

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

for

VA262-15-Q-0657

1. **Question:** The CDC methodology calls for identification of legionella serogroup 1, serogroup 2-14, and "other legionella species". How detailed and specific does each serogroup need to be reported or broken down?

Answer: If there is *L. pneumophila* in the sample, the lab must do further testing to determine the serogroup (i.e., SG 1, SG 2-14).

2. **Question:** Can the lab be certified with its corresponding state (NVLAP or California ELAP) as being sufficient for the NELAC certification.

Answer: Lab must be certified by the CDC ELITE program. It's preferable that the lab used to perform the analysis has environmental microbiology accreditation like EMLAP or NELAP, but not a must have.

3. **Question:** For Legionella testing proposals, many VA's have included a requirement that the Water Treatment provider cannot be the prime contractor, the subcontractor, or partner to the prime in order to avoid commercial conflict of interest and to provide the highest quality of independent testing and results. We have bid on and have been awarded numerous VA contracts to conduct Legionella testing and none of them have specified that the sample collector and laboratory should be separate entities in order to achieve independent testing results. We suggest the requirement is changed to reflect the following: (suggested change has been removed from question).

Answer: No, the requirements will not be changed.

END OF QUESTIONS