



Catherine E. Heigel, Director

Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment

Memorandum

To: South Carolina Certified Laboratories for SW-846
From: SCDHEC Office of Environmental Laboratory Certification
Date: June 24, 2016
Re: SW-846 Update V

On August 13, 2015, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provided notice of the availability of “Final Update V” to the Third Edition of the manual, “Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/Chemical Methods,” EPA publication SW-846. Final Update V contains analytical methods which may be used in monitoring or complying with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous waste regulations.

The South Carolina Certification Program is incorporating these new and revised methods into the Solid and Hazardous Waste Certification. The new and revised analytical methods can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/hw-sw846/sw-846-compendium>. Also be advised that Chapters One through Five of SW-846 have been revised.

At this time, your laboratory needs to review the methods you are certified to perform to determine if your present certification will be affected by this rule. Of significant note, EPA Methods 6010D, 6020B, 8000D, 8021B, 8270D, 9013A, and 9014 were revised. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) must be updated to reflect the revised method requirements and be submitted to our Office by **November 01, 2016**.

For laboratories certified for any organic parameters, all organic SOPs must be updated and submitted reflecting the changes in EPA 8000D. This includes but is not limited to low limit of quantitation (LLOQ) requirements, relative standard error (RSE) or percent error (% error), updated method blank, LCS, and matrix spike criteria, etc.

For laboratories certified for trace metals, the SOPs must be updated and submitted reflecting the changes for EPA 6010D and 6020B. This includes but is not limited to the LLOQ requirements, updated correlation coefficient, and the single element interference check standard required in EPA 6010D. Mixed element interferences check standards will be required to be analyzed daily. This is already a requirement in EPA 6010C.

Annual method detection limit (MDL) determinations will remain a certification requirement in addition to the LLOQ requirements in the updated methods. MDLs will still be used by various SCDHEC program areas and may be specified in quality assurance project plans (QAPP) and sampling and analysis plans.

For out-of-state laboratories, updated certificates from your certifying authority reflecting certification for the revised methods must be submitted with the new or revised SOPs. If you encounter delays in receiving an updated certificate from your certifying authority, please contact our Office.

Certificates reflecting necessary method revision changes, e.g. 6010C to 6010D, will be updated and reissued in January 2017. The updated method revisions must be reported with the 2017 proficiency testing (PT) studies. If you have any questions, please contact us at (803) 896-0970 or labcerthelp@dhec.sc.gov.

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