

***Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services (DCLS)***  
***Virginia Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program***  
***(VELAP)***

**Notice of Revision to 1VAC30-46,**  
**Accreditation for Commercial Environmental Laboratories**  
**October 15, 2015**

Revisions to 1VAC30-46, Accreditation for Commercial Environmental Laboratories (“Chapter 46”), were published in the *Virginia Register of Regulations* (Vol. 32, No. 1, pages 62-84) on September 7, 2015.

After November 1, 2015, the revised Chapter 46 regulation will be available for download from the VELAP web page: <http://www.dgs.virginia.gov/dcls>. The revisions to 1VAC30-46 may be accessed at the following link to the *Virginia Register of Regulations* as published on September 7, 2015: <http://register.dls.virginia.gov/vol32/iss01/v32i01.pdf>.

All accredited laboratories are encouraged to review the revised regulation thoroughly and be aware of important changes, including changes to fee calculation and payment schedules. (See 1VAC30-46-150.)

The regulation incorporates by reference the Standards for Environmental Laboratories and Accreditation Bodies, 2009, The NELAC Institute (TNI), P.O. Box 2439, Weatherford, TX 76086; [www.nelac-institute.org](http://www.nelac-institute.org):

- **Volume 1:** Management and Technical Requirements for Laboratories Performing Environmental Analysis (EL-V1-2009) and
- **Volume 2:** General Requirements for Accreditation Bodies Accrediting Environmental Laboratories (EL-V2-2009).

These volumes replace the incorporation of the 2003 NELAC Standard into Virginia regulation and are commonly referred to as “the 2009 TNI Standard(s)” or “TNI 2009”.

**The regulation’s effective date is November 1, 2015 with one exception:**

- The requirement for commercial laboratories to meet the 2009 TNI accreditation standard will become effective on September 1, 2016.

This delayed effective date provides time for affected laboratories to meet the requirements of the 2009 TNI Standard.

The **TNI Standard** is available for purchase in an electronic format from TNI: <http://www.nelac-institute.org/content/shop.php>. The **TNI 2009 Volume 1 checklist** is also available from TNI, after purchase of the standard, at: <http://www.nelac-institute.org/content/NELAP/qscheck2009-access.php>.

Laboratories holding primary accreditation under 1VAC30-46 are encouraged to begin immediately to become familiar with the 2009 TNI Standard. Incorporating the Volume 1 checklist into the next internal audit is strongly recommended.

The following information may be helpful in becoming familiar with the 2009 TNI Standard:

- The standard contains many similarities to 2003 NELAC in its content.
- The standard has been re-organized into “Volumes”. Volume 1 pertains to requirements for laboratories; Volume 2 pertains to requirements for accrediting bodies.
- **Laboratory assessments for compliance to 2009 TNI are based on Volume 1.**
- Volumes are sub-divided into Modules, e.g. Proficiency Testing, Quality Systems General Requirements, etc.
- References to specific text begins with a Volume and Module reference, for example, “V1M2 4.11” is a reference to the Corrective Action section (4.11) of Volume 1, Module 2.

Because of the reorganization and format differences, line by line comparisons to 2003 NELAC are not possible. All laboratories accredited under 1VAC30-46 should review in full the standard (i.e., **2009 TNI Volume 1**) to which they will be accountable, along with the revised regulation (1VAC30-46), and ensure compliance by September 1, 2016.