Laboratory committee meeting on: June 9, 2020 Executive Board Meeting Date: June 19, 2020 Committee Chair: Jason Mitchell (EBMUD)

#### Committee Request for Board Action: none

47 attendees (via teleconference only) representing 24 member agencies; SWRCB/ELAP staff

## **Chlorine Residual Basin Plan Amendment**

The Regional Water Board held a CEQA Scoping Meeting, the first step towards adoption of a Basin Plan (BP) Amendment on May 22. A draft Staff Report is expected in July, followed by a public comment period. Adoption is expected at the Regional Water Board November meeting.

The proposed Basin Plan chlorine objectives are based on EPA criteria (0.013 mg/L) as 1-hr average; permit limits to be based on the objective and include full dilution. Current 0.0 mg/L instantaneous maximum limit will be removed from BP. The RWB proposed an RL of 0.05 mg/L be included in the BP, whereas the POTW community feels that 0.1 mg/L is more realistic. BACWA is working to provide supporting documentation for a higher ML.

# COVID-19 prevalence in wastewater - Bay Area studies

Attendees discussed their agencies' experiences participating in recent studies evaluating the prevalence of the COVID-19 virus in wastewater (as a gauge of presence in the community). A number of agencies had filled out a <u>survey</u> on the topic. Many of those who sent samples to research labs are awaiting results.

#### Revised ELAP Regulations – discussion with Christine Sotelo (ELAP)

Most of the meeting was dedicated to a <u>presentation</u> and Q&A with ELAP staff regarding the transition to the new TNI-based ELAP regulations. Highlights are noted below:

- The regulations are expected to go into effect on October 1 and agencies will have 3 years to achieve full implementation.
- ELAP has been getting a lot of questions around requirements for the application process for certificate renewals. Staff directed attendees to a <u>roadmap</u> infographic outlining this process for various situations, dependent of when current certification expire.
- ELAP intends to hold 20 workshops during the transition period. Staff also noted that they will setup telephone consultations with individual labs to provide personalized help.
- ELAP has also gotten many questions around Third-Party Assessments (TPAs). A TPA <u>webinar</u> explaining the TPA process was held on June 8. Many questions are addressed in the TPA FAQs and related <u>infographic</u>.

In other ELAP-related news, there is a FY 20/21 Fees Stakeholder meeting scheduled on June 11, 10a-12p

#### **Microplastics**

DDW has proposed a <u>definition</u> of microplastics in drinking water that is expected to be adopted at the June 16 SWRCB <u>meeting</u>. Comments/ response to comments (including by CASA and SFEI) are available <u>here</u>.

## **PFAS**

Sampling at POTWs: 13267 Orders requiring PFAS monitoring at POTWs >1MGD expected June/July. Anticipated requirements: one year of quarterly influent, effluent, and biosolids monitoring to begin the last quarter of 2020. BACWA is working with the Regional Water Board on an alternative approach for the Bay Area (through the RMP).

New <u>Environmental Screening Levels</u> (ESLs) for PFAS were recently proposed by the SF Regional Water Board.

### **Committee Leadership**

Dan Jackson (Union Sanitary District) and Nicole Van Aken (FSSD) are the committee chair and vice-chair, respectively, for FY20/21. Attendees thanked Jason Mitchell (EBMUD) for his leadership this current FY.

Next meeting: August 9, 2020