

**NEFAP Executive Committee (NEFAP EC)
And
Field Activities Committee (FAC)
Meeting Summary
August 9, 2018**

1. Roll call:

Kirstin Diagle (Chair, NEFAP EC) and Shannon Swantek (Chair, FAC) call the meeting to order on August 9, 2018 at 1pm Central. Attendance - there were 7 NEFAP EC committee members present (Kirstin Diagle, Paul Bergeron, Shawn Kassner, Keith Klemm, Cheryl Morton (for Geneva Bowman), Tracy Szerszen and Nilda Cox) and 5 FAC committee members present (Shannon Swantek, Tyler Sullen, Keith Klemm, Kevin Holbrooks, and Marlene Moore).

2. NEFAP EC

Kirstin provided an overview of the NEFAP EC (see slides in Attachment A). She also provided information on stakeholder input and the NEFAP EC and FAC response.

3. FAC

Shannon provided an overview of the FAC (see slides in Attachment A).

4. Field Activities Accreditation Task Force

Paul provided an over of the Task Force (see slides in Attachment A).

5. NEFAP Marketing/Strategic Planning Subcommittee

See slide in Attachment A. This group was originally formed based on the TNI Strategic Plan. This group has not been active for quite some time, Justin Brown has recently taken the lead of this subcommittee and it will begin work this next month.

6. Differentiating the Field Standard from ISO 17025

To move the program forward, we need to distinguish it from ISO. People want more clarification. Are there other markets that could be interested?

Louisiana has recognized NEFAP, but there are states that cannot accept accreditation activity outside of government activity based on their regulations. Louisiana has a dual program and that is why they have more flexibility. The Task Force will be looking into ways to overcome this stale mate. They are looking for ideas from others.

Kim Watson thinks the Standard needs more guidance language.

Homeland Security has added guidance on sampling - how to develop sampling plans, etc ... How do we collaborate with them in the future? Does some of this need to be in the Standard?

Elizabeth West – Some labs have SOPs where they incorporate reference methods.

Marlene – Need to talk about ISO/IEC 17011 and ISO/IEC 17025. Flexible scopes are possible in ISO/IEC 17011. Don't need air, water, and solids. Show the NELAP group that flexible scopes can work. Based more on technology.

To move NEFAP forward we might not be totally aligned with NELAP. NEFAP is a different Program and has many different stakeholders.

Shannon asked the meeting attendees if they want the same restraints on the field standard as the States in NELAP? There were mixed comments, but in general the response was no.

Mike Shepherd – As much as he would like it to fold into NELAP, they don't want any part of it. The mind set needs to change.

Shawn – The ISO/IEC 17025: 2017 Standard helps NEFAP. It makes it clear sampling is part of the Standard.

Marlene – When they hear TNI they think NEFAP is like NELAP. Some people stay away from NELAP because they don't like how proscriptive it is.

Mohan – Asked if the lab will have to deal with multiple accreditation? Would they need NEFAP and NELAP. This is still being determined.

Kim – Until NELAP says they will recognize NEFAP, this organization needs to continue on their own.

Tracy – NEFAP should stay aligned with ISO/IEC 17025:2017.

Kim – DoD, TNI, NEFAP - you should be able to go to one place.

Cheryl – She is working on establishing a sampling program. It will probably not be under NEFAP.

Kirstin – we want to add value to the NEFAP Standard. It is still consistent with ISO/IEC 17025:2017.

Things that could be added to the Standard include:

- DQOs
- Sampling
- Cleaning validation for equipment
- Container guidance
- Statistical Design

It was asked if we can survey FSMOs about their needs before we get started on the Standard? What would make the Standard more valuable?

Bruce Wickworth, Sampler 11 years – There are essential things in sampling plans that could be touched on. Sometimes the sampling design is regulated. How do you start a plan from scratch? Sometimes you need to see some results before you can finalize the best plan.

How do you determine that the sampler is competent?


7. Action Items

Action items can be viewed in Attachment B.

8. Next Meeting



The next NEFAP EC meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2018 at 1pm Eastern. The next FAC meeting will be planned by email.

The meeting was adjourned at 5pm Central.



