



## Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) DRAFT Meeting Minutes: February 11, 2016

*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, Dorothy Love (Eurofins). Meeting minutes were taken by the ELAC secretary, Nick Straccione (SGS Accutest Inc.)

The January 2016 ELAC Meeting Minutes were approved, with a motion by Allen Thomas (NJAL) and seconded by Steve Reduker (IAL).

**Environmental Laboratory Certification Program (ECLP):** Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA) provided a program update.

Renewals will be sent out around February 25th. All labs must verify their ACPL for accuracy. NJDEP OQA have spot checked the ACPL's but it is the labs responsibility to check each parameter on their scope. The same goes for invoices, they appear to be correct but labs must check them as well.

The fee schedule for additions or modifications to ACPL's are listed on NJDEP OQA website. NJDEP OQA will not be adding any parameters that are not included on Part 3 unless written confirmation from someone at NJDEP requests the addition for a site in NJ. Late applications will not be held this year. The system will automatically remove any labs that have not submitted their payment and application by 7/1/16. At that time labs will be required to submit an initial application for certification.

1,4 Dioxane has now been added for SIM by 8260B/C, 8270C/D and by the Isotope Dilution method. It is no longer a user defined parameter. Fecal coliform has been removed from the ACPL's to comply with the new drinking water regulations. All scopes will now reference e. coli to coincide with the April 1st deadline.

Questions on the certification program should be directed to Rachel Ellis at [rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov](mailto:rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov).

**Proficiency Test (PT) Program:** Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA) provided a program update.

Drinking water study closes on February 25th. The next Waste Water(WP) study begins on March 1st.

Questions on the certification program should be directed to Rachel Ellis at [rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov](mailto:rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov).

**The NELAC Institute (TNI):** Dorothy Love (Eurofins).

Dorothy Love provided an update from the TNI meeting in Tulsa, OK. The revisions to the standards are being revised for PT and Quality systems. Volumes 1,2,3, and 4 are in revision. Once complete there will be several rounds of approval and implementation scheduled for 2017-2018.

Oklahoma is in the final stages of becoming part of TNI and Kentucky is considering applying.

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

**Division of Water Supply/Safe Drinking Water:** Linda Bonnette (NJDEP-BSDW) provided a program update.

Linda Bonnette stated that Revised Total Coliform Rule information for Community water systems, Non community water systems and Seasonal water systems had been sent to county health agencies and certified laboratories during the week of February 9th (notices are attached). Counties and laboratories are next on the list to receive the information.

A press release is being prepared to advise people on action levels and how to use your water for potential contaminants. This is in relation to Flint, MI. Many labs and state representatives have been receiving calls about lead in drinking water. The press release should be coming any day now.

It was noted by Charles Anzlout (Agra) that Corrosion Control Plans (CCP) are coming due.

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

**Site Remediation & Waste Management Program (SRWMP):** Greg Toffoli (NJDEP-SRWMP) provided a program update.

Following last month's inquiry regarding the hold time requirements for SPLP and TCLP VOA Greg T. confirmed that labs should be leaching the sample in the ZHE within 48 hours from collection for the time being. Currently Greg is still researching this requirement by reaching out to MICE, RCRA and some contacts in Washington but as of this time labs should follow the 48 hour hold time for leaching. Several states have different interpretations but nowhere does it say that a sample can be frozen, thawed, opened and then leached.

The UHOT and Remediation rules are on schedule for July 2016. Once available there will be a one year comment period and each should be promulgated by July 2017.

Rose Koplin (AAR) asked Greg T. about the regulatory limit for hexavalent chromium in soil. An LSRP mentioned to her that the limit was 1ppm, however the NJDEP website lists 2ppm. The 2ppm PQL was confirmed on the website by Harvey Klein. In addition Rose wanted clarification on who is responsible for the pH-EH on Hex. Chromium, the lab or the sampler. Chapter 2, from NJ tech. rule, states the tests should be done in the field.

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

**New Business: N/A**

**Subcommittees:**

**MUR Subcommittee:** No updates provided

**EDD Subcommittee:** An update was provided by Greg Toffoli (NJDEP-SRWMP), Roger Page, and Ken Liao, Don Kramer (NJDEP-SRWMP-BIS)

Discussion of the subcommittee centered on how many methods can be included in each sub category. It was determined that prep field may need 2, the leach field - 1, the cleanup field - 3, and the analysis - 1. A question arose whether or not these fields should have dates associated with each category. The consensus appeared to be no, but that still may change depending on if NJDEP decides it may be necessary.

