



**REGION 4**  
ATHENS, GA 30605

February 21, 2024

Dr. Carina Blackmore, Bureau Chief  
Florida Department of Health  
Bureau of Public Health Laboratories  
Division of Disease Control and Health Protection  
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A-09  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1722

LSASD Project Number: 23-0223

Dear Dr. Blackmore:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, has completed its evaluation of the corrective actions submitted by Florida Department of Health (FL DOH), Bureau of Public Health Laboratories (BPHL), drinking water laboratory located in Jacksonville, FL for EPA drinking water Certification. The EPA has determined that the findings and concerns identified in the assessment report have been adequately addressed and the corrective actions are acceptable.

The FL DOH, BPHL is hereby **Certified** for the analysis of chemical and microbiological drinking water contaminants using the analyte/method combinations listed in Attachments 1 and 3 of the assessment report issued by the EPA on November 15, 2023, for Safe Drinking Water Act compliance purposes. To retain certification, on an annual basis, the laboratory must successfully pass a drinking water proficiency test study for the analyte/method combinations listed in Attachments 1 and 3 of the assessment report.

The FL DOH, BPHL is hereby **Not Certified** for the analysis of Asbestos, Dioxin, and all radiochemical analysis of drinking water including Gross Alpha, Gross Beta, Radium 226, Radium 228, and Uranium because the FL DOH, BPHL laboratory does not have the capability to perform the analysis, and the FL DOH, BPHL laboratory has not obtained a contract with a certified laboratory to perform the analysis. The status of these methods will be revised to Certified when the laboratory develops the capability of performing the analysis, or the analysis is contracted to a certified laboratory.

The EPA has completed its evaluation of the corrective actions submitted by the FL DOH, BPHL, Environmental Laboratory Certification Program (ELCP). The EPA has determined that the findings and concerns have been adequately addressed and the corrective actions are acceptable.

The FL DOH, BPHL, ELCP is hereby ***Effective*** in assuring that all laboratories submitting monitoring data for public water supplies meet the criteria established by the EPA in the Manual for the Certification of Laboratories Analyzing Drinking Water, 5th edition.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (706) 355-8722 or Stacie Masters, Lab Services Branch Supervisor, at (706) 355-8847.

Sincerely,

Hunter Johnson  
Acting Director  
Laboratory Services and Applied Science Division

cc: Susanne Crowe, FL DOH, BPHL, Interim Director  
Vanessa Soto Contreras, FL DOH, Laboratory Certification Program Administrator