Laboratory Accreditation
Proposed Changes in California

BACWA Annual Meeting
27 January 2017
Decoder

- **ELAP**: California Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program
- **ELTAC**: Environmental Laboratory Technical Advisory Committee
- **ERP**: Expert Review Panel
- **NELAC**: National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Council
- **TNI**: The NELAC Institute
- **AB**: Accreditation Body
- **SLAG**: Small Lab Advisory Group
- **TNI 2003, TNI 2009 and TNI 2016 standards**
Recent and short history of ELAP

- December 30, 2013 California requested to withdraw from NELAP and ends the dual accreditation
  - Precipitated by a NELAP audit
- July 1, 2014 moved to SWRCB and new leadership
- ERP convened under through a contract with SCCWRP
- One of the many ERP recommendation is to adopt an existing standard like TNI
Communication structure

- Expert Review Panel
  - ELAP
    - ELTAC
    - State Agency Partners
      - Air Resources Board
      - Fish and Wildlife
      - Food and Agriculture
      - Pesticide Regulations
      - Public Health
      - Toxic Substances Control
      - California Water Board
What is TNI 2016?

- **Say** what you are going to do – **Do** what you said you will do – **Document** that you did what you said you will do
- ISO based standard for environmental laboratories, ABs, Performance Testing sample providers
- Tells what must be done, but not how
- A system of record keeping
- Data of known and documented quality
TNI vs. ELAP– Technical requirements

VOLUME 1, MODULE 4

Quality System General Requirements – Technical Requirements

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<td>5.1</td>
<td>Technical requirements</td>
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<td>5.2</td>
<td>Personnel</td>
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<td>5.3</td>
<td>Accommodations and environmental conditions</td>
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<td>Environmental methods and validations</td>
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<td>5.5</td>
<td>Calibration requirements</td>
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<td>Measurement traceability</td>
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<td>Sample collection</td>
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<td>5.8</td>
<td>Handling samples and testing items</td>
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<td>QA for environmental testing</td>
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<td>5.10</td>
<td>Reporting the results</td>
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### TNI vs. ELAP – Management requirements

#### VOLUME 1, MODULE 4

**Quality System General Requirements – Management Requirements**

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<th>4.1 Organization</th>
<th>4.2 Management system</th>
<th>4.3 Document control</th>
<th>4.4 Review of requests, tenders and contracts</th>
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- ✔: Requirement met
- ✅: Requirement not met
Current status & concerns

- ELAP is considering TNI-light
- Next and last ERP meeting scheduled for January 31, 2017
- ELTAC reviewing and commenting on each TNI standard requirement
- More engagement with ELTAC expected
- Timeline for implementation uncertain
- **Laboratory concerns:**
  - Lack resources to make the transition: LIMS, Staffing, Training
BACWA Lab Committee Actions

- Keep members updated, commenting as appropriate
- Prepare members for the transition
  - Introduced document/information management system that works independently or overlays a LIMS
  - TNI executive committee member visit
  - Mini training sessions planned for 2017:
    - Corrective action
    - Internal audits
    - Training requirements and documentation
    - Document control policy
Resources:
  ◦ TNI website: [www.nelac-institute.org](http://www.nelac-institute.org)
  ◦ BACWA Laboratory Committee:  
    Meets the second Wednesday of the month

ELTAC members acknowledged with gratitude:
  ◦ Mark Koekemoer – Napa Sanitation District
  ◦ Mindy Boele – City of Vacaville