It was brought to NJDEP BIS's attention that some methods may be the same for prep and analytical, ie 8151, NJEPH, etc.

Ken Liao clarified that the EDD will be header specific and the order of the columns is not critical. As long as the header information is correct the EDD will be accepted. Once the valid value table is complete NJDEP BIS will send out the list for labs to match.

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

**Communications / OQA Website:**

ELAC Chair, Dorothy Love (Eurofins) reported that the NJDEP-OQA **website** is up to date with the approved minutes, ELAC bylaws, and 2016 calendar.

**Meeting Schedule:** The Meeting was adjourned with a motion by Charles Hertz (Aqua PA) and seconded by Bill Giglio (NJ DWSC). The next scheduled ELAC Meeting will be held on **Thursday March 10th, 2016 at 9:30AM**, at NJDEP, 401 East State Street, **5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room** in Trenton, New Jersey. **Those planning to attend must email the ELAC Secretary, Nick Straccione at: [nicks@accutest.com](mailto:nicks@accutest.com) by Tuesday February 1st, 2016.**

**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.*



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Mail Code 401-04Q

Division of Water Supply & Geoscience

401 E. State Street - P.O. Box 420

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CHRIS CHRISTIE  
GOVERNOR

KIM GUADAGNO  
LT. GOVERNOR

BOB MARTIN  
COMMISSIONER

### MEMORANDUM

TO: All Public Community Water Systems and Public Noncommunity Water Systems  
Serving Greater than 1,000 Persons that are Not Classified as a "Seasonal Water System"

FROM: Karen Fell, Assistant Director  
NJDEP, Water System Operations Element

DATE: February 2016

RE: Upcoming Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) Requirements

Dear Water System:

The Division of Water Supply and Geoscience, Water Supply Operations Element (Element), is sending this memorandum to notify you that your public water system (PWS) will be affected by the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR). The RTCR is a new Federal rule that will replace the 1989 Total Coliform Rule (1989 TCR); the RTCR will become effective on April 1, 2016.

Under the new requirements of RTCR, your system will be affected in the following ways (some of these requirements are the same as they were under the 1989 TCR):

- By April 1, 2016, all public water systems must have an up-to-date "Coliform Sample Siting Plan" available for review. Monthly routine total coliform samples as well as any required repeat total coliform samples must be collected in accordance with this sample siting plan. For assistance, please reference the **Guidance for Developing a Coliform Sample Siting Plan** (revised January 2016) available on our website at: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/dws-sampreg.html>.
- On April 1, 2016, new coliform monitoring requirements will take effect. If one of the routine monthly coliform samples tests positive for total coliform bacteria (i.e. TC+ sample), then at least three repeat samples must be collected within 24 hours of being notified of the TC+ result. If more than one routine monthly sample tests positive for total coliform bacteria, then at least three repeat samples must be collected for each positive routine sample. If your public water system is required to conduct triggered source water monitoring under the Ground Water Rule (40 CFR 141.402), you are also required to collect one source water sample from each active raw water source per each routine TC+ result.
- If any routine or repeat total coliform sample is TC+, the laboratory must also analyze that sample for *E. coli*. It is no longer acceptable to analyze the sample for fecal coliform.
- Starting April 1, 2016, there will no longer be a total coliform Maximum Contaminant Level Violation (i.e. a monthly, or non-acute violation). Instead, there are thresholds that trigger additional actions by

the water system if they are exceeded. The total coliform MCL requirements have been replaced by treatment technique (TT) requirements. This is one of the most significant revisions to the TCR.

- A water system will be in violation of the MCL for *E. coli*, requiring Tier 1 public notification when any of the following occur:

<u>Routine Sample</u>	<u>Repeat Sample</u>
EC+	TC+
EC+	Any missing sample
EC+	EC+
TC+	EC+
TC+	TC+ (but no E coli analysis)

