**Louisiana Water Protectors: Water Quality Testing**

Why should I sample?

* Spills of any kind are an actionable violation
* Waterkeeper Alliance believes that ETP is using diesel in their drilling fluid. We want to gather evidence to prove that this is happening in LA.
* Baseline sampling allows us to demonstrate when construction activities have caused a change in water quality.

Where should I sample?

* At HDD sites. Look at the Google map to find them: [http://bit.ly/2GGVnFS](http://bit.ly/2GGVnFS" \t "_blank)
  + St. James Parish has the most!
  + They also occur at all major water crossings.

What supplies do I need?

* Water sampling kits from PACE Labs are the best
  + Each kit should come as a Styrofoam cooler. Inside should be: gloves, plastic bags, ice packs, jars.
  + You should also get a strainer (small kitchen strainers are fine), a long sturdy stick, and something to attach the sieve/jar to the stick.
* If you don’t have an official kit, that’s ok! You can build your own.
  + You will need glass jars, heavy-duty gloves, painters tape, a sharpie, an ice pack, aluminum foil, and a container to keep the samples in.
  + Brown glass is best but small clear Ball jars are also fine.
  + You should also get a strainer (small kitchen strainers are fine), a long sturdy stick, and something to attach the sieve/jar to the stick.
* Remember: Heat and light are your enemies! Oil is very reactive and constantly degrading.

How do I sample?

* Put on your gloves!
* Label jar first: Write date/time/place/sample number on a piece of tape. Stick this on the top of the jar.
* For short distances, take a “grab sample”: put in your jar, scoop, pick it up
* For longer distances, use your improvised scooper! Submerge until the top is just underneath the water
* For sheen: use your sieve on a stick. Transfer the sheen to the jar.
* For thick oil: use the lip of the jar
* If you are using a clear Ball jar: place a layer of foil between jar and lid
* Place painters tape label across the top of the jar
* Take 3 samples for any one spot

How do I prepare my samples?

* Write a inventory list of your samples. Include the date, the number, and the location. (Eg: 5/4/2018 001 St James). Place this is a container (the cooler, or some other container) with your samples.

Where should I send my samples?

* Pace Analytical

1000 Riverbend Drive Suite F, St Rose, LA 70087

Where should I report any evidence of spills?

* Coast Guard National Response Center: **1-800-424-8802**
* LDEQ: http://deq.louisiana.gov/form/online-incident-reporting-spill-incident-release

When should I send my samples?

* Please send your samples to the lab within 36 hours. Remember, petrochemicals degrade quickly!

When should I report my findings?

* Also as soon as possible. The longer you wait, the less likely that the Coast Guard and/or LDEW will be able to verify your findings.

Safety protocol

* Try not to be around any petrochemical spill for more than 20 minutes
* If you feel disoriented or have a headache: leave immediately