

**Virginia Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**  
**(1 VAC 30-45 and 1 VAC 30-46)**

**GUIDANCE DOCUMENT**

**1 VAC 30-45 and 1 VAC 30-46: Field Testing and the Definition of "Environmental Laboratory"**

**January 15, 2009**

DCLS is issuing the following interpretation of the regulations as they concern field testing and the definition of "environmental laboratory."

The regulations that became effective January 1, 2009, exempt laboratories performing only field testing from the requirements of the program. The regulations do provide that if field tests are performed in environmental laboratories, the field tests are included in the certification of the laboratory. Buildings provided to shelter personnel and equipment from inclement weather are not considered to be environmental laboratories by definition. When only field testing is being done at buildings set aside for laboratory work at wastewater treatment facilities, DCLS will not define these buildings as environmental laboratories. Field tests will only be included in the certification of a laboratory when field tests are brought into the environmental laboratory where testing other than field testing is being performed.