



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4

Science and Ecosystem Support Division
980 College Station Road
Athens, Georgia 30605-2720

JUN 30 2016

Ms. Elizabeth Dieck
Director of Environmental Quality Control
South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Ms. Dieck:

In response to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 4, Quality Assurance Section's (QAS) review of corrective actions mailed April 10, 2016, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), Bureau of Environmental Health Services (BEHS), Analytical and Radiological Environmental Services Division (ARESD) located at the Environmental Quality Control (EQC) Laboratory in Columbia, South Carolina provided additional corrective actions dated June 10, 2016. These documents provided evidence of corrective action for the findings and recommendations that were detailed in the assessment report of the August 25-28, 2015 laboratory audit.

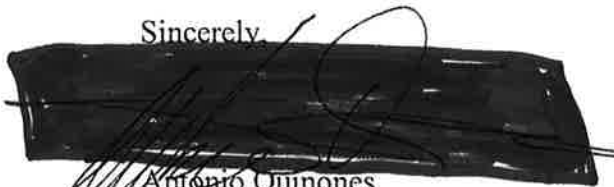
The staff of the QAS has completed its evaluation of the corrective actions that were submitted and has determined that the findings have been adequately addressed and the corrective actions are acceptable.

In accordance with Chapter III, Section 13 of the Manual for the Certification of Laboratories Analyzing Drinking Water, the SC DHEC ARESD Laboratory will maintain the status of *Certified* for organic chemistry, inorganic chemistry and microbiology drinking water analysis methods, and the laboratory may analyze samples by the methods listed in Tables 2 and 3 of the original assessment report for Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) compliance purposes.

For finding numbers 5.2 and 6.1 dealing with the checking of samples for residual chlorine, the ARESD indicated that it may take until August 1, 2016, to implement the new procedures in the ARESD quality program. Please forward a copy of your new procedures for our files by August 15, 2016.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me, or have your staff contact Sandra Aker, QAS Chief, at (706) 355-8772.

Sincerely,



Antonio Quinones
Acting Director

cc: Renee Shealy, SC DHEC BEHS Chief
Sandra Flemming, SC DHEC BEHS Assistant Chief
Micheal Mattocks, SC DHEC BEHS ARES Chief
Becky Allenbach, EPA Reg. 4 Water Protection Division
Shawneille Campbell-Dunbar, EPA Reg. 4 Water Protection Division