



SC DEPARTMENT of
**ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES**

08/18/2026

MEMO

From: Bennie L. Cockerel, Jr, Manager – Office of Env. Laboratory Certification

Re: Extended Application Review Times Possible

The Office of Environmental Laboratory Certification is currently facing a backlog of very large applications in the new ePermitting system. Please note that while the current application procedures do allow laboratories to apply for many acts, methods, parameters and analytes simultaneously, we do not have the capability to review these in as timely a manner as we can for applications smaller in scope. Some recent applications exceed 1,000 lines of applied-for parameters and/or analytes! Therefore, we are asking laboratories to limit their application size to the minimum needed by the laboratory. Smaller non-organic method applications can usually be completed more quickly than complex organic applications.

Please note that we process applications in the order received, but very large applications can take up to, or even exceed, a year to fully review depending on the number and severity of any issues found and the laboratory responses to any findings noted as well as the office workload.

As a reminder, South Carolina is not a TNI certified state and we do not accept reciprocity from TNI states except for the onsite laboratory evaluation performed by the TNI state, i.e., the primary certifying authority. In other words, we must physically review all SOPs, MDLs, QA data, calibration records, PT records, etc. Limiting the scope of your applications will help not only us, but the laboratories as well

Thank you for your consideration in this regard.

Sincerely,

The Office of Environmental Laboratory Certification

If you have any questions regarding this memo, please feel free to reach out to our Office at 803-896-0970 or by email at LabCertHelp@des.sc.gov