

Contacts for More Information

Your EPD permitting or compliance contact is a good place to start if you have questions about reporting requirements.

For additional information on the laboratory accreditation rule and how laboratory accreditation may impact you, please contact the following Georgia Environmental Protection Division staff:

Division-wide Coordination

Ted Jackson, (404) 656-3204

Air

Ross Winne, (404) 363-7000

Drinking Water

Lynne Grubb, (404) 656-4807

Hazardous Waste

David Reuland, (404) 657-8600

Laboratory

Phillip Mitchell, (678) 248-7384

Solid Waste

June Li, (404) 362-2537

Wastewater

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Georgia Environmental Protection Division

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Georgia Rules for Commercial Environmental Laboratory Accreditation



*to Support
Environmental
Protection*



Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Environmental Protection Division
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE
Suite 1152 East Floyd Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334-9000

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Law and Definitions

Georgia state law (O.C.G.A. § 12-2-9) requires all commercial environmental laboratories submitting data to the Environmental Protection Division for regulatory purposes to be **approved or accredited** as specified in EPD's rules and regulations.

Additionally, any person submitting data **prepared** by a commercial analytical laboratory to the Division for regulatory purposes shall stipulate that the laboratory is **approved or accredited**.

The responsibility for submitting acceptable analytical data lies with the person subject to regulation under Georgia's environmental statutes, permits and rules.

Commercial Environmental Laboratory means:

Any laboratory that provides analyses of environmental samples on a fee or contract basis. A laboratory operated by the State, a city, county, local authority, or an industrial facility is typically not considered a commercial environmental laboratory.

Approved means: The acceptance of a commercial laboratory by accreditation or certification. The approval is valid for the time period and tests included in the scope of accreditation.

Data submitted for regulatory purposes means: Any data which is to be submitted to the Environmental Protection Division, or required to be retained on site for review by EPD, except for:

- a.) Initial Hazardous Site Response Act (HSRA) data;
- b.) Data obtained from *in-situ* analysis;
- c.) Turbidity data for construction stormwater permits;
- d.) Tests for which accreditation or certification are unavailable.

Effective Date: July 01 2001

Benefits

- Improve credibility and acceptability of data to customers and regulators.
- Replace redundant and often contradictory inspections with comprehensive standardized inspections.
- Enhance the laboratory's ability to compete in Georgia, nationally, and internationally.

Accrediting Authorities

Commercial environmental laboratories may obtain accreditation from the any of the following authorities:

These states are acceptable as accrediting authorities:

National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program conducted by The NELAC Institute.

Telephone: (817) 598-1624

Internet: www.nelac-institute.org

CA, FL, IL, KS, LA, MN, NH, NJ, NY, OR, PA, TX, UT, VA

These third party accrediting authorities are acceptable:

American Association for Laboratory Accreditation

Telephone: (301) 644-3248

Internet: www.a2la.org

American Industrial Hygiene Association

Telephone: (703) 849-8888

Internet: www.aiha.org

American National Standards Institute National Accreditation Board (ACLASS)

Telephone: (703) 836-0025

Internet: www.aiclasscorp.com

Canadian Association for Laboratory Accreditation

Telephone: (613) 233-5300

Internet: www.cala.ca

NSF International Inc

Telephone: (800) NSF-MARK

Internet: www.nsf.org

Quality Associates International LLC

Telephone: (800) 962-0600

Internet: www.qai-online.com

ISO 17025 is the basis for accreditation.

Stipulations

Any person submitting data to EPD prepared by a commercial analytical laboratory shall stipulate that the laboratory is approved (Chapter 391-3-26-.05). The stipulation shall include:

1. Name of the laboratory
2. Name of the accrediting agency
3. Accreditation number or identifier issued by the accreditation agency
4. Scope of accreditation relevant to the data submitted (e.g., air, drinking water, non-potable water, solid/hazardous wastes)
5. Effective (or issued) date of accreditation
6. Expiration date of accreditation

Example Stipulation

Laboratory: Georgia Testing Lab, Inc.

Accreditor: NELAP accrediting authority, A2LA, ACLASS, AIHA, CALA, NSF, QAI

Accreditation ID: 123.01

Scope: Non-potable water

Effective: October 06, 2010

Expires: October 31, 2011

This stipulation shall be on each report or may be submitted in a separate document with the first report of the calendar year.

Drinking Water Analysis

Commercial environmental laboratories approved under this Rule who seek to analyze drinking water samples for compliance with the Georgia Rules for Safe Drinking Water should contact the EPD Drinking Water Program. A completed application package including proficiency-testing results is required.