



ELTAC Annual Report

October 6, 2016

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Acknowledgements- The 18 ELTAC Members Who Have Done Yeoman Service



Representative	Sector
Mindy Boele , City of Vacaville	CWEA
Jill Brodt , Brelje and Race Laboratories	small NorCal Commercial Labs
Bruce Burton , Division of Drinking Water, State Water Resources Control Board	State
Gail Cho , California Department of Fish and Wildlife	State
Stephen Clark , Pacific EcoRisk	specialty labs
Ronald Coss , Orange County Sanitation District	CWEA
Huy Do , Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County	CASA
Andy Eaton , Eurofins Eaton Analytical (Chair)	large multi state commercial labs
Miriam Ghabour , Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	large municipal labs
Bruce Godfrey , Montrose Environmental Group	ACIL
Anthony Gonzalez , Sacramento County Public Health Laboratory	CAPHLD
Rich Gossett , Physis Environmental	commercial and academic
Dave Kimbrough , Pasadena Water and Power	small SoCal municipal labs
Mark Koekemoer , Napa Sanitation District Laboratory	small NorCal municipal labs
Bruce LaBelle , California Department of Toxic Substances Control	state
Allison Mackenzie , Babcock Laboratories	medium/large CA commercial labs
Gilda Neshvad , Positive Lab Service	Haz Waste Labs
Renee Spears , State Water Resources Control Board	State

It's REALLY a New ELTAC – Compared to the Former ELTAC...



- **Not just new members**
 - Some of us are former members also.
- **Old ELTAC**
 - Often at odds with ELAP.
 - Had to “force” issues to the table (e.g. refunds), because otherwise there was “no” action by ELAP.
- **New ELTAC**
 - Working closely with ELAP. We don't always agree, but there is always a response to issues we bring up (which is part of the By-laws)

ELTAC's Roles



To be an advisory body to ELAP which can make recommendations to the program, normally through formal action such as a vote, but also through ELAP's listening to the discussions at the meetings.

(Generally effective)

To be a resource for ELAP on technical and/or policy issues.

(Generally effective)

To identify issues from the lab community that we believe ELAP should address. **(Generally effective)**

To be a conduit for the lab community (through ELTAC representatives) to reach out to ELAP **(should not be the only conduit)**

Accomplishments This Year



- 5 meetings (with 1 or 2 more before the end of the year)
 - The original plan was for 3 meetings/year

- Recommended reorganization of ELAPs fields of testing (FOTs) to make them more inclusive of available methods and easier to use. **(ELAP Concurred with recommendation)**
 - Includes a recommendation that ELAP certify for any methods with required State monitoring (e.g. NDMA, Dioxane, etc).
 - Recommended certification by analyte and not by “method”.
 - Also provides a path to resolve problems with ELAP’s current Proficiency Testing evaluation program

More Accomplishments



- Recommended that ELAP only require 1 PT/year **(ELAP Concurred with recommendation)**
- Developed a guidance document/policy for ELAP to look at how to approve and validate new methods for existing or new analytes (e.g. TCP), when a State Agency expresses a need for such methods. **(ELAP Concurred with recommendation)**
- Several individual discussions where ELAP sought input from ELTAC on specific technical issues **(Aquatic Tox QC for example)**

ELTAC Does Not Always Speak With One Voice



- There are controversial issues that we are asked to weigh in on, and we don't always have consensus. We already know of two!
 - The Standard (the subject of today's workshop).
 - And future fee structures (**a subject for future ELTAC deliberations**)

ELTAC and the Proposed Standard



- For purposes of ELTAC discussion, at ELAP's suggestion, we split the Standards discussion into 3 components.
 - Proficiency Testing (unanimous vote to only require 1 PT sample per year).
 - Technical Standard basis (unanimous vote to make the method requirements the source of the technical standard).
 - Quality management system (QMS). (9-3 vote that a QMS component should be a basis for accreditation in CA). ELTAC then discussed and proposed several options for a QMS
- **ELAP also asked ELTAC to recommend implementation options for our recommended standard options that could ease the burden for smaller labs.**

ELTAC Quality Management System Discussions



➤ ELTAC proposed two options to ELAP.

- Basing the standard on existing ELAP regulations with the addition of a QMS based on EPA's general Quality management systems. (7 to 5 vote)
 - Basing the standard generally on TNI, with removal of clauses that members felt could be problematic for small labs (TNI lite) (6 to 6 vote)
- As you can see from the votes, ELTAC was pretty evenly split on these options, with discussion indicating that either option needed potential modifications (additions and/or subtractions).
- There was a consensus (but not unanimous) that if ELAP were to choose to adopt TNI, we should not adopt TNI 2016 without carefully assessing the impact of some clauses on small labs in particular.



- **ELAP responded to ELTAC on September 1, indicating the intent to adopt the TNI standard.**

- **ELTAC has formed two subgroups (each with a mix of lab types) to review the TNI 2016 standard and recommend possible exclusions that would make it easier for small labs to adopt the standard, without impacting quality.**
 - **Those groups have worked independently since we have not had an ELTAC meeting since the formal ELAP recommendation.**
 - **Recommendations from both groups are submitted separately to the Board and ELAP as comments.**

Any Questions?



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