National Environmental Field Activities Executive Committee (NEFAP EC)
Field Activities Committee (FAC)


Thursday, August 9, 2018 New Orleans

Agenda – Joint Meeting

Introductions
NEFAP Overview
 Background, Purpose, Program Oversight
 NEFAP Executive Committee
 TNI Field Activities Committee

Current State of NEFAP
 Review ISO Update and Impact on the FSMO Standards
 Standard Revision Update and Discussion
 Open Discussion: NEFAP: Next Steps



About NEFAP

NEFAP is TNI's national program for the accreditation of field sampling and measurement organizations (FSMO).

NEFAP Accreditation assures the organization is technically competent.

The executive committee (NEFAP EC) oversees the NEFAP program.


The FAC is the TNI committee that develops the consensus FSMO standards for the NEFAP program.

NEFAP EC Core Values

The NEFAP EC is committed to establishing and maintaining an accreditation program based on TNI FSMO Consensus Standards that:


- ✓ assure continual improvement of FSMO accreditation processes and,
- ✓ incorporate practical, effective, and clear standards of performance that are consistent with the needs of the environmental community as well as regulatory and industry specific requirements.




NEFAP EC- Stakeholder Groups


17 Active Members & 6 Associate Members


- 7 FSMOs
- 3 ABs
- 7 Other
- 6 Associate Members

NEFAP EC- Who we Are

- Kirstin Daigle (Chair), Stone Environmental, Inc.
- Tracy Szeszen (Vice-Chair), PJLA
- Paul Bergeron, LELAP
- Michelle Bradac, AZLA
- Geneva Bowman AIHA
- Jeff Buystedt, City of Bend Oregon Environmental Compliance
- Nikla Cox, Eurofins Eaton Analytical, Inc.
- Calista Daigle, Dade Moeller
- Jeremy Dwain, Alabama Power Company
- Jacob Gruzalski, Environmental Standards Inc./Vitale Scientific Associates, LLC
- Pamela Hamlett, US Air Force
- Shawn Kassner, Neptune and Company, Inc.
- Keith Klemm, ANAB
- Carl Kircher, FL DOH
- Janis La Roux, H&P Mobile Geochemistry, Inc.
- Norman Rodriguez-Iglesias, EPA Region III
- Russell Schindler – SampleServe.com
- Associates: Marlene Moore, Kim Watson, William Batschelet, John Mooman, Tyler Sullens, Kevin Holbrooks





Field Activities Committee –

- The mission of the TNI Field Activities Committee (FAC) is to develop standards for accrediting bodies and field sampling and measurement organizations. By
 - engaging experts to develop consensus-based standards with the goal of improving the consistency of field methods and the quality of environmental data.
 - providing technical assistance in developing guidance materials to facilitate adoption and use of these standards on a national and international level.
 - Establishing and maintain an environment for standards development that ensures continual improvement of standards that are aligned with the practical constraints of sampling and field measurement as well as regulatory and industry specific requirements.





Field Activities Committee Stakeholder Groups –

14 Active Members

- 5 FSMOs
- 4 ABs
- 5 Other


(12 Associate members)




FAC- Who we Are

- Shannon Swanteki(Chair), ESI.
- Kevin Holbrooks(Vice-Chair), JEA
- Doug Berg, PJLA
- Michelle Bradac, AZLA
- Kyle Flowers, Catalyst Air Management, Inc
- Scott Haas, Environmental Testing Inc
- Keith Klemm, ANAB
- Marlene Moore, Advanced Systems Inc
- Andora Nguyen, Eurofins Eaton Analytical
- Bill Ray, William Ray Consulting LLC
- Russell Schindler, SampleServe
- Kira Stokes, HRSD.
- Tyler Sullens, Alabama Power Company
- Elizabeth West, Louisiana DEQ



Ilona Taunton – Program Administrator

NEFAP Current State



NEFAP accreditation and use of FSMO standards are lower than expectations

- Voluntary Program
- Accreditation Benefits not well recognized
- Inconsistencies in NELAP/NEFAP Accreditation process
- Lack of Visibility with Target Audience
- Competition from other established national and international quality system and accreditation programs.


