



Memorandum

To: South Carolina Laboratories Certified for the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)

From: Office of Environmental Laboratory Certification

Date: November 2, 2016

Subj: SDWA Approved Standard Methods Versions

Beginning **January 1, 2017**, the certificates for laboratories certified for SDWA parameters using Standard Methods will be updated to reflect the most recent approved version of Standard Methods. The method references for Standard Methods will no longer be reflected by edition, but will now reflect the year of approval by Standard Methods to provide consistency with the Clean Water Act methodology. For example if your laboratory is currently certified for SDWA residual chlorine using Standard Methods 4500 Cl G (18th Edition), certification will be updated to Standard Methods 4500 Cl G-2011. Updated certificates with the new SDWA Standard Methods reference(s) will be mailed to the affected laboratories starting in January.

Prior to January 1, 2017, laboratories are required to update their Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and associated records to document the necessary changes. Additional quality control practices may need to be incorporated in the SOPs, since the older versions of Standard Methods did not reflect the quality control practices now required. This will provide consistency between the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and Clean Water Act when using Standard Methods and alleviate some reporting problems for proficiency testing (PT) samples. Beginning in January 2017, Water Supply (WS) PT sample results must be reported using the most recent approved version of Standard Methods for applicable SDWA parameters.

The Office of Environmental Laboratory Certification has updated the Application for Certification to reflect the most recent approved version of Standard Methods for all SDWA parameters. Refer to this application (<http://www.scdhec.gov/Library/D-2802.pdf>) for the correct Standard Methods reference using year of approval for the applicable SDWA parameters. In many cases, these methods are in the 22nd Edition of Standard Methods. We appreciate your cooperation to incorporate this change in a timely manner. Please contact this office if you have any questions concerning the required changes and/or additional QC requirements.

cc: Sandra Flemming, Assistant Bureau Chief
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