



# Client Bulletin

## Ammonia in Non-potable Water

Effective January 28, 2008, Analytical Laboratory Services, Inc. (ALSI) will be using a new analytical method for the determination of Ammonia-Nitrogen in non-potable water according to *ASTM Method D6919-03—Standard Test Method for Determination of Dissolved Alkali and Alkaline Earth Cations and Ammonium in Water and Wastewater by Ion Chromatography*. ALSI has obtained the proper NELAC certification for this method, which was recently approved under the Method Update Rule (MUR) and is listed in 40 CFR Part 136 as an approved method for ammonia-nitrogen. (See ALSI website for a listing of the MUR).

After performing method development and comparative studies of both the current analytical method and the new ASTM method on actual client samples, there were no differences observed in the analytical results. From the clients perspective on both the collection and the reporting end you should note little change. The method allows for more efficiency in our departments and reduces manual technician input thus reducing potential human error at the bench top. The ALSI staff believe this method will offer more stability and efficiency to our clients and will now be the preferred analytical method for non-potable water.

Due to the change in technique and method, only the method reference will be different on the analytical report for those samples received at the laboratory after the date of January 28, 2008. With regard to the costs of either analysis, we are pleased to note that all pricing for our clients will remain unchanged during this transition. The reporting limit of this method will remain the same—0.10 mg/l—and the collection bottle/preservative will remain unchanged as follows:

Method	Matrix	Container	Amount	Preservative	Holding Time
ASTM D6919-03	Nonpotable Water	P or G	500mL	H2SO4 pH<2;Cool 4°C	28 days

If you have any questions regarding this method or its affect on your submitted samples, please contact your project coordinator at 717-944-5541.

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**Analytical Laboratory Services, Inc.**