

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 16 2018

OFFICE OF THE  
SCIENCE ADVISOR

Dr. Michael Delaney, Chair  
Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board  
Massachusetts Water Resources Authority  
190 Tafts Ave.  
Winthrop, MA 02152

Dear Dr. Delaney:

Thank you for your letter (dated May 16, 2018) regarding the Clean Water Act pH preservation requirement for acrolein and acrylonitrile. While the data provided by ELAB appears to show that pH adjustment to pH 4-5 is not necessary to preserve acrolein and acrylonitrile in wastewater samples from the two publicly owned treatment works sampled, a more rigorous study would be required before EPA would consider making updates to the relevant methods through the regulatory process.

If ELAB would like to pursue changes to preservation requirements specifically for wastewater contaminants under 40 CFR Part 136, please send a request directly to the EPA Office of Science and Technology's Engineering and Analysis Division (point of contact: Adrian Hanley; e-mail: [hanley.adrian@epa.gov](mailto:hanley.adrian@epa.gov) or phone: 202-564-1564).

Please note that individual dischargers can apply for an exemption to the preservation requirements from their permitting authority, as specified in 40 CFR Part 136.3(e).

We appreciate your continued support to the Agency in the measurement arena.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta".

Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, Ph.D.  
EPA Science Advisor