



CALIFORNIA

Water Boards

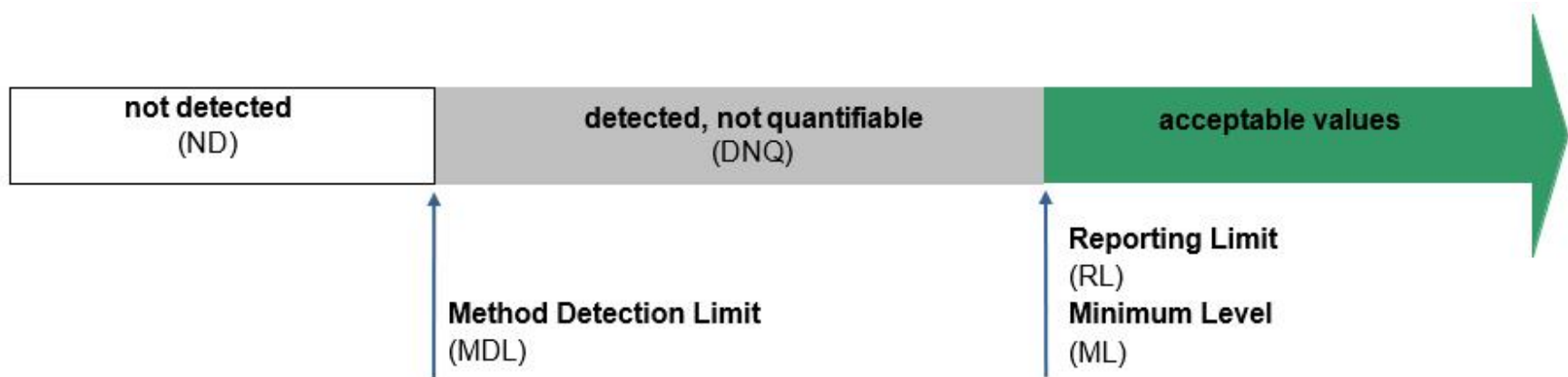
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS

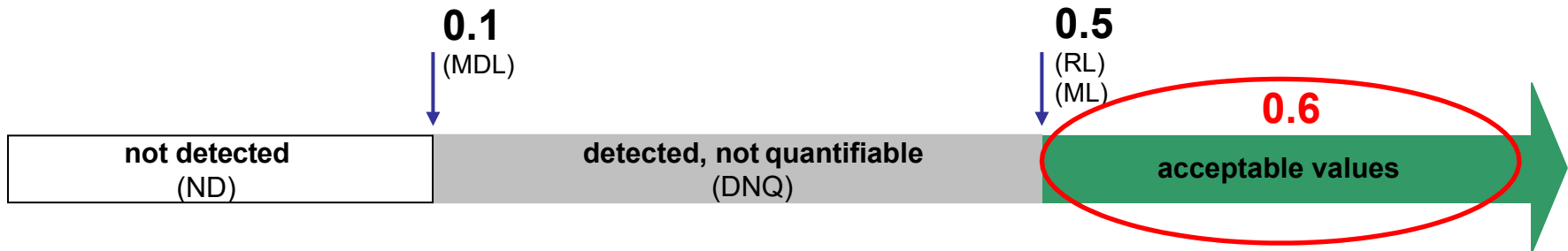


ND / DNQ Guidance

Terminology:

- **Minimum level (ML)** represent the lowest quantifiable concentration in a sample based on the proper application of method-specific analytical procedures and the absence of matrix interferences.
- **Reporting limits (RL)** used by a laboratory may be from the analytical method, derived specifically for that laboratory, instrument or sample matrix; or as directed by a regulatory agency.
- **Method Detection Limit (MDL)** based on the ability of a measurement method to detect an analyte in the absence of a matrix (although sometimes in a sample matrix)