- Starting April 1, 2016, any PWS that exceeds one of the TT triggers will be required to complete a Level 1 or Level 2 assessment depending on the severity and frequency of the contamination. The PWS will also need to complete corrective action(s) to address any sanitary defects identified during the assessment(s). A Level 1 assessment can be conducted by the public water system owner or designee. However, RTCR requires a Level 2 assessment to be conducted by a party approved by the State. In NJ an approved party is considered to be one or more of the following individuals: a licensed operator of a class comparable or higher than that which would be required pursuant to the Licensed Operator rules at N.J.A.C. 7:10A-1.14; a County Environmental Health Act (CEHA) certified agency; a NJ licensed professional engineer; a NJ licensed well driller of the proper class or pump installer pursuant to the Well Construction rules at N.J.A.C. 7:9D-1.7.
- The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is the primary enforcement authority for the RTCR until New Jersey obtains interim or full primary enforcement authority (“primacy”). The Federal Rule at 40 CFR Part 142 sets requirements for states to obtain primacy for the RTCR as authorized by Section 1413 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). New Jersey was not able to meet the original deadline for submitting a final and complete primacy revision application and has requested an extension from the USEPA. In general, this will not have an impact on your PWS. New Jersey will continue to implement all rule requirements and act as a contact for your PWS. Any formal enforcement actions will be taken by USEPA until New Jersey obtains primacy.

Coordination with the Element, NJDEP Compliance & Enforcement, CEHA certified agency and your certified drinking water laboratory are encouraged to ensure a smooth transition to the new requirements starting in April 2016. For information on upcoming training opportunities please see the New Jersey Water Association website at [www.njwater.org](http://www.njwater.org). Additional information, including Level 1 and 2 assessment forms and RTCR factsheets will be posted to the State website at [www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply](http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply) prior to April 1, 2016. In the meantime, please see the EPA RTCR Quick Reference Guide available at: [http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/tcr/regulation\\_revisions.cfm](http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/tcr/regulation_revisions.cfm).

If you did not receive a copy of this notice by email, you can update your general contact information by sending your name, title, phone number, email address, public water system name and public water system identification number (PWSID) to [watersupply@dep.nj.gov](mailto:watersupply@dep.nj.gov) with “RTCR General Contact” in the subject line. Any questions regarding this matter can be directed to the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550.

cc: Certified Drinking Water Laboratories  
NJDEP Compliance & Enforcement  
CEHA Agencies



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KIM GUADAGNO  
LT. GOVERNOR

BOB MARTIN  
COMMISSIONER

### MEMORANDUM

TO: All Public Noncommunity Water Systems serving  $\leq 1,000$  persons that are not classified as a "Seasonal Water System"

FROM: Karen Fell, Assistant Director  
NJDEP, Water System Operations Element

DATE: February 2016

RE: Upcoming Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) Requirements

Dear Water System:

The Division of Water Supply and Geoscience, Water Supply Operations Element (Element) is sending this memorandum to notify you that your public noncommunity water system (NCWS) will be affected by the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR). The RTCR is a new Federal rule that will replace the 1989 Total Coliform Rule (1989 TCR); the RTCR will become effective on April 1, 2016.

Under the new requirements of RTCR, your system will be affected in the following ways (some of these requirements are the same as they were under the 1989 TCR):

- By April 1, 2016, all public water systems must have an up-to-date "Coliform Sample Siting Plan" available for review. Quarterly routine total coliform samples and any required repeat total coliform samples must be collected in accordance with this sample siting plan. For assistance please reference the *Guidance for Developing a Coliform Sample Siting Plan* (revised January 2016) available on our website at: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/dws-sampreg.html>. Coliform Sample Siting Plan templates are also available on the website to assist non-community water systems in updating their sample siting plans.
- On April 1, 2016, new coliform monitoring requirements will take effect. If one of the routine quarterly coliform samples tests positive for total coliform bacteria (i.e. TC+ sample), then at least three repeat samples must be collected by the water system within 24 hours of notification of the TC+ result. If more than one routine sample tests positive for total coliform bacteria, then at least three repeat samples must be collected for each positive routine sample. Your NCWS is also required to collect one source water sample from each active raw water source per each routine TC+ result to comply with requirements of the Ground Water Rule at 40 CFR 141.402.
- If any routine or repeat total coliform sample is TC+, the laboratory must also analyze that sample for *E. coli*.

