the Department are expected to take steps to meet the requirements of the Rule; in the case of accredited laboratories, applications to amend the scope of accreditation must be submitted and quality system documents must be revised as needed so that the laboratories will be compliant within a year or by the time of their next biennial assessment (whichever comes first), and
- 2) The Department will accept data based on the previous MUR (2007) up to but not beyond a two year period ending June 18, 2014. For a copy of the rule, please access this link: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-05-18/html/2012-10210.htm>

For more information on the changes please contact Paul Bergeron at 225-219-3247 or at [paul.bergeron@la.gov](mailto:paul.bergeron@la.gov).

**LELAP INTERPRETATIONS**— Please see the [LELAP Interpretations](#) on our webpage.

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

**TNI NEWS** — The State of California is no longer recognized as an accreditation body by the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP).

**NEFAP ACCREDITATION BODIES**—Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation and the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation have received full recognition as NEFAP accreditation bodies.

**TNI STANDARD INTERPRETATIONS**—Facilities accredited by the 2009 TNI standard are reminded that interpretations posted on the TNI website serve as guidance only and that the final arbiter of disputes between the accreditation body and the facility is the accreditation body.

**CONTRACT EVALUATORS**—The current contractors for TNI are Michelle Wade of Wade Consulting and Paul Ellingson of AQS Inc.

**TNI TRAINING** — Laboratories that are interested in TNI-based training may obtain information from the TNI webpage for [training classes](#) held by webinar.

### CLARIFICATION OF ACCREDITATION ISSUES

**FISCAL YEAR** — In Louisiana, the fiscal year starts July 1 and ends June 30. The certificate and scope for Fiscal Year 2014 ends on June 30, 2014. The certificate and scope for Fiscal Year 2015 (FY 2015) starts on July 1, 2014.

**RENEWAL APPLICATION** — Laboratories are required to renew their accreditation every three years. The Fiscal Division of LDEQ will send laboratories due to renew their accreditation an invoice for the renewal fee of \$660 around mid-April in addition to the annual fees. Laboratories desiring scope amendments during the renewal process must notify the department by April 15 otherwise amendments will be processed in the order received after July 1, 2014. Laboratories are required to submit an electronic application to LELAP with the required documents as specified in the application for the (triennial) renewal.





## March - September 2014



Page 2

**ALL APPLICATIONS** — Laboratories are advised to select only those method (revision or edition) and analyte combinations identified in the laboratory standard operating procedures or quality assurance plan when completing the electronic application. If the methods or the analytes are not in the quality system documents, the methods or analytes cannot be listed on the scope of accreditation. Application fees are not refundable. All laboratories are requested to send to LELAP the correct billing address by email as soon as possible so that there will be no gaps in accreditation.

**IDENTIFICATION OF PAYMENT**— Please ensure that payments by check include the agency interest number (found on the certificate and the scope of accreditation).

**NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES**—Accredited facilities are reminded to notify the Department of changes of personnel and major equipment within 30 days of the change.

**RECOGNITION**—Laboratories seeking to maintain secondary accreditation (recognition) must request their primary accreditation body to send a copy of the scope of accreditation to LELAP at [LDEQ.LabAccreditationProgram@la.gov](mailto:LDEQ.LabAccreditationProgram@la.gov) or send LELAP a link to the webpage where the current scope is posted.

**STACK AND ENGINE TESTING PROTOCOLS**—Accredited stack and engine testers are reminded to list only accredited methods on testing protocols submitted to LDEQ.

**CONTRACTOR ASSESSMENTS** — Laboratories assessed by contract assessors are reminded to send electronic and hard copies of the corrective action plan to both the **contractor** and **LELAP**.

**METHOD VARIANCE** — Any variance from Department-approved methodology is acceptable with prior written confirmation by the Department. When an approved method or an appropriate modification is not available, the data may be accepted when submitted with the method validation package that must include, at a minimum, the requirements found in paragraph B.2 of Section 5105 of the Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 33, Part 1, Subpart 3.

**METHOD IDENTIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR LABORATORIES SUBMITTING PROFICIENCY TEST DATA** — To prevent rejection or misrepresentation of proficiency test data for your laboratory, please properly identify each parameter tested that is submitted to proficiency providers using information from your Scope of Accreditation. Analyte Names and Codes, and Method References and Codes should correspond with the listing on the Scope of Accreditation. This information can be copied and pasted from an exported Excel spreadsheet obtained from LELAP's website using the [Laboratory Scopes of Accreditation](#) link. LELAP also requests that laboratories use the agency interest (AI) number from the accreditation certificate as an alternate identification number for proficiency test results.

**LELAP STATISTICS:** In-state accredited labs— 49  
Out-of-state accredited labs — 154

**PLEASE CONTACT THE LELAP STAFF IF YOUR LABORATORY NEEDS ANY ASSISTANCE. [CLICK HERE TO OBTAIN THE LELAP CONTACT INFORMATION](#)**

We solicit your questions, comments, problems, and/or recommendations for this newsletter. Please send them to [LabAccreditationProgram@la.gov](mailto:LabAccreditationProgram@la.gov) or call 225-219-3247.



National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program Accreditation Body Certificate #2010-005



The National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference Institute