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## RCRA/SUPERFUND HOTLINE MONTHLY SUMMARY

JULY 87

### 4. Laboratory Audit Inspection

What is the Laboratory Audit Inspection (LAI) Program?

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) requires the owner/operator of a surface impoundment, landfill or land treatment unit that is used to manage hazardous waste to implement a ground water monitoring program capable of determining a facility's impact on the uppermost aquifer. The Environmental Protection Agency has developed guidance titled, RCRA Ground Water Monitoring Technical Enforcement Guidance Document (TEGD), which details the technical aspects of ground-water monitoring system designed and operation deemed important by the Agency to assist a ground water monitoring system to meet the goals of the RCRA program. Once it has been established that the owner/operator has adequately designed and constructed the ground water monitoring water systems and that these systems are providing representative ground-water samples, EPA must confirm that these samples are being properly analyzed.

The Office of Waste Program Enforcement (OWPE), RCRA Enforcement Division, is developing a RCRA Laboratory Audit Inspection (LAI) program. The goal of the inspection program is to enable the owner/operator to determine whether the laboratory that the owner/operator is using for ground water sample analyses is properly equipped, maintained, and staffed, and whether samples are properly logged and tracked throughout the laboratory.

This inspection does not constitute a laboratory certification for purposes of the RCRA program. It is simply designed to confirm that the laboratory is capable of performing quality analysis work for the owner/operators ground-water monitoring program.

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