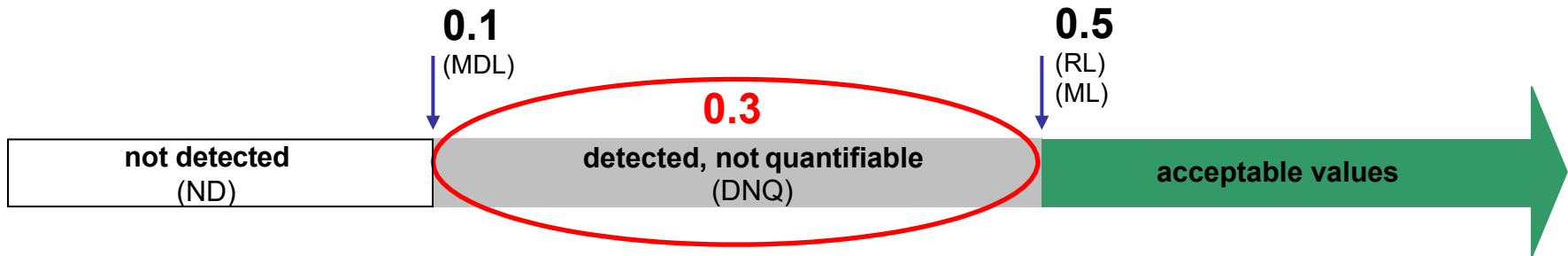


Acceptable values

If your result is greater than or equal to the ML or RL:

- Use '=' as the Qualifier
- Enter the test result
- Ask your Regional Board contact if the MDL, ML or RL is required

	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	Collection Date	Collection Time	Analysis Date	Qualifier	Result	Units	MDL	ML	RL
125	8/15/2011	2:00	8/15/2011	=	1	mg/L			
126	8/16/2011	3:00	8/16/2011	=	0.6	mg/L			
127	8/17/2011	=			1.6	mg/L			
128	8/18/2011	<			1.4	mg/L			
129	8/19/2011	<=			1.2	mg/L			
130	8/20/2011	>			1.3	mg/L			
131	8/3/2011	>=			1.1	ug/L			
132	8/4/2011	ND DNQ			1.2	ug/L			

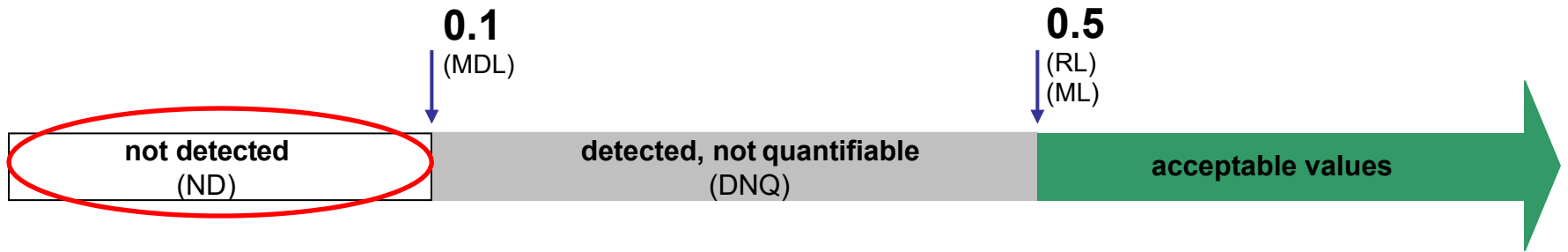


Detected, not quantifiable (DNQ)

If your result is less than ML or RL but greater than or equal to the MDL:

- Use '**DNQ**' as the Qualifier
- Enter the test result
- Enter the **MDL** and [**ML or RL**] along with a QA code if available

	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	Collection Date	Collection Time	Analysis Date	Qualifier	Result	Units	MDL	ML	RL
125	8/15/2011	2:00	8/15/2011	=	1	mg/L			
126	8/16/2011	3:00	8/16/2011	DNQ	0.3	mg/L	0.1	0.5	
127	8/17/2011	=			1.6	mg/L			
128	8/18/2011	<			1.4	mg/L			
129	8/19/2011	<=			1.2	mg/L			
130	8/20/2011	>			1.3	mg/L			
131	8/3/2011	>=			1.1	ug/L			
132	8/4/2011	ND			1.2	ug/L			
		DNQ							



Not detected (ND)

If the analytical result is less than the MDL:

- Use 'ND' as the Qualifier
- Leave the result **blank**
- Enter the **MDL**

	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	Collection Date	Collection Time	Analysis Date	Qualifier	Result	Units	MDL	ML	RL
125	8/15/2011	2:00	8/15/2011	=	1	mg/L			
126	8/16/2011	3:00	8/16/2011	ND		mg/L	0.1		
127	8/17/2011	=			1.6	mg/L			
128	8/18/2011	<			1.4	mg/L			
129	8/19/2011	<=			1.2	mg/L			
130	8/20/2011	>			1.3	mg/L			
131	8/3/2011	>=			1.1	ug/L			
132	8/4/2011	ND			1.2	ug/L			
		DNQ							