NEFAP Stakeholder Input


- ✓ Two surveys conducted to obtain information about NEFAP/NELAP from mobile labs, FSMOs, ABs and other stakeholders. The results of the survey were presented by the FAC in August 2014 at FAC meeting in Washington DC.
- ✓ August 2017 NEFAP EC / FAC Joint Meeting in Washington DC used to obtain feedback about program from stakeholders
- ✓ September 2017 NEFAP EC Meeting used to critically assess objectives in NEFAP Charter against stakeholder feedback
- ✓ January 2018 NEFAP EC Meeting / FAC Joint Meeting in New Mexico used to obtain more feedback about program from stakeholders
- ✓ August 2018 NEFAP EC/FAC Joint Meeting in New Orleans used to continue to obtain more feedback about program from stakeholders

What the Stakeholders Said



- NEFAP is not required.
- The FSMO standards, which incorporate ISO/IEC 17025:2005, language verbatim, do not provide sufficient clarity for application of the ISO/IEC requirement to FSMO activities.
- The FSMO standards are too similar to ISO/IEC 17025 to justify NEFAP accreditation in addition to ISO accreditation.
- NEFAP is not known to FSMOs or those that use FSMOs; program marketing is missing target audience.





What the Stakeholders Said


- > There are inconsistencies between NEFAP and NELAP that must be resolved.
- > There is a need to develop a consistent accreditation process for mobile laboratories.
- > NEFAP is not needed. ISO, GLP, GMP and other quality standards are sufficient for industry needs.

NEFAP EC & FAC Response

In May 2018, the TNI Board of Directors approved the NEFAP EC's request to establish the Field Activities Task Force.

This group is chartered to develop an organizational approach to field activities accreditation throughout all TNI programs including NELAP, TNI Environmental Laboratory Standard Recognition and NEFAP.




Field Activities Task Force

Under the direction of the TNI Board of Directors, the Field Activities Task Force will:


- ✓ Develop and recommend consistent policies for the accreditation of field activities; including the standardization of the approach to listing scopes of accreditation.
- ✓ Develop an organizational approach to field activities including mobile laboratories under multiple TNI programs and identify or clarify when each program is appropriate for accreditation.
- ✓ Recommend standard definition of mobile laboratories and field activities (e.g.; sampling, testing).




Field Activities Task Force

Established June 2018


Paul Bergeron, Chair, Louisiana DEQ
 Nick Nigro, Vice-Chair, Pace Analytical
 Natalie Hammonds, Weston Solutions
 Scott Brown, Clean Air Engineering, Inc.
 Myron Gunalus, Kansas Department of Health and Environment
 Ken Lancaster, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
 Marlene Moore, Advanced Systems Inc.
 Kim Watson, Stone Environmental Inc.
 Scott Haas, Environmental Testing Inc.
 Mike Shepherd, Shephard Technical Services
 Janis LaRoux, H&P Mobile Geochemistry, Inc.
 Victoria Pretti, New York

NEFAP EC & FAC Response

The NEFAP EC Strategic Planning/Marketing Subcommittee will assess the NEFAP plan against stakeholder input and adjust course as necessary to promote the goals of the program. The TNI Strategic Plan will also be reviewed and incorporated into this plan.

- ✓ Justin Brown will re-establish this subcommittee and begin work this summer.






NEFAP EC & FAC Response

The FAC has communicated intent to update the FSMO standards based on stakeholder input

- ❑ How do we add value to the FSMO Standards?
- ❑ Should the scope of the FSMO Standard be expanded into non-environmental areas?

How does the new version of ISO/IEC 17025 impact the FSMO Standards?







ISO/IEC 17025:2017

What is the impact of the new version on the FSMO Standard?


- > Update on Wednesday's Special Session



Standard Revision Update

- > Initiated review of Field Sampling and Measurement Organization (FSMO) Standards – Volume 1 and Volume 2
 - + Notice of Intent(May 11, 2017)
 - + ANSI Notification(May 12, 2017)
 - + Notice of intent posted on TNI Website(June 12, 2017)
 - + Public comment meeting(DC Meeting) (August 2017)
 - + Letter to interested parties and stakeholders(Nov 10,2017)
 - + Reformatting of Current Standards to new ISO format. In process

Awaiting guidance on impacts of new ISO Standard Language



Next Steps for NEFAP

OPEN DISCUSSION

How will updates to the FSMO Standards affect the NEFAP Plan?

What is the true marketability of NEFAP?

What direction should NEFAP take?

Should NEFAP expand outside of environmental FSMO activities?

