

ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ADVISORY BOARD – SUMMER 2010

**Session Chairs: Lara Autry, USEPA and
David Speis, Accutest Laboratories, Representing ACIL**

- 9:00 Opening Remarks, Roll Call and Approval of July Minutes
 General Workgroup Updates
- Monitoring
 - Measurement & Technology
 - Laboratory Management
- 9:30 SW-846 Policy Revision – Status Update
- 10:00 **BREAK**
- 10:30 Drinking Water Certification Program and TNI Standard – Next Steps
- 11:15 Open Discussion
- Method Identification Issues (SW-846 Policy Revision)
 - Proficiency Test Frequency
 - Quality System Standard for Drinking Water
 - New or Old Topics
- 11:50 Review Action Items

ELAB

**ELAB Recommendations
to the
USEPA Office of Water
for the**

Certification of Laboratories Analyzing Drinking Water

DW Manual & TNI Standard Comparison Findings

- **TNI Standard is a Quality System Standard**
 - Standard does not Address Program Specific Requirements
 - Relatively Generic, Applicable to all Environmental Laboratories
 - Both Promote The Generation of Known, Consistent & Documented Quality

- **DW Manual is Unique to the DW Program**
 - Program only Applies to Compliance Monitoring
 - Contains Requirements that are not Appropriate for a General Standard Because of their Unique Specificity
 - Technical & Administrative in Nature & Not Related to a Quality Standard
 - Quality System Language Present References TNI Like Programs

ELAB Recommendations to USEPA OW

- **Employ the TNI ISO-17025 Based Standard as the Quality System Standard for Drinking Water Laboratories**
 - The TNI Standard Meets or Exceeds the Quality System Requirements of the Drinking Water Manual
- **Employ the Drinking Water Manual for Drinking Water Program Technical Specifications**
 - Retain Requirements that are Unique to Drinking Water Accreditation
 - Reference TNI Quality System Specifications as the Quality System for this Program

Benefits of Recommendations

- Substitutes an ISO/IEC 17025 Consensus Standard as the Quality System Framework for DW Laboratories
- Could Promote Unification of the Quality System Standard Across USEPA Program Offices
- Consolidates Duplicative State Accreditation Programs into a Single, Nationally Recognized Quality System Program
- Places all Accredited DW Laboratories on the Same Assessment Plane Regardless of Laboratory Size and Complexity
- Enables the Office of Water to Focus on DW Compliance Technical Prescription to Assure Programmatic Analytical and Quality Control Needs Are Satisfied