

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### **2015 USEPA NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FINAL UPDATE V OF SW-846**

The USEPA continually reviews advances in analytical instrumentation and techniques and periodically incorporates such advances into method updates by adding new methods and replacing existing methods with revised versions of the same method. On August 13, 2015 the USEPA published a final Notice of Availability containing 23 new and modified methods and revisions to Chapters One through Five of The Third Edition of the manual, Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/Chemical Methods, EPA publication SW-846. The 23 new and modified methods consist of eight new methods and 15 revised methods.

The 23 new and modified SW-846 methods are listed in the attached table.

Please note that all SW-846 Update revisions are not identified with a letter suffix. If the update is editorial or consists of the addition of new performance data, then only the issuance date (located in the lower corner of the method) is changed. For example, SW-846 Method 9013A, issuance date November 2004 was updated as part of the 2015 USEPA Final Update V. The method is still identified as 9013A but now has an issuance date of July 2014. As of July 1, 2018 a laboratory certified for SW-846 9013A shall be compliant with the July 2014 version of the method.

A link to the Hazardous Waste Test Methods / SW-846 website can be found at:

<http://water.epa.gov/hw-sw846>

The USEPA Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery (ORCR) Policy Statement strongly recommends the use of the latest version of a SW-846 method whenever possible. The latest versions generally reflect new advancements in technology, yield improved precision and/or bias and/or clarify or correct errors or misunderstood procedures in the method. Therefore, effective with this notice the State of New Jersey will begin a phase in period to implement the 2015 USEPA Final Update V of SW-846 as follows:

- For methods that were added as new (not an update to the most current approved version) laboratories must submit a Modification Application Package, if applying outside the renewal period or FY18 Renewal Application Package, if applying during the renewal period. If the request is submitted as a Modification Package the laboratory shall include an application with appropriate fees, a copy of the laboratory's Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), including any new requirements found in the corresponding Chapter, method detection limit (MDL) study results, precision and accuracy (P&A) data, and acceptable Proficiency Testing (PT) sample results by the method, if required. If the request is submitted with the FY18 Renewal Package the laboratory shall include with the application a copy of the laboratory's SOP, including any new requirements found in the corresponding Chapter, MDL study results, P&A data, and acceptable PT sample results by the method, if required.
- For laboratories presently in Applied or Certified status for existing SW-846 methods, the laboratory's FY18 annual certified parameter list (ACPL) will be automatically updated to incorporate the latest revised version of the SW-846 method. The addition of the most current method will be updated with the same status as the previous revision. The ACPL included in the enclosed FY18 Renewal Package does not reflect the addition of the latest SW-846 version; however, the ACPL effective on 7/1/17 will reflect these changes.
- Your FY18 ACPL will list both the current versions and the latest revised versions of the method. Upon receipt of your FY18 ACPL, laboratories may use either the current versions of the method or the latest revised version of the certified method, if the laboratory has

implemented all changes (method, SOPs and QA/QC) required in the latest version of the method and corresponding Chapter. The laboratory shall clearly identify the version of the SW-846 method used for analysis in the raw data records and when reporting data.

- By June 30, 2018, laboratories shall have implemented all changes (method, SOPs and QA/QC) required in the latest version of the method and the corresponding Chapter.

**Effective in the FY19 ACPL the OQA will no longer offer certification for older versions of SW-846 methods and these methods will be removed from the OQA scope of accreditation and will be replaced with the latest versions.**

Please note that to be granted New Jersey Secondary NELAP accreditation it will be necessary for a laboratory to hold Primary Accreditation in the newly approved methods with another Recognized NELAP Accreditation Body. As an alternative, a laboratory can provide a letter from its Primary Accreditation Body stating that it has been approved in the new methods but as of yet its scope of accreditation has not been updated.

Further information on the State of New Jersey SW-846 activities will also be posted on the OQA's Bulletin Board at [www.state.nj.us/dep/oqa](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/oqa).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the OQA at 609-292-3950 or the OQA's email address at [OQA@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:OQA@dep.state.nj.us).

#### **USEPA's NEXT METHOD UPDATE RULE (MUR)**

In December 2016, the USEPA Administrator signed a copy of the 2015 MUR; however, due to the change in administration, the rule was not published. The MUR is not effective until it is published. Once the MUR document is officially published the NJDEP will incorporate all of the requirements and you will be notified of these changes under separate cover.

The 2015 MUR includes additional methods that have been designated for approval and have been added to the Tables at Section 136.3. All requests for the methods that have been added as new to the Tables will be managed by the OQA as initial requests for laboratory certification. In addition, EPA Methods included in Appendix A to Part 136 (608.3, 624.1 and 625.1) will be incorporated and made effective with the date of the published MUR document. Appendix B, Revision 2 for the development of a laboratory's method detection limit (MDL) will also be incorporated and made effective with the date of the published MUR document.

One change that was made effective in June 2012 was the update to the requirements of the 22<sup>nd</sup> edition editorial changes for methods that are currently noted on the laboratory's ACPL with a "-11" designation. The designation and approval for the "2011" version that appears in the 2015 MUR Tables at Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40CFR), Part 136.3 are already noted on all New Jersey certified laboratory ACPLs for wastewater/non-potable water testing methods.

Further information on the State of New Jersey MUR activities will also be posted on the OQA's Bulletin Board at [www.state.nj.us/dep/oqa](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/oqa). If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the OQA at 609-292-3950 or the OQA's email address at [OQA@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:OQA@dep.state.nj.us).