

Summary of the NELAP Accreditation Council Meeting February 7, 2011

1. Roll call

The NELAP Accreditation Council (AC) met at 1:30 PM EST on February 7, 2011. Those members in attendance are listed in Attachment 1.

2. Request for a Procedure for how an AB can add or change technologies between evaluations

Aaren asked that this be referred to the Laboratory Accreditation Systems Executive Committee, and probably to the Laboratory Accreditation Body Expert Committee, to prepare

3. Update from Conference in Savannah

Aaren apologized for the quality of the teleconferencing into the Savannah AC meeting, and provided her updates from meetings attended. These are summarized below.

PT Expert Committee

The Temporary Interim Amendment (TIA) process won't actually address the AC's concerns with the PT standard, since they will not alter the standard already adopted now, so effectively, ABs will need to use the TNI Standard PT modules as they were adopted in 2009.

PT Executive Committee

The PT EC will remove experimental tables upon request. Aaren's draft letter, now in circulation, will make this happen. The PT EC sought a statement that no ABs require the experimental PTs, but this is not the case (NJ does), so that cannot be included. The experimental tables will become a state-specific requirement for NH. New FoPT tables are arriving shortly; Drinking Water is now ready, with Non-potable Water and Solids arriving soon.

Other issues (analysis date, non-approved providers, and the LOQ reporting) will have to be managed by the ABs. It was noted that PT providers (at least one) are implementing the new standard now, and the laboratory must comply with the 5-7 month timeframe for the providers even prior to the 7/1 implementation date of the AC adopted standard.

Quality System Expert Committee

The Working Draft Standard proposed by the QS Committee did not receive the necessary two-thirds vote of the committee when it was put to the membership. Thus the Standard failed, and must be re-drafted and re-voted out of committee in order to reach vote as a Working Draft Standard again. Presumably, committee members believed they had already approved this version and did not need to vote with the full membership vote.

AB Assistance Task Force (TF)

A list of possible items and activities thought to be helpful to the ABs was proposed by the TF. These will be brought to the AC shortly, as the presentation will be distributed and the

TF Chair will join an AC meeting to discuss it.

IT Committee

Dan Hickman, TNI Database Administrator, is working to standardize and establish new method codes and analyte codes. He will undertake to clean up the lists if an AB provides them to Dan.

On-Site Expert Committee

This group discussed frequency of on-site visits and training. Also the possibility of joining together with the Laboratory Accreditation Body Expert Committee in order to avoid future confusion and repeat of the duplicative efforts that occurred in development of the 2009 TNI Standard.

CITF and NEFAP – attended, not much relayed to AC

4. AC Meeting Recap for those who couldn't hear on the conference call (please see also the minutes of the February 3 AC meeting)

Implementation of the TNI standard

NH, VA, and KS cannot implement anytime soon. LA DEQ and CA hope for "soon" but George says during discussion that CA's implementation will be much later now. NJ implementation date is uncertain. All ABs will continue reciprocity regardless of which standard is in use.

There needs to be a policy about the rolling implementation of the new standard. Aaren asked for volunteers by 2/14, if AB members want to develop this policy themselves, else she will request that the LAC EC (and/or the LAB Expert Committee) draft the policy on an expedited schedule. The policy needs to include general concepts as well as how labs should handle two primary ABs with different standards. (PA NOTE: the evaluators came up with many more details needing to be addressed during their 2/9/2011 conference call.)

All of the initial AB renewals will have the same 30-day extension, to accommodate the delays caused by waiting for evaluators to be trained.

5. TNI Board Meeting Recap

The TNI Board agreed with the AC having a rolling implementation. Lynn also asked that the ABs know she will be contacting them for information about which ABs accredit field sampling and measurement organizations now, since the Board has asked for a white paper about the overlap between NELAP and NEFAP.

6. Evaluator Training

The AB evaluation training was good, and Aaren offered kudos to the trainer. Aaren also recommends that AB representatives take the webinar, not just those who will serve as evaluators, since it highlights the major differences between the standards, which must be addressed during implementation.

7. Additional Question about SW-846 Update 4

Bill relayed that he'd been told by one of his labs that NY is adopting Update 4 but CA

won't accept it, so that the lab's secondary accreditations might be endangered. George said that the lab should contact CA directly, since CA isn't adopting Update 4 but will deal with laboratories that need it, and Stephanie (NY) noted that there has been much miscommunication about New York's actions, particularly about delisting methods slated to be delisted in Update 4.

