

Committee Request for Board Action: none

29 attendees (via teleconference only) representing 22 member agencies

Clean Water Act Methods Update

Nicole Van Aken (FSSD) presented an update on the 2019 [Clean Water Act Methods Update Rule](#). The final rule is expected to be published before the end of the year, and will go into effect 30 days later. The most significant changes are to the method for TSS; changes include the duplicate frequency, and removal of the requirement to pre-dry filters before filtering (among others). Samples out of range will also allowed with qualifiers. The updated BOD method will be less restrictive regarding pH requirements and dilutions, and allows use of optical DO sensors.

Phase 1 PFAS Sampling

Members shared experiences regarding the recent Phase 1 sampling for influent, effluent, and biosolids for the Regional PFAS Study. There is eagerness to find out whether the blank samples were contaminated or not; as several agencies reported having to construct new sampling equipment out of approved materials. Members felt that the sampling instructions provided by SFEI were sufficiently clear. A summary of the discussion was provided to SFEI.

COVID

Several members reported that their agencies are returning to staggered shifts.

Toxicity Provisions

BACWA staff provided an update on the toxicity provisions recently adopted by the State Water Board. The group discussed that the removal of acute toxicity monitoring will be a great asset; lab staff will spend any freed-up time on quality assurance procedures soon to be required by ELAP TNI (effective date of January 1, 2024). It requires approximately 0.25 FTE for acute toxicity monitoring to be performed in-house. Members expressed interest in accelerating implementation of this aspect of the toxicity provisions, if feasible. TRE plans may be a discussion topic for a future meeting.

Monitoring Survey Results

BACWA staff provided an overview of group responses to the Alternative Monitoring & Reporting program survey. Member agencies noted that in addition to contract laboratory costs, it requires laboratory staff time to collect samples, ship to contract labs, and manage the resultant data.

Announcements

- EBMUD reported a recent positive experience obtaining ELAP certification for 10 methods.
- EBMUD and FSSD are joining the X-LIMS platform.
- Samantha Bialorucki will circulate information received from CDPH stating that POTWs do not need to register as medical waste generators.
- The holiday social quiz is available for recycling at <https://create.kahoot.it/share/bacwa-lab-permits-holiday-social-final/3d78ce71-8ebf-4de6-951c-24df22df55fd>

Next meeting: February 9, 2021