

Date: 15 June 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

MEASURES TO BE TAKEN WHEN RE-OPENING/RE-STARTING OF SWIMMING POOLS AND WATER FOUNTAINS

In preparation for the gradual lifting of measures allowing the resumption of various activities, the National Environment Agency (NEA) would like to remind all owners/occupiers of relevant premises with swimming pools (SPs) and water fountains (WFs) to conduct thorough cleaning and disinfection of these facilities and ensure their water samples pass the regulated limits before re-opening/re-starting. Failure to do so could result in the potential spread of waterborne diseases (e.g. *Legionellosis*) and pose a public health risk.

2. During the Circuit Breaker (CB) period since 7 April 2020 when all regulated SPs and WFs were closed, SPs and WFs were treated at a reduced frequency of once every 2 weeks. WFs have to be drained of water and kept dry, unless they have auto-dosing pumps installed. Laboratory tests are not required during this period.

3. Premises owners/occupiers are reminded that all SPs and WFs shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected, and tested before re-opening/re-starting. You may refer to the Guidelines for Managing Water Quality for Cooling Towers (CTs), SPs and WFs During the Period of Heightened Safe Distancing Measures for guidance.

4. Water samples shall be collected and tested by laboratories accredited by Singapore Accreditation Council (SAC). The water samples must pass the regulated limits stipulated in the Environmental Public Health (Swimming Pools) Regulations before re-opening of SPs and Environmental Public Health (Cooling Towers and Water Fountains) Regulations before re-starting of WFs. The water treatment regime shall revert to the pre-CB period after thorough cleaning.

5. For SPs with aerosol-generating features, you are advised to include Total *Legionella* Counts (TLC) test to ensure the aerosol generated from the aerosol-generating features is not contaminated with *Legionella* bacteria which could compromise public health. The TLC shall not exceed 1 CFU/100 ml as recommended by SS556:2010 Code of Practice for the Design and Management of Aquatic Facilities. A list of laboratories conducting TLC tests could be found in Annex A.

6. We hereby urge all premises owners/occupiers to remain vigilant in ensuring that the water quality in SPs and WFs pass the regulated limits, so as to minimise the risk of waterborne infection. NEA will continue to carry out checks on the water quality of SPs and WFs. We will not hesitate to take enforcement action for any contravention of the Regulations.

7. If you need any clarification, you may contact NEA via an online feedback form on the NEA website or myENV app.

Thank you.



TONY TEO
DIRECTOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

Annex A: List of SAC accredited laboratories for Total Legionella Counts (TLC)

Laboratory	Contact Number	Email Address
ALS Technichem	6589 0138	ken.lam@alsglobal.com
Amlab Services	6663 9826	jason.leing@amlab.com.sg
Analytical Laboratories (S) Pte Ltd	6746 0886 6671 9213	phangka@analabs.com.sg
Astar Laboratory Pte Ltd	6339 6136	rose@astarlab.com.sg
Cast Laboratories	6801 6000	cast@castlab.com.sg
Chemical Laboratory (S) Pte Ltd	6253 6122	angelazew@hotmail.com
EcoLab	6500 4900	ghimlee.poon@ecolab.com
Eurofins	6453 6038 6455 3548	MinXuanAng@eurofins.com
Marchwood Laboratory Services Pte Ltd	6790 0118	wongph@mls.sg
Setsco	6895 0643	ongyl@setsco.com
SGS Testing	6379 0202	Raymond.Ong@sgs.com
Singapore Test Services Pte Ltd	6660 7627	wjkoo@stengg.com
STATS Asia Pacific Pte Ltd	6252 6686	leizp@statsasiapac.com
Suez Water Technologies & Solutions Singapore Pte. Ltd.	6833 5000	Regina.chan@suez.com.sg
TUV SUD PSB	6885 1345	Randy.CHIN@tuv-sud-psb.sg