




January 25, 2018

The EPA published a Clean Water Act Method Update Rule for the Analysis of Effluent in the Federal Register on August 28, 2017. This Method Update Rule (MUR; 40 CFR 136) became effective on September 27, 2017. The MUR modifies the testing procedures approved for analysis and sampling under the Clean Water Act. The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (Department) will implement the MUR as follows:

- (1) Accredited and in-house (non-contract) laboratories submitting data to the Department shall immediately take steps to implement the test procedures and Method Detection Limit (MDL) determination specified in the MUR.
- (2) All in-house laboratories shall update their quality system documents and MDL determination according to Revision 2 of the MDL procedure in the MUR so that compliance with the MUR is achieved no later than December 31, 2018.
- (3) Laboratories currently accredited pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 8-2-201 *et seq.* shall update their quality system documents, MDL determination process, and demonstrate compliance with the MUR no later than January 1, 2019. Beginning January 1, 2019, all laboratories seeking accreditation pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 8-2-201 *et seq.* shall be in compliance with the MUR.
- (4) The Department will accept data based on the previous Method Update Rule (2012) up to but not beyond August 28, 2019.
- (5) Failure to comply with the MUR by the respective dates specified above may result in the revocation or suspension of the laboratory's accreditation pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 8-2-208.

A copy of the MUR is available at <https://www.epa.gov/cwa-methods/methods-update-rule-2017>

Accredited laboratories, in-house laboratories, and laboratories seeking accreditation may contact the Quality Assurance Officer at 501-682-0941 or qaofficer@adeq.state.ar.us.



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