8. NY requested future discussion on how to deal with the still unresolved PT issues.
9. Next meeting

The next regular conference call of the NELAP AC should be on **TUESDAY, February 22, 2011**, at 1:30 pm Eastern, due to the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday on Monday.

Potential agenda items will include:

- Approval of minutes
- Update on renewals, including training attendance
- Feedback on SIR voting?
- How to deal with unresolved PT issues
- Other items as may become known

Attachment 1

STATE	REPRESENTATIVE	PRESENT
CA	George Kulasingam T: (510) 620-3155 F: (510) 620-3165 E: gkulasin@cdph.ca.gov	yes
	Alternate: Jane Jensen E: jjensen@cdph.ca.gov	no
FL	Stephen Arms T: (904) 791-1502 F: (904) 791-1591 E: steve_arms@doh.state.fl.us	yes
	Alternate: Carl Kircher E: carl_kircher@doh.state.fl.us	no
IL	Scott Siders T: (217) 785-5163 F: (217) 524-6169 E: scott.siders@illinois.gov	yes
	Alternate: TBA	
KS	Dennis L. Dobson 785-291-3162 E: ddobson@kdhe.state.ks.us F: (785) 296-1638	no
	Alternate: Michelle Wade E: MWade@kdheks.gov	yes
LA DEQ	Paul Bergeron T: 225-219-1244 F: 225-219-8244 E: Paul.Bergeron@la.gov	yes
	Alternate: TBD	
LA DHH	Louis Wales T: (225) 342-8491 F: (225) 342-7494 E: lwales@dhh.la.gov	yes
	Alternate: Ginger Hutto E: ghutto@dhh.la.gov	

MN	Susan Wyatt T: 651.201.5323 F: E: susan.wyatt@state.mn.us	no
	Alternate: Stephanie Drier E: stephanie.drier@state.mn.us	no
NH	Bill Hall T: (603) 271-2998 F: (603) 271-5171 E: george.hall@des.nh.gov	yes
	Alternate: TBD	
NJ	Joe Aiello T: (609) 633-3840 F: (609) 777-1774 E: joseph.aiello@dep.state.nj.us	No
	Alternate : TBD	(Rachel)
NY	Stephanie Ostrowski T: (518) 485-5570 F: (518) 485-5568 E: seo01@health.state.ny.us	Yes
	Alternate: Dan Dickinson E: dmd15@health.state.ny.us	no
OR	Irene Ronning T: 503-693-4122 F: 503-693-5602 E: irene.e.ronning@state.or.us	no
	Alternate: Raeann Haynes E: haynes.raeann@deq.state.or.us	no
	Alternate for 12/20/10: Scott Hoatson E: hoatson.scott@deq.state.or.us	no
PA	Aaren Alger T: (717) 346-8212 F: (717) 346-8590 E: aaalger@state.pa.us	yes
	Alternate: Dana Marshall E: dmarshall@state.pa.us	no

TX	Stephen Stubbs T: (512) 239-3343 F: (512) 239-4760 E: sstubbs@tceq.state.tx.us	yes
	Alternate: Steve Gibson E: jgibson@tceq.state.tx.us	no
UT	David Mendenhall T: (801) 584-8470 F: (801) 584-8501 E: davidmendenhall@utah.gov	yes
	Alternate: Kristin Brown E: kristinbrown@utah.gov	no
VA	Cathy Westerman T: 804-648-4480 ext.391 E: cathy.westerman@dgs.va.gov	no
	Alternate: Ed Shaw T: 804-648-4480 ext.152 E: ed.shaw@dgs.va.gov	no
	NELAP AC Program Administrator and Evaluation Coordinator Lynn Bradley T: 703-867-5966 E: LmbTbird@aol.com	yes
EPA Liaison	Arthur Clark T: 617-918-8374 F: 617-918-8274 E: clark.arthur@epa.gov	yes
	Quality Assurance Officer Paul Ellingson T: 801-201-8166 E: altasnow@gmail.com	yes
	Oklahoma David Caldwell Judy Duncan	no
	Guests: none invited	