

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **40 CFR 136 Method Update Rule (MUR) Implementation**

The Virginia Register of Regulations published December 31, 2012 includes a Final Regulation for the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit Regulation (9VAC25-31) effective January 31, 2013. This final regulation updates citations and incorporates Title 40 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) as published on July 1, 2012. This VPDES regulatory revision means that the updates to 40 CFR 136, called the Methods Update Rule or MUR, are now incorporated into **Virginia's VPDES regulation**.

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Virginia Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services (DCLS) have worked cooperatively to determine that laboratories performing environmental testing in support of 9VAC25-31 will be given until **February 1, 2014** to be **fully compliant with the MUR**.

Within the next 60 to 90 days, DCLS will provide each laboratory with a "personalized report" listing **only** those methods on the laboratory's current VELAP certificate that are **no longer approved in 40CFR 136 for Clean Water Act testing**. This report will also provide a listing of **the most recently approved revision of the method** as a convenient resource for laboratories seeking to make the least complex changes for MUR-compliance.

For example, a laboratory's "personalized report" may indicate the two methods shown below are no longer approved and present the corresponding most recently approved revision:

<u>No Longer Approved Method</u>	<u>Most Recently Approved Revision</u>
ASTM D6919-03 for Ammonia as N SM 5210 B, 19 <sup>th</sup> Ed, for BOD	ASTM D6919-09 SM 5210 B-2011

**The laboratory will be asked to communicate, in a timely manner, if it will update to the most recently approved revision or choose an entirely different approved method listed in the Table 1B of 40 CFR 136.** This information is necessary so that DCLS can begin programming the DCLS database to update laboratory certificates.

Please hold questions until the laboratory's "personalized report" is received and further information is provided regarding the next steps in this implementation period.

We ask for your support and patience as we move together toward ensuring laboratory compliance with the MUR.