EHS Circular Letter 2010-66

To: All In-State Connecticut Certified Laboratories

From: Dermot Jones, Environmental Laboratory Consultant/Certification Officer

Date: October 15, 2010

Subject: 2011 Proficiency Testing for PCBs in Oil

The Environmental Laboratory Certification Program (ELCP) had historically offered certification for PCBs in Oil up until 2007 when the practice of granting certification for this analyte was discontinued. The ELCP, in an effort to streamline proficiency testing (PT) requirements, allowed laboratories to either participate in a WP PCBs in Oil PT or a RCRA PCBs PT to maintain certification for PCBs in solid waste/soil. The intent was that the PCBs in solid waste/soil testing category would include and allow laboratories to test for PCBs in Oil although there would be no specific listing for this certification on laboratories’ Approved Analytes lists.

Because some of the Connecticut in-state laboratories have multiple state certifications those laboratories continued to analyze a WP PCBs in Oil PT to meet certification requirements for analysis of PCBs in Oil, as other states still list this analyte on their Approved Analytes lists. The Out–of –state laboratories certified in Connecticut continue to request certification for PCBs in Oil in both the non-potable water/wastewater and solid waste/soil testing categories.

This letter is a notification that the ELCP will again grant certification for the analyte PCBs in Oil for both the non-potable water/wastewater and solid waste/soil testing categories beginning in 2011. In order for a laboratory to be approved for and maintain certification for the analysis of PCBs in Oil in the non-potable water/wastewater matrix it will be necessary for the laboratory seeking approval for this analyte to pass a WP PCBs in Oil PT annually. In order for a laboratory to be approved for and maintain certification for the analysis of PCBs in Oil in the solid waste/soil matrix, successful analysis of a RCRA PCBs PT will be enough for the ELCP to list PCBs in Oil along with PCBs in this category of testing.

The Initial registration and renewal of registration applications posted on the ELCP website have been revised to include a check-off for the PCBs in Oil analyte in both the non-potable water/wastewater and solid waste/soil matrixes. The lists of wastewater and solid waste/soil analytes posted on the ELCP website that laboratories can seek approval for have been updated to include PCBs in Oil.

Questions concerning these PT requirements may be directed to the ELCP at (860) 509-7389 or via email to me at dermot.jones@ct.gov.

cc: Suzanne Blancaflor, M.S., M.P.H., Chief, Environmental Health Section
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