

WET Expert Committee

Charter

(Approved March 29, 2017)

Mission

Update and maintain the whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing Standard (TNI Environmental Laboratory Standard, Volume 1, Module 7) based upon public comment, provide technical assistance on issues related to whole effluent toxicity, develop tools to aid implementation and facilitate the implementation of the Standard.

Composition of the Committee

This is an Expert Committee with balanced membership representing TNI's three categories of stakeholders – laboratories, accreditation bodies and other. A number of associate members also participate.

Objectives

1. Standardize Proficiency Testing conditions and endpoints
 - **Success Measure:**
 - Standardize test conditions required for PT/DMRQA WET studies, rather than the current practice of conducting multiple tests using different NPDES permit test conditions, so that a statistically significant number of comparable sample results are available.
 - Improve the statistical power and evaluation of WET data sets and results in PT/DMRQA studies by selecting one statistical method to calculate the test endpoint and eliminating the use of hypothesis test endpoints.
2. Offer expert assistance to TNI on WET testing methods, quality control and data interpretation.
 - **Success Measure:**
 - Educate assessors on IC25 vs. NOEC for PT/DMRQA endpoints.
 - Work with PT providers and assessors to consolidate, clarify, and improve the guidance on acceptable and unacceptable corrective actions for laboratories when a PT/DMRQA study result is outside of the acceptance limits.
3. Revise and maintain the WET module of the TNI standard.

- **Success Measure**
 - Improve the way initial demonstration of capability and continuing demonstration of capability are handled specifically for WET testing.
 - Clarify the appropriate QC for WET supporting chemical analyses.
 - Offer expert assistance to TNI, auditors and laboratories on interpretation of the Standard as it pertains to WET.
4. Work Plan: the committee will create or review the Work Plan on at least an annual basis and as part of any internal audit process.
- **Success Measure:**
 - Work plans are presented to the TNI Board for review on at least an annual basis

Decision Making

Decisions on review of any TNI procedure, policy or guide changes will be made by Majority Vote and in the presence of, or by electronic voting of, a committee quorum; voting options are: Yeah, Nay or Abstain. Exceptions may be made as requested by the chair when there are no objections from the committee members, in which case the decision rule used will be stated clearly.

Available Resources

- Volunteer committee members
- TNI Infrastructure
- Environmental technical community
- Teleconference services
- Administrative support
- Technical editor support

Anticipated Meeting Schedule

- Teleconferences: regular schedule of calls to be published on the TNI website.
- Occasional additional calls and subcommittee meetings as needed.
- Face-to-face meetings as needed at TNI conferences.