- If one of your routine coliform samples tests positive for total coliform bacteria (i.e. TC+ sample), then at least three routine samples must be collected the following month in accordance with the sample siting plan.
- Starting April 1, 2016, there will no longer be a **total** coliform MCL violation (i.e. a non-acute violation). Instead, there are thresholds that trigger additional actions by the water system if these thresholds are exceeded. The total coliform maximum contaminant level (MCL) requirements have been replaced by treatment technique (TT) requirements. This is one of the most significant revisions to the TCR.
- Starting April 1, 2016, any NCWS that exceeds one of the TT triggers will be required to complete a Level 1 or Level 2 assessment depending on the severity and frequency of the contamination. The NCWS will also need to complete corrective action(s) to address any sanitary defects identified during the assessment(s). A Level 1 assessment can be conducted by the public water system owner or designee. However, the RTCR requires a Level 2 assessment be conducted by a party approved by the State. In NJ an approved party is considered to be one or more of the following individuals: a licensed operator of a class comparable or higher than that which would be required pursuant to the Licensed Operator rules at N.J.A.C. 7:10A-1.14; a County Environmental Health Act (CEHA) certified agency; a NJ licensed professional engineer; or a NJ licensed well driller of the proper class or pump installer pursuant to the Well Construction rules at N.J.A.C. 7:9D-1.7.
- Any NCWS on quarterly monitoring that exceeds certain TT triggers (including a Level 2 assessment trigger, a treatment technique violation or two monitoring violations in a rolling 12 month period) will be required to monitor monthly until the system has completed a Level 2 assessment and has a clean compliance history for a minimum of 12 months.
- The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is the primary enforcement authority for the RTCR until New Jersey obtains interim or full primary enforcement authority (“primacy”). The Federal Rule at 40 CFR Part 142 sets requirements for states to obtain primacy for the RTCR as authorized by Section 1413 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). New Jersey was not able to meet the original deadline for submitting a final and complete primacy revision application and has requested an extension from the USEPA. In general, this will not have an impact on your water system. New Jersey will continue to implement all rule requirements and act as a contact for your water system. Any formal enforcement actions will be taken by USEPA until New Jersey obtains primacy.

Coordination with the Element, your County Environmental Health Agency (CEHA) or NJDEP Compliance & Enforcement (for State and Federal facilities), and your certified drinking water laboratory is encouraged to ensure a smooth transition to the new requirements starting on April 1, 2016. Additional information, including Level 1 and 2 assessment forms and RTCR factsheets will be posted to the NJDEP website prior to April 1, 2016. In the meantime, please see the EPA RTCR Quick Reference Guide available at: [http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/tcr/regulation\\_revisions.cfm](http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/tcr/regulation_revisions.cfm).

If you would like to receive a copy of these notices by email please send your name, title, phone number, email address, public water system name and public water system identification number (PWSID) to [watersupply@dep.nj.gov](mailto:watersupply@dep.nj.gov) with “RTCR General Contact” in the subject line. Any questions regarding this matter can be directed to the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550.

cc: Certified Drinking Water Laboratories  
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CHRIS CHRISTIE  
GOVERNOR

KIM GUADAGNO  
LT. GOVERNOR

BOB MARTIN  
COMMISSIONER

February 8, 2016

CONTACT NAME  
SYSTEM NAME, PWSID#  
ADDRESS  
CITY, STATE ZIP

TO: All Public Noncommunity Water Systems Classified as a "Seasonal Water System"  
RE: Upcoming Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) Requirements Including the Requirement to Collect a Start-Up Sample Each Year Prior to Opening

Dear Water System:

The Division of Water Supply and Geoscience, Water System Operations Element (Element) is sending this second letter to notify you that your public noncommunity water system (NCWS) will be affected by the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR). An initial letter was sent to all "seasonal" water systems in August 2015 informing you of some of the major changes that will affect your system. The RTCR is a new Federal rule that will replace the 1989 Total Coliform Rule (1989 TCR); the RTCR will become effective on April 1, 2016.

Our records show that your noncommunity water system is a seasonal water system. This means that your system meets one of the following criteria:

- 1) does not serve water to any person on a year-round basis, and starts-up and shuts down at the beginning and end of each operating season;
- 2) remains pressurized during an off-season and serves less than 25 persons during the off-season;
- 3) depressurizes a portion of the system (e.g. pool house) but continues to serve water to any person elsewhere (e.g. clubhouse) in the system.

Current records show that your NCWS typically operates between XX/XX and XX/XX each year. If this is not correct please contact your County Environmental Health Act (CEHA) certified agency to have your records updated. State or Federal facilities should contact their NJDEP Compliance & Enforcement representative.

The most time sensitive issue affecting your water system is the following:

- **The RTCR requires all seasonal water systems to demonstrate completion of a State-approved start-up procedure prior to serving water to the public.** In NJ, the start-up procedure will require each seasonal system to collect a start-up sample from an area of the distribution system that was depressurized, or other State approved location as specified in the sample siting plan. That sample must be analyzed for total coliform and the results are required to be submitted to the Division of Water Supply and Geoscience on a Seasonal System Certification of Completion form prior to opening. If the start-up sample is TC+ or EC+ then the NCWS will be required to collect repeat samples, GWR samples and take corrective action to correct identified sanitary defects. To reiterate, you must collect a sample prior to the start of the operating season.

