



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
**MEMORANDUM #2016 – 71**

DATE: December 5, 2016  
TO: Honorable Mayor Joyce Downing and City Council Members  
FROM: James A. Hayes, AICP, City Manager   
David H. Willett, Director of Public Works   
SUBJECT: **Council Discussion Item**  
Lab Analysis Fee Adjustments

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**BACKGROUND**

The Northglenn Water Quality Laboratory (Northglenn Lab) prides itself on its commitment to excellence and currently maintains certification for 36 drinking water analytes. For over 25 years, Northglenn Lab has provided laboratory services to neighboring communities. Currently, Northglenn Lab's regular clients consist of 6 small municipalities and water districts, and one small business. The Lab analyzes approximately 350 coliform, 5 nitrate, and 2 fluoride samples per year for these clients. Profits are not generated from fees charged to clients, but the Lab does attempt to recover some of the labor and reagent costs. It has been ten years since Northglenn Lab has adjusted any analysis fees (via Resolution 06-38, attached), and some of the current fees are far below cost recovery and region-wide averages. An adjustment to three analytes is suggested for fluoride, nitrate, and total coliform.

Northglenn Water Quality Laboratory became certified for a new method for both fluoride and nitrate with the purchase of the Ion Chromatograph in 2014. Prices associated with the former methods are no longer appropriate for the new method, and are not comparable to local laboratories. Total coliform reagents and quality control costs have also increased significantly in the last ten years with no price adjustment made. A cost analysis and a price comparison were performed to help determine appropriate pricing for these three analytes. Please see the Price Comparison sheet (Attachment A) for current and proposed pricing.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

Based on the number of analyses mentioned above, an additional \$1435.00 could be generated per year from the Lab to support the work effort associated with the analysis. The lab invoices approximately \$8,500/year.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends approval of the price increases for the three analytes as shown in Attachment A.

**STAFF REFERENCE**

Raymond Reling – Utilities Manager  
Evelyn Rhodes – Laboratory Supervisor

[rreling@northglenn.org](mailto:rreling@northglenn.org) or 303.450.4049  
[erhodes@northglenn.org](mailto:erhodes@northglenn.org) or 303.450.4074

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Resolution 06-38
- Price Comparison spreadsheet
- Cost Analysis spreadsheet

Northglenn Water Quality Laboratory  
2016 Analysis Price Comparison

Analyte	CDPHE	Denver Water	Weld Cty DPHE	City of Golden	City of Longmont	City of Ft. Collins	Colorado Analytical	Median Price	NG Current Price*	NG Proposed Price*
Total coliform (P/A)	\$ 20.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 22.50	\$ 17.50	\$ 23.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 14.00
Nitrate - Anions	\$ 31.50	\$ 17.00	\$ 18.00	-	\$ 25.00	\$ 19.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 18.50	\$ 12.00	\$ 17.00
Fluoride - Anions	\$ 16.50	\$ 17.00	\$ 18.00	-	\$ 25.00	\$ 19.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 17.00

\*Positive Total Coliform *regulatory* sample has an additional charge for E. coli confirmation and additional paperwork.

**2016 Analysis Cost Breakdown - Reagents & Labor**

<b>IC (F, NO3): EPA 300.0</b>			
	Total/mo	Labor @\$40	Breakdown
Reagents*	24.33		\$ 2.03
QC (\$96/12)	8		\$ 0.67
PT (\$92/12)	8		\$ 0.67
Hours (analysis, data entry, reporting)	6	240	\$ 20.00
Samples per month (avg)	12	Cost/sample:	\$ 23.36
<b>*Reagents breakdown for 1 run (month) at 30 samples (Cals, QC, samples)</b>			
Reagent	Amount	Cost	Cost per run
Potassium Nitrate (KNO3)	18g	\$85/125g	8.21
Sodium Fluoride (NaF)	1.1g	\$181/125g	1.04
Elluent (AS22)	10 mL	\$89/250mL	3.56
Vials	30 ea	\$29/250	3.48
Caps	30 ea	\$67/250	8.04
Total:			24.33

<b>Total Coliform: 9223 B</b>			
	Total/mo	Labor @\$40	Breakdown
Reagents*	261.3		\$ 3.35
QC (\$134/12 plus \$180/3 plus 3x\$4 dilution water)	83		\$ 1.06
PT (\$248/12)	21		\$ 0.27
Hours (analysis, QC, data entry, reporting)	18	720	\$ 9.23
Samples per month (avg)	78	Cost/sample:	\$ 13.91
<i>~For reg TC or EC positives, add \$10 for reporting.</i>			
<b>*Reagents breakdown for one month</b>			
Reagent	Amount	Cost	Cost per sample
Colilert Media Packets	1	\$670/200	3.35

SPONSORED BY: MAYOR NOVAK

COUNCILMAN'S RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO.

No. CR-40  
Series of 2006

06-38  
Series of 2006

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING LAB SERVICE FEES FOR THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO, THAT:

The fee schedule attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is hereby adopted and approved as the established lab service fee schedule for the services and documents set forth therein. The Lab Service Fees previously established by Resolution No. 04-73 Series of 2004 are hereby repealed.

DATED at Northglenn, Colorado, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2006.

  
KATHLEEN M. NOVAK  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
DIANA L. LENTZ, CMC  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
HERBERT C. PHILLIPS  
City Attorney

EXHIBIT A

LAB SERVICE FEE POLICY

<u>ANALYSIS NAME</u>	<u>CURRENT PRICE</u>	<u>PROPOSED PRICE</u>
Fluoride	<del>\$10.00</del>	\$12.00
HAA5	New Fee	\$140.00
Heterotrophic Plate Count (HPC)	<del>\$15.00</del>	\$15.00
Nitrates	<del>\$10.00</del>	\$12.00
Metals by ICP (group of 7)	New Fee	\$75.00
Metals by ICP (Individual metal)	New Fee	\$11.00
Total Coliform (Presence/Absence)	<del>\$8.50</del>	\$10.00
TTHM	<del>\$60.00</del>	\$65.00

Laboratory	Fluoride	HAA5	HPC	Nitrates	Metals	Total Coliform	TTHM
Analytica Environmental Labs	\$13.00	\$140.00		\$13.00	\$142.00	\$16.00	\$62.00
Colorado Analytical	\$12.00			\$12.00	\$198.00	\$25.00	
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment	\$15.00	\$180.00	\$22.50	\$20.00	\$200.00	\$20.25	\$100.00
Evergreen Analytical	\$22.00	\$165.00		\$20.00	\$162.00*		\$75.00
Industrial Laboratories			\$20.00			\$25.00	
Severn Trent Laboratories	\$15.00			\$15.00	\$100.00	\$25.00	\$100.00
Local Average Price	\$15.40	\$161.67	\$21.25	\$16.00	\$160.00	\$22.25	\$84.25
Northglenn (Current Prices)	\$10.00	**	\$15.00	\$10.00	***	\$8.50	\$60.00
Northglenn (Proposed Prices)	\$12.00	\$140.00	\$15.00	\$12.00	\$75.00	\$10.00	\$65.00

**Price Comparison of Denver Area Laboratories**

