

WELCOME TO THE ELAP REVIEW PANEL FIRST MEETING



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Panel facilitator**

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BACKGROUND

- **The State Water Board has asked for a programmatic review of ELAP**
 - Coincides with recent repositioning of ELAP from the Department of Public Health to the State Water Board
- **Review will be conducted by a panel of five independent technical experts**
 - SCCWRP has been asked to facilitate the review
- **Review process assisted by a Stakeholder Advisory Committee**

STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE ROLE

- **Ensure the quality of prospective Review Panel members**
 - Technically qualified
 - Free from bias
- **Assist in formulating Review Panel charge questions**
- **Help develop the Review Panel meeting agendas**
 - Ensure the Panel is getting all the information they need
 - Make sure they hear a range of perspectives
 - Help identify speakers that achieve those goals
- **Stakeholder Advisory Committee Chair will be asked to address the Panel at each meeting**

LETS START WITH INTRODUCTIONS

- **Panel members**
- **Stakeholder advisory committee**
- **State Board staff**
- **Other attendees**

FIRST MEETING AGENDA

- **Presentations by ELAP leadership**
 - Programmatic goals and description of key program elements
- **Factual presentations from outside the program**
- **Stakeholder perspectives about the program**
- **Public comment**
- **Day 2: Closed session interviews (and deliberations)**
 - ELAP staff
 - Environmental Laboratory Technical Advisory Committee (ELTAC)
- **Day 3: Panel report out**
 - The Panel will describe their initial thoughts and schedule for completion
 - There will be a call-in option for that session

CHARGE QUESTIONS

1) What should the State's role be in the accreditation process?

Are the philosophies, objectives and scope of ELAP clearly defined?

Are they appropriate?

Does ELAP have the capacity to support the program?

2) How can California's accreditation standards be improved?

3) What should California's approach be to recognizing accreditation by other states, national entities or private accreditation services?

Should California rejoin NELAP?

CHARGE QUESTIONS

4) How can ELAP's laboratory inspection program be made more robust?

What are the appropriate qualifications for auditor/inspector team members in each of the specialty areas that ELAP certifies laboratories?

5) How can California improve its proficiency testing program for quantifying laboratory quality?

6) How can California improve its process for responding to concerns expressed by:

- a) laboratories that have concerns about the certification process
- b) clients who have concerns about the quality of a laboratory that has been certified by ELAP?

CHARGE QUESTIONS

7) How should ELAP plan for future programmatic, testing and management needs?

8) Which program improvements are most urgent and can be accomplished within existing resources and authorities?

Which are the highest-priority, longer-term program improvements?