In addition, under the new requirements of RTCR, your system will be affected in the following ways (some of these requirements are the same as they were under the 1989 TCR):

- By April 1, 2016, all public water systems must have an up-to-date “Coliform Sample Siting Plan” available for review. Because your system is a “seasonal system,” monthly coliform sampling is now required for each month that the system is in operation (see below). Monthly routine total coliform samples and any required repeat total coliform samples must be collected in accordance with this sample siting plan. For assistance please reference the *Guidance for Developing a Coliform Sample Siting Plan* (revised January 2016) available on our website at: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/dws-sampreg.html>. Coliform Sample Siting Plan templates are also available on the website to assist non-community water systems in updating their sample siting plans.
- Starting April 1, 2016, seasonal water systems are required to monitor monthly under RTCR during the operational period in accordance with that sample siting plan. Your new routine total coliform sampling schedule starting April 1, 2016 can be viewed in the near future through the Drinking Water Watch website at: [https://www9.state.nj.us/DEP\\_WaterWatch\\_public/index.jsp](https://www9.state.nj.us/DEP_WaterWatch_public/index.jsp).
- On April 1, 2016, new coliform monitoring requirements will take effect. If one of the routine monthly coliform samples tests positive for total coliform bacteria (i.e. TC+ sample), then at least three repeat samples must be collected within 24 hours of being notified of the TC+ result. If more than one routine sample tests positive for total coliform bacteria, then at least three repeat samples must be collected for each positive routine sample. Your NCWS is also required to collect one source water sample from each active raw water source per each routine TC+ result within 24 hours to comply with requirements of the Ground Water Rule at 40 CFR 141.402.
- If any routine or repeat total coliform sample is TC+, the laboratory must also analyze that sample for *E. coli*. It is no longer acceptable to analyze the sample for fecal coliform.
- Starting April 1, 2016, there will no longer be a total coliform Maximum Contaminant Level Violation (i.e. a monthly, or non-acute violation). Instead, there are thresholds that trigger additional actions by the water system if they are exceeded. The total coliform maximum contaminant level (MCL) requirements have been replaced by treatment technique (TT) requirements. This is one of the most significant revisions to the TCR.
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- Starting April 1, 2016, any NCWS that exceeds one of the TT triggers will be required to complete a Level 1 or Level 2 assessment depending on the severity and frequency of the contamination. The NCWS will also need to complete corrective action(s) to address any sanitary defects identified during the assessment(s). A Level 1 assessment can be conducted by the public water system owner or designee. However, RTCR requires a Level 2 assessment to be conducted by a party approved by the State. In NJ an approved party is considered to be one or more of the following individuals: a licensed operator of a class comparable or higher than that which would be required pursuant to the Licensed Operator rules at N.J.A.C. 7:10A-1.14; a County Environmental Health Act (CEHA) certified agency; a NJ licensed professional engineer; a NJ



licensed well driller of the proper class or pump installer pursuant to the Well Construction rules at N.J.A.C. 7:9D-1.7.

- The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is the primary enforcement authority for the RTCR until New Jersey obtains interim or full primary enforcement authority (“primacy”). The Federal Rule at 40 CFR Part 142 sets requirements for states to obtain primacy for the RTCR as authorized by Section 1413 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). New Jersey was not able to meet the original deadline for submitting a final and complete primacy revision application and has requested an extension from the USEPA. In general, this will not have an impact on your NCWS. New Jersey will continue to implement all rule requirements and act as a contact for your NCWS. Any formal enforcement actions will be taken by USEPA until New Jersey obtains primacy.

Coordination with the Element, your CEHA certified agency or NJDEP Compliance & Enforcement (for State or Federal facilities), and your certified drinking water laboratory is encouraged to ensure a smooth transition to the new requirements starting in April 2016. Additional information, including the Seasonal System Certification of Completion, Level 1 and 2 assessment forms and RTCR factsheets will be posted to the State website prior to April 1, 2016. In the meantime, please see the EPA RTCR Quick Reference Guide available at: [http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/tcr/regulation\\_revisions.cfm](http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/tcr/regulation_revisions.cfm).

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Sincerely,



Karen M. Fell, Assistant Director  
Water System Operations Element

cc: Certified Drinking Water Laboratories  
NJDEP Compliance & Enforcement  
CEHA Agencies