



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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Chlorine Residual Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Do I have to calibrate my colorimeter every time I perform a chlorine residual analysis?** No-The Secondary Standards (e.g. gel standards) are not a calibration procedure. It is a verification of the factory calibration.
2. **What is the difference between the Initial Demonstration of Capability (IDC) procedure and the routine Calibration Verification Standard (CVS)?** The IDC is a procedure to confirm the operator can properly perform a particular method. A CVS is a routine verification of your colorimeter with a secondary standard to determine if the instrument is reading within the calibrated range.
3. **When must an IDC be performed?** The IDC must be performed when initiating the procedure to ensure chlorine residuals are analyzed consistent with Standard Method 4500 Cl-G, when a new sampler starts performing chlorine residual analysis, or when a new instrument is purchased.
4. **Who must perform an IDC?** An IDC must be performed by each person and prior to analyzing for chlorine residuals that are reported to BSDW for compliance.
5. **Do I need to verify all Secondary Standards provided by the manufacturer each day I perform a CVS and chlorine residual analysis?** The minimum requirement is to verify one secondary standard as part of the CVS prior to analyzing for chlorine residuals. Verifying more than one secondary standard will increase defensibility of your data and may be warranted when monitoring at numerous locations and a wide range of expected chlorine residuals.
6. **Do I need a witness every time I perform a chlorine residual analysis?** No- You only need a witness when you perform the IDC.
7. **Once completed, do I need to provide a copy of the SOP and IDC to the BSDW?** No- Keep it on file for review during a Sanitary Survey or at the request of BSDW staff.
8. **Should I order the Low Range or the High Range Secondary Gel Standards?** It depends on the chlorine residual values you typically see in your distribution system. The Low Range Standards should suffice for most, if not all, water systems in Nevada for routine chlorine monitoring.
9. **Where can I find the SOP Template and the IDC tool?** On our website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bsdw/oversight.htm#byproduct>
10. **Do I have to utilize the SOP Template and the IDC tool provided by the BSDW?** No- Any format will suffice as long as all the appropriate information is included and formulas are accurate.