Laboratory Feasibility Study



Laboratory Timeline

August 2011: Tropical Storm Irene



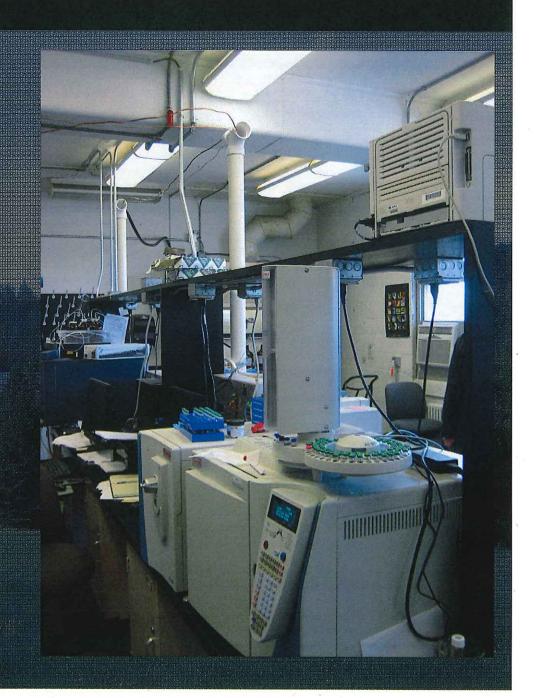
1990 – 2011: VAAFM-DEC Laboratory at the Waterbury State Office Complex

2012 – 2017: VAAFM-DEC Laboratory in Temporary Facilities

August 2017: Expiration of UVM Hills Building Lease

Laboratory Missions

- · Protect Human and Animal Health
- Safeguard Environmental Resources
- Foster Commerce and Economic Development



Positioning the Laboratory for Emerging Trends

- C New Torres Salay Railes
- Organic Agriculture
 Certifications
- Genetically Engineered Foods and Seeds
- Air Toxics Analysis



Laboratory Replacement Options

- OPTION 1 is to OUTSOURGE laboratory testing to commercial laboratories and/or to public laboratories in other states
- OPTION 2 is to replicate the Waterbury model, with VAAFM and DEC laboratories CO-LOCATED in the same facility but maintaining separate laboratory operations
- OPTION 3 is to consolidate VAAFM and DEC operations into a single COLLABORATIVE laboratory facility

Option 1: Outsourced Model

- The Outsourced Model is LESS cost effective for daily operations
- The Outsourced Model does NOT adequately address the need for detection of low level contaminants
- The Outsourced Model does NOT adequately address urgent and emergency situations
- The Outsourced Model may NOT respond effectively to emerging needs

Option 2: Co-Located Model

- Will restore all lab functionality that existed prior to Tropical Storm Irene
- Will upgrade lab safety and waste management practices, quality control
- Will modernize the current LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System)
- May be less responsive to growth and emerging needs than the Collaborative model
- Will be more costly to construct and to operate than the Collaborative model
- Will require 3.5 staff positions above current levels to restore Pre Irene functionality

Option 3: Collaborative Model

- Will restore all lab functionality that existed prior to Tropical Storm Irene
- Will upgrade lab safety and waste management practices, quality control
- Will modernize the current LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System)
- Will be more responsive to growth and emerging needs
- Will be less costly to construct and to operate than the Co-Located model
- Will not require any additional staff positions above current levels to restore Pre Irene functionality

Recommendation

- 1. Build a new Laboratory Facility that implements the Collaborative Model (OPTION 3)
 - Select a site and begin the design process before the end of 2014
 - Include all programs that were located in the Waterbury lab
 - Plan the new lab facility for flexibility and growth
- 2. Develop a Collaborative lab governance model
 - Implement a coordinated safety, waste management and quality assurance plan for the collaborative lab
 - Implement a comprehensive LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System) for the collaborative lab
- 3. Continue to explore and develop partnerships within Vermont and with other Northeastern states

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