

## Chapter 5 CHEMICAL DATA QUALITY ASSESSMENT REPORTS

5-1. Introduction. In this chapter, the requirements for CDQARs are defined. Each district is responsible for evaluation of chemical data quality, including determination of contract compliance, data useability and data quality objective attainment. The district's data evaluation is documented in the CDQAR. Districts with insufficient staff chemist resources to prepare CDQARs should rely upon the HTRW design district, the CMQAL, or the HTRW-CX for chemistry support. CDQARs should be prepared by the district project chemist for both contractor-executed and in-house projects.

5-2. Evaluation of Data Quality. The district project chemist has three general benchmarks for evaluation of project data: useability, DQOs, and contract compliance. The district project chemist must first determine if data are usable. Data useability is assessed using some form of data review followed by evaluation of other factors; general data review procedures are described in Chapter 3 of this EM. The district project chemist must also determine if project DQOs have been met. DQOs are summarized in the SAP; the chemist should review this summary and compare it to the project data to determine if DQOs were attained. Contract compliance should also be assessed by the district project chemist, to ensure that stated requirements for data quality have been met. The district project chemist should draw on all applicable sources of information to conduct the data evaluation. Good supporting documents might include the daily quality report, the contractor's assessment of data quality, results from PE samples, field oversight findings, and/or project-specific laboratory audits.

5-3. Documentation of Data Quality. The district project chemist documents chemical data quality determinations in a CDQAR.

a. Preparation of CDQAR. The CDQAR may be prepared in a variety of formats. The format for documentation of data quality shall be determined by the district project chemist on a project-specific basis. This allows the district project chemist flexibility to choose the most appropriate format for each HTRW project. Common formats include:

- a memorandum for record
- a separate report to the data users
- a memorandum to data user and/or PM and/or TM and/or customer
- an integral section of project report (prepared by or reviewed and approved by district project chemist)
- an appendix to the project report (prepared by or reviewed and approved by district project chemist)

b. Documentation. Documentation will typically include the following elements, as

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applicable:

- description of project background and purpose
- summary of DQOs
- summary of sampling activities
- description of deficiencies in sampling, packaging, transportation, storage, or analysis
- restrictions on use of data
- statement of contract compliance or noncompliance
- data adequacy (including sensitivity requirements)
- lessons learned
- corrective actions taken

c. Documentation by Reference. If the above information is included in other documents, it may be incorporated by reference.

d. Assessment. The assessment of data useability and attainment of DQOs must be completed concurrent with or prior to completion of the draft project report.