



December 18, 2013

Ms. Lara Phelps
Forum on Environmental Measurements
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (E243-05)
109 TW Alexander Drive
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

RE: Request for engagement on revisions to 40 CFR 136 through the Method Update Rule process

Dear Ms. Phelps:

The Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board (ELAB) is a standing Federal Advisory Committee to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or the Agency). Our Charter states we are to provide consensus advice, information and recommendations on issues related to EPA measurement programs and to facilitate operation and expansion of a national environmental laboratory accreditation program.

At this time, ELAB would like to offer its' experience and expertise to the Agency as it develops revisions at 40 CFR part 136 through the Method Update Rule (MUR) process. ELAB can provide laboratory, public health and accreditation experience perspective to the Agency. The Board has been successful with past Agency collaborations, including methods revision and input on regulatory changes.

ELAB would be pleased to partner with the Agency to provide insight, advice and comments during the development phase of the next MUR.

We look forward to hearing how ELAB can best serve the needs of the Agency during the MUR development, thank you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Root".

Patsy Root
Chair, Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board

cc: ELAB Board