



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Drinking Water

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING ELAP FIELD OF TESTING 101 & FEDERAL REVISED TOTAL COLIFORM RULE

This announcement is being distributed to all Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP)-accredited laboratories because revisions have been made to the Field of Testing 101 (FOT) Worksheet, Microbiology of Drinking Water. The revisions include added analytical methods (in compliance with the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR), and added alternative methods in Appendix A to Subpart C of Part 141 (Alternative Testing Methods for contaminants listed at 40 CFR 141.852(a)(5)) for drinking water.

NEW FIELD OF TESTING 101 WORKSHEET

Effective April 1, 2016, the revised FOT 101 worksheet must be submitted with all ELAP applications to be accredited for microbiology in drinking water.

The revised worksheet reflects ELAP's commitment to ensure relevant analytical methods for compliance with regulatory requirements set forth by the Division of Drinking Water and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). Other revisions include describing technology consistent with the method, the addition of Fast Phage, and Coliphage by EPA 1601, 1602, the removal of E. coli by EPA 1103.1, and formatting changes. The revised FOT 101 Worksheet can be downloaded from the ELAP website located at www.waterboards.ca.gov/elap

FEDERAL REVISED TOTAL COLIFORM RULE

Effective April 1, 2016, the methods listed in the document titled, "Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule Analytical Methods" must be used for total coliform and E. coli samples collected under the federal RTCR.

All public water systems (PWSs), except aircraft PWSs subject to the Aircraft Drinking Water Rule (ADWR) (40 CFR 141 Subpart X), must comply. The document can be downloaded from the ELAP website located at www.waterboards.ca.gov/elap

BACKGROUND

The U.S. EPA published the RTCR in the Federal Register on February 13, 2013 (78 FR 10269) and minor corrections on February 26, 2014 (79 FR 10665). The RTCR is the revision to the 1989 Total Coliform Rule (TCR) and is intended to improve public health protection.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Division of Drinking Water is in the process of posting implementation information regarding the Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule. Visit their website located at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/programs/

Approved 4/1/2016