

California Update

Forum on Environmental Accreditation | Albuquerque, New Mexico | January 23, 2018

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Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

California is Changing

- ▶ Our perspective on the NV5 training
- ▶ Regulations update
- ▶ Upcoming contracts

Our Perspective on the Training Contract

- ▶ Expert Review Panel findings
 - ▶ Inconsistent audits, unskilled assessors
- ▶ Main Goal
 - ▶ Train ELAP assessors
 - ▶ Additional benefits
 - ▶ Reduce drinking water lab backlog
 - ▶ Labs get help preparing for TNI
 - ▶ Labs improve from having technical experts perform their assessments

Positive Feedback

- ▶ Laboratories have commented that they are pleased with the highly qualified, knowledgeable NV5/Dade Moeller Assessors
- ▶ CA ELAP is happy with contract deliverables & Assessors
- ▶ They are fast working and efficient!

TNI in California Draft Regulations

- ▶ Adopting by reference
- ▶ Breaking away from TNI in two areas
 - ▶ Technical manager
 - ▶ Proficiency Testing frequency

Regulations Update

- ▶ 3 year stakeholder process
 - ▶ Board Workshops, Regulations Workshops, Comment periods
- ▶ Released a preliminary draft in Summer 2017
 - ▶ Thank you TNI for providing comments!
- ▶ Next draft will be released late Spring/early Summer 2018
- ▶ We anticipate Board adoption late 2018, early 2019
 - ▶ Labs will have three years to comply with quality systems requirements

Small Laboratory Concerns

- ▶ *“TNI doesn’t improve my data quality.”*
- ▶ *“Additional documentation requirements will require additional lab staff and may cause my lab to close.”*
- ▶ CA ELAP is looking forward to TNI’s revised Small Laboratory Handbook release
 - ▶ Thank you TNI for your efforts!

Contracts in Development

- ▶ Third-party assessors
- ▶ TNI Early Implementation Project
- ▶ Small laboratory one-day training

Third party assessors

- ▶ We're developing criteria to establish a pool of assessment firms to work in CA
 - ▶ Labs will be able to select from the pool and will pay the firm for their assessment
 - ▶ Firm will submit assessment report to ELAP
- ▶ Anticipate release in approximately six months

Early Implementation Project

- ▶ A request from the Board to do a trial run of TNI in a few small laboratories
- ▶ We originally envisioned six labs participating
 - ▶ We've revised to two based on available funding
- ▶ A consultant will work with the labs to fully implement TNI within one year
 - ▶ ELAP will use the findings from the gap analyses to inform its compliance assistance strategy for the community
- ▶ Anticipate it going out for bids in approximately three months

Small Laboratory One-Day Training

- ▶ A consultant will assist laboratory staff with quality systems document development at a one-day workshop
 - ▶ Goal is to for small laboratories to leave with the knowledge and tools they need to be TNI compliant
- ▶ Findings from the Early Implementation Project will inform the scope of work for this contract
- ▶ Will be released once Early Implementation Project is in place

Thank You