



National Wastewater Surveillance System (NWSS)

Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta, GA 30341-3724

January 24, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

To provide additional support for wastewater surveillance, CDC has awarded a contract to LuminUltra Technologies, Ltd. to conduct SARS-CoV-2 wastewater testing. This contract will test wastewater from 500 treatment plants across the US, including territories and tribal nations. Candidate sampling sites were provided to CDC by state, local, territorial, and tribal health departments. Samples will be collected twice per week and sampling will continue for 12 weeks, with testing beginning in the next few weeks. In addition to total SARS-CoV-2 levels, tests for the Omicron and Delta variants will also be conducted.

The data generated by this contract will be submitted to the National Wastewater Surveillance System (NWSS, <https://bit.ly/NWSSCOVID19>) at CDC. The total SARS-CoV-2 data, but not the variant data, will be publicly available on COVID Data Tracker (<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/>). Results will be provided to state, local, and tribal public health agencies to support the COVID-19 response.

In order to meet these requirements, LuminUltra needs to quickly onboard participating utilities. Engagement from public health agencies in the recruitment process provides assurance that the data will be considered for public health decision-making and is a very compelling justification for utility participation. Utilities may also hear about this contract through the Water Environment Federation (WEF, nwbe.org), which is a partner organization with CDC for NWSS. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact LuminUltra at <https://www.luminultra.com/nwss/>, or the NWSS team at NWSS@cdc.gov.

Sincerely,

Amy E. Kirby, PhD MPH
National Wastewater Surveillance System Lead
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention