Toxic Contaminants Workgroup (TCW)
Quarterly PFAS Meeting
February 8, 2023

Use sticky notes to add your feedback. The sticky note function is located in the toolbar on the left side of the screen (the fourth icon from the top). Please note there is a character limit.

Please help us stay organized by coordinating your feedback with the following colors:

yellow = info

blue = gaps

green = ideas

Please copy the "thumbs up" icon and paste near a sticky note if you agree with a message

1. Guidance for SOP/SAP/QAPPs

Informational (What are you doing?)

VA has developed QAPPs for PFAS sampling/special studies. Have been using draft EPA Method 1633 at private lab(s). Developing capacity at our state lab.

We have been following Michigan DEQ protocols as best we can. Almost no issues with background levels in field blanks.

We have several PFAS projects. We have been using EPA Method 537.1 for analysis, and have started to add TOP sometimes. Costs have been a huge constraint for us.

Several water/wastewater utilities in the metro Washington region have SOP's for PFAS sampling.

DE DNREC's Remediation Section has begun drafting SOPs, and has also referenced ITRC documents

Have an SOP and reference Navy guidance. Follow standard SAP. Have not encountered significant QC issues to date with sampling process.

EPA draft method 1633

[academic] we have SERDP funded projects that employ methods aligned with QSM v4 and EPA draft Method 1633

At DoD installations - 537.1 is being used for drinking water and 1633 for all else.

Gaps (What gaps exist?)

The application of the TOP assay and unknown processors need more guidances

Unified sampling methods and QAPP to ensure repeatable results. This is important given the ultra low limits of detection and sensitive analytical methods.

Some difficulty knowing what analysis is best for PFAS in soil samples and crop tissue samples.

The USGS work indicating such strict field procedures may not be needed would be helpful to better understand and work into our collection procedures

[academic] TOP analysis in complex soil and biosolids samples - need for more rigorous tracking of recovery and transformation efficiencies

Considering what analyses will give the best bang for the buck.

We need additional screening values for eco receptors for all media.

[academic] we are increasingly interested in ultrashort- and short-chain PFAS and their analysis/fate, which are not well reported

Ideas (Activities or follow up actions by the WG?)

Creating of a section on the TCW page for resource links

We get lots of requests from homeowners on private wells for PFOS and PFOA analysis. They want to know where they can send their samples - costs are often too high.

2. Environmental Program Analytical Methods

Informational (What are you doing?)

Method 1633, method 537.1 and 533. Have used multiple labs.

EPA draft method 1633 with some minor modifications

1633 had about 5 thumbs up on previous board

Method 537.1 for drinking water, surface water, fish tissue, wastewater, and biosolids. Transitioning to Method 1633.

DE DNREC has been using 537(M) for non-drinking water samples, fish tissue, biosolids, etc. Plan to adopt Method 1633 for non-aqueous samples in the future. Also used TOP, recently

DE-DNREC: 537(M) for most samples to date (except drinking water). Used TOP on surface water samples recently.

Gaps (What gaps exist?)

1633 still a draft - many may change.

Data to date indicates > variability in same matrix same sample when comparing one method to the next and one lab to the next. More field trials with side by side analysis

Ideas (Activities or follow up actions by the WG?)

Decision tree for method selection //objective based

Analyte list for given objectives

variability documentation

Partnering opportunities for nontargeted

3. Data Storage and Data Use Considerations

Informational (What are you doing?)

DE DNREC is using an EQuIS database to store all of its data

[Academica] data storage upon the requirement from the funding agency

Gaps (What gaps exist?)

We keep our data shared internally on Teams for collaborators prior to publication. We put data in Supporting Materials in publications and pay Open Access fees.

Echo this comment about how to best communicate the results. Especially challenging in the context of Extension.

Ideas (Activities or follow up actions by the WG?)

PFAS Data Presentation "rules"- a standardized minimum for data presentation (compound order, graph type, etc.) would be useful.

Parking Lot

Any additional information about Guidance for SOP/SAP/QAPPs ?

Parking Lot

Any additional information about Environmental Program Analytical Methods?

Parking Lot

Any additional information about Data Storage and Data Use Considerations?