



Michael F. Easley, Governor

William G. Ross Jr., Secretary
North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Alan W. Klimek, P.E., Director
Division of Water Quality

March 28, 2007

Subject: Federal Register Changes

Dear Certified Laboratory:

On March 12, 2007, the Federal Register Final Rule, 40 CFR Part 122, 136 withdrew the approval of all Oil and Grease methods that use chlorofluorocarbon-113 (also referred to as CFC-113 or Freon-113) as an extraction solvent. This Rule has been pending for several years now and if your laboratory has not already updated to an approved hexane extraction method, you must do so at this time. The Federal Register Final Rule becomes effective April 11, 2007 and laboratories are not to use freon extraction based methods after this date.

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed Method 1664 A to replace EPA Method 413.1 and Standard Method 5520 B (18th and 19th editions), both of which use Freon 113 as the extraction solvent for the determination of oil and grease and petroleum hydrocarbons. The freon extraction solvent was also replaced by hexane in the 20th edition version of Standard Methods 5520 B, which is approved.

If you would like to add EPA Method 1664 A, you must submit the following to this office:

1. An amended application (available on the NC DWQ Laboratory Section website at <http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/lab/cert.htm>) requesting the addition of EPA Method 1664 A,
2. An acceptable PT result from a NELAC accredited vendor (analyzed within the last year),
3. A current MDL study summary (analyzed within the last year), and
4. A current IDOC study summary (analyzed within the last year).

If you currently hold certification for Standard Methods 5520 B 18th or 19th editions and must update to Standard Methods 5520 B 20th edition, submit an amended application. If you are switching from freon extraction to hexane extraction, you must also submit items 1 through 4 above.

Links to the March 12, 2007 Federal Register (modifying the testing procedures approved for analysis and sampling under the Clean Water Act) and the March 26, 2007 Federal Register update (modifying the EPA's guidelines that establish approved bacterial testing procedures for analysis and sampling under the Clean Water Act) are available on our website at www.dwgqlab.org. We encourage each laboratory to review them for additional method omissions and submit an amended application accordingly. The deadline for deleting methods (other than Oil & Grease) that are no longer approved in the Federal Register is June 1, 2007.

If you have any questions about the contents of this letter, please contact the auditor assigned to your laboratory.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Pat Donnelly'.

Pat Donnelly
Certification Branch Manager
Laboratory Section