August 26, 2015
Division of Drinking Water
California Water Boards

We would like to inform you that we are in the process of updating our water quality database. In addition, we are updating the EDT process. These updates will affect 1) the requirements for Results Files (.res files), and 2) the EDT submission process. Please see the important notes below so that you may make the necessary adjustments to ensure continued success of EDT submittals.

IMPORTANT—Requirements for Results File (Res file)

The following provides important information related to 1) assigning storet codes for certain lab analyses and 2) allowable entries for specific fields within the Results File structure.

Storet Codes

- **Storet Code 00618 (Nitrate as N)**
  A new regulation went into effect last month requiring nitrate analyses to be reported/expressed as nitrogen (Nitrate as N).
  1) At this time, the current electronic data submission process cannot accept findings for Storet Code 00618 (Nitrate as N). However, the updates we are making to the database will enable us to accept data for Storet Code 00618.
  2) In the meantime, we are still accepting nitrate results expressed as nitrate (Nitrate as NO_3 – Storet Code 71850).
  3) The Division is requesting laboratories to delay submitting EDT results containing findings for Storet Code 00618 until September 7th, the point at which the updates to the database will have taken place.
  4) If your laboratory submitted or submits data via EDT containing findings for Storet Code 00618 from the period of July 16th to September 7th, **the Division requests the laboratory to resubmit this data.**
  5) By January 1, 2016, all nitrate data submitted to the EDT Portal must be submitted under Storet Code 00618 (Nitrate as N), otherwise the data will not be accepted.

- **Storet Code 09501 (Radium-226) vs. Storet Code A-080 (Total Alpha Radium)**
  Storet Codes 09501 and A-080 are both used for radium analyses. Currently, the decision on which storet code to use when reporting radium data is decided by the analytical method used. Starting September 7th, the decision on which storet code to use will no longer rely on the analytical method but will be based on water system type. Therefore, it will be important for laboratories to know their client's water system type as explained below.

  Storet Code 09501 (Radium-226)
  All Community Water System (CWSs) are required to analyze for radium-226, whether it be analytical method 903.0 or 903.1. The data for CWSs are required to be reported using Storet Code 09501.

  Storet Code A-080 (Total Alpha Radium)

All Non-Transient, Non-Community (NTNCs) water systems are required to analyze for total alpha radium. The data for NTNCs are required to be reported using Storet Code A-080. Storet Code A-080 has been renamed as "Total radium for NTNC per 64442(b)(3)" in order to avoid confusion when reporting radium results. The corresponding Counting Error (C.E.) and MDA95 storet codes have been renamed as well.

Storet	Current Name	New Name
A-080	Ra-226 for CWS or Tot RA for NTNC by 903	Total radium for NTNC per 64442(b)(3)
A-081	Ra-226 or Total RA by 903.0 C.E.	Total radium for NTNC per 64442(b)(3) C.E.
A-082	Ra-226 or Total RA by 903.0 MDA95	Total radium for NTNC per 64442(b)(3) MDA95

Results File Structure

- **'Method Number' field**
  The Results file structure has defined fields as shown in Figure 1 below. There are six (6) spaces reserved for the 'Method Number' of the analysis. The 'Method Number' field cannot be left blank; otherwise the finding will not be accepted.
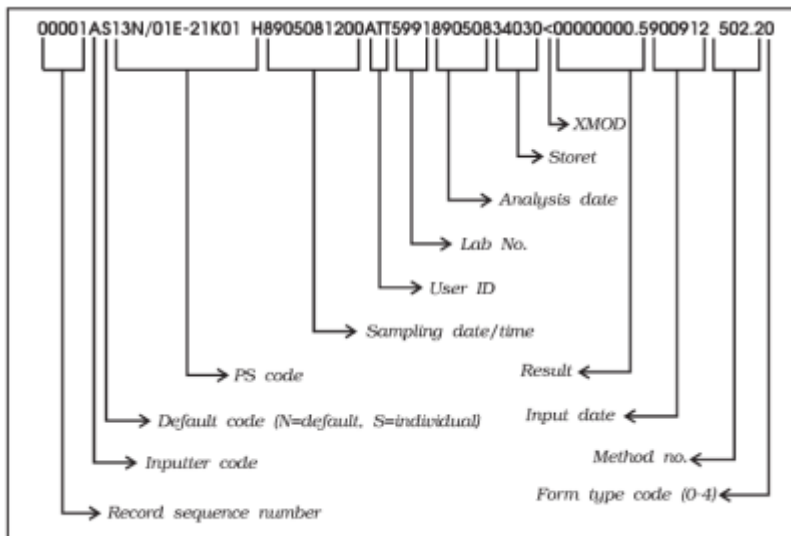

Figure 1: Structure of results ("RES") file records.

- **'XMOD' field**
  There is one (1) space reserved for the 'XMOD' field. This field is used as a result modifier. If a '<' sign is entered into the XMOD field, it denotes that the result is 'less than' the established DLR (Detection Limit for purposes of Reporting) for the constituent. If a '-' sign is entered into the XMOD field, it denotes that the result is 'negative.' The XMOD field, if populated, can only be populated with a '<' or '-' sign. If any other character is used, the finding will not be accepted.

  The only constituents that can carry a '-' sign in the XMOD field are provided below. If a '-' sign in the XMOD field is used with any other constituent, the finding will not be accepted.

Storet	Constituent Name
71813	Langelier Index @ 60 C
71814	Langelier Index at Source Temp.
01501	Gross Alpha
03501	Gross Beta
07000	Tritium
09501	Radium 226
11501	Radium 228
11503	Combined RA 226 + RA 228
13501	Strontium-90
28012	Uranium (pCi/L)
A-080	Total radium for NTNC per 64442(b)(3)

IMPORTANT— EDT Portal

The EDT process will be introducing an internet portal which will allow you to directly upload .res files. The online EDT Portal will require a user name (email address) and password registration in order to gain access.

1) There will be follow-up notices on user registration and a timeline as when to stop sending .res files via email.
2) In the coming weeks you will receive instructions for the upload and processing procedures.
3) **Please continue to send your files via email until you've been notified when to stop**.
4) The tentative schedule for the rollout of the EDT Portal is September 14th. This would mark the point in time that you will be able to use the EDT Portal to upload res files for data submission. **You will receive instructions on this process**.