

**ELAB Open Forum**  
Westin Tabor Center in Denver, CO  
Tuesday, January 30, 2007

The Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board (ELAB) Open Forum meeting was held at the Westin Tabor Center in Denver, CO on January 30, 2007 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (CST). The forum was facilitated by the ELAB committee co-chair, Dr. Jim Pletl (Hampton Roads Sanitation District).

The forum was attended by ELAB Designated Federal Official (DFO) Ms. Lara Autry (USEPA/ORD) and the following ELAB committee members: Mr. Joe Pardue (Parallax, Inc.), Dr. Jim Pletl (Hampton Roads Sanitation District), Dr. Reza Karimi (Southwest Research Institute), Mr. Scot Coconour (Promium), Dr. Jeff Flowers (Flowers Chemical Laboratories, Inc.), Mr. Jeff Lowery (ERA), Mr. Gary Dechant (Analytical Quality Associates, Inc.), Mr. Rock Vitale (Environmental Standards, Inc.), and Mr. Eddie Clemons (Golden Specialty Laboratory).

**INTRODUCTION**

Dr. Pletl welcomed the attendees to the forum. He said that the ELAB now keeps a listing of topics brought to their attention to determine where these issues should be directed and whether or not they fall within ELAB's charter. ELAB is composed of three workgroups: Monitoring, Laboratory Management, and Measurement and Technology. The intent of this forum is for the board to listen to all stakeholder concerns, but no action are to be taken during the open forum session. All issues will become agenda items at the next ELAB meeting for determination of appropriateness to be fully considered by the Board.

The following comments were submitted for the board's consideration:

Steve Arms, (FL)

Mr. Arms noted that in the Assessment Forum that it continues to be recognized as an issue that the methods update rule from EPA continues to publish rules that refer to documents not available for use or purchase. Any assistance with this issue would be greatly appreciated given it creates inconsistencies with what is available and followed.

Michael Wichman (University of Iowa Hygienic Laboratory)

Mr. Wickman had multiple issues to just keep on the radar screen: a) Standards need to be useable by all; b) certification needs to be available within the State; c) concerned about other States providing certification to be accepted by all other States; and d) role of accreditation authority bodies.

Carl Kircher (FL)

Dr. Kircher noted that he was interested in further information about the performance approach.

Nilda Cox (MWH Laboratories)

Ms. Cox brought up the issue of the use of the collision cell and wanted to know the status of those discussions.

Michael Wichman (University of Iowa Hygienic Laboratory)

Mr. Wichman noted that DW/WW utilization of the performance approach was very important.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The forum was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.