

# Laboratory Accreditation Proposed Changes in California

BACWA Annual Meeting  
27 January 2017

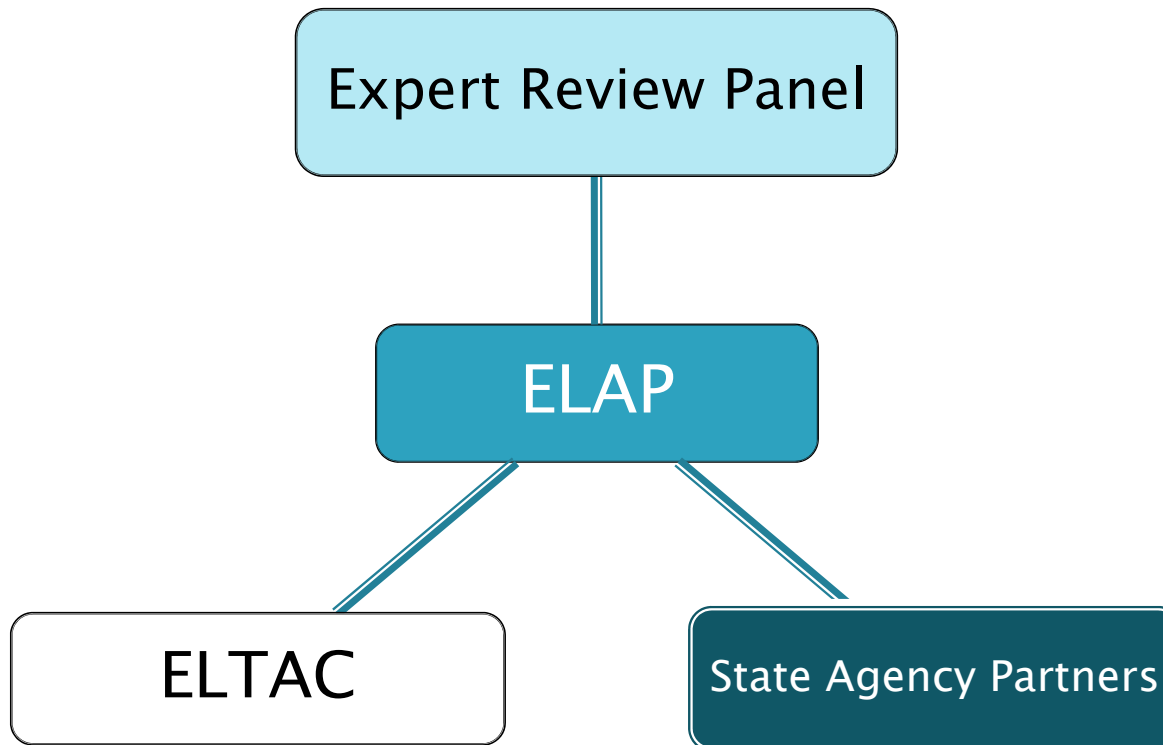
# Decoder

- ▶ **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

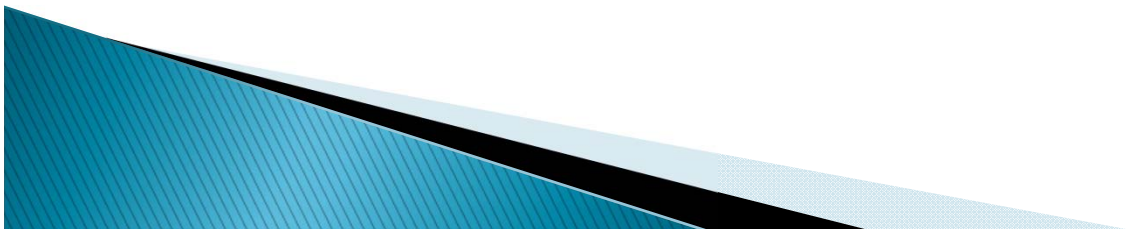
# Communication structure



- 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

5.1	Technical requirements	✓
5.2	Personnel	✓
5.3	Accommodations and environmental conditions	✓
5.4	Environmental methods and validations	✓
5.5	Calibration requirements	✓
5.6	Measurement traceability	✓
5.7	Sample collection	✓
5.8	Handling samples and testing items	✓
5.9	QA for environmental testing	✓
5.10	Reporting the results	✓



# TNI vs. ELAP – Management requirements

VOLUME 1, MODULE 4

Quality System General Requirements – Management Requirements

4.1	Organization	✓
4.2	Management system	
4.3	Document control	
4.4	Review of requests, tenders and contracts	
4.5	Subcontracting	
4.6	Purchasing services and supplies	
4.7	Service to internal or external clients	
4.8	Complaints	
4.9	Control of non-conforming work	
4.10	Improvements	
4.11	Corrective action	✓
4.12	Preventive action	✓
4.13	Control of records	
4.14	Internal audits	
4.15	Management reviews	
4.16	Data integrity	✓



# 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

