

Summary of the NELAP Accreditation Council Meeting
July 6, 2015

1. Roll Call and Approval of Minutes

The NELAP Accreditation Council (AC) met at 1:30 pm EST on Monday, June 15, 2015. The minutes from June 15, 2015, were approved. Those members in attendance are listed in Attachment 1.

2. Action Items Pending

Aaren requests that all AB representatives review the latest version of the standards undergoing revision, as preparation for the joint meeting at conference with the LASEC. These may be found using the hyperlinks on the webpage "Latest Standards Development Activity" at http://nelac-institute.org/content/CSDP/standards.php?ap3=1_5

3. Request from Dan Hickman for AC Consensus on Method Codes for Calculations Using Multiple Methods

Dan Hickman, TNI's Database Administrator, asked for a consensus recommendation from the AC about whether he should create method codes for all the possible method revisions that could be used as input for the analytical methods that are actually a calculation using multiple methods. A number of these methods are found in 40 CFR Part 136, and he's getting requests for method codes for many different permutations of those.

While most ABs present indicated that they do not actually accredit these "calculation methods" as methods, but do accredit the methods that provide the data used for the "calculation methods," at least three NELAP ABs do accredit the individual "calculation methods" with designation of which determinative methods provide the data for the calculation, and list the "calculation method" on the scopes along with the determinative method. Apparently only one AB (LA DEQ) tracks the method revisions used to provide data for the "calculation method," and indicated that if TNI method codes were not available, it would need to create internal codes to use.

Some questions were ask about whether it is NELAP ABs requesting the codes, or if it's labs and non-NELAP states. Anyone can request a method code.

The consensus of the group was that new method codes need to be created when requested, but only upon request -- that creation of method codes for all possible combinations of methods that could be utilized to provide data to the "calculation methods" would be pointless.

4. Discussion of Possible Revisions to the NELAP Evaluation Program to Avoid Future COI Surprises

While time was allotted for this issue, on the agenda, there were no further comments on the subject. This will be a topic for the Thursday morning AC meeting at conference.

5. New Business

Aaren asked whether there was any interest in establishing a policy for the term length for the AC Chair and Vice Chair. The joking response was that one is elected for life, but there was no serious interest in establishing such a policy. Aaren stated that she's content to continue as chair, indefinitely, but that the possibility of bringing in a new leader had been raised by someone else, and she wants the AC to know that if someone else wishes to try the chair role, she'll be happy to cooperate.

6. Agendas for NELAP AC Sessions at Conference

The AC has two sessions on Thursday, July 16.

The first is 10:30 am – noon Central time, and is a meeting of the AC only. The agenda will be an update on the AB evaluations and changes to the process, and then discussion of possible ways to revise the evaluation process in order to avoid future COI problems.

The second session is 1 – 4 pm Central time, and is joint with the LASEC. That agenda will be to discuss the LASEC's reviews and recommendations for the revised standards that are becoming available.

7. Next Meeting

The next meetings of the AC will be at conference, in Chicago, on Thursday July 16, as noted in item 6 above. Teleconference information will be sent separately. NOTE: A speakerphone will be available ONLY for the afternoon session, 1-4 pm CENTRAL TIME. That number will be 1-605-475-2090, passcode 155258#.

The next NELAP Assessor call will be Monday, August 3, and the topic will be assessing mobile labs. A "hold the date" notice was sent out and all ABs requested to notify their assessors of the upcoming event.

The next teleconference meeting of the AC will take place on Monday, July 6, 2015, at 1:30 pm Eastern. An agenda and teleconference information will be sent out before the meeting.

Attachment 1

STATE	REPRESENTATIVE	PRESENT
FL	Stephen Arms T: (904) 791-1502 F: (904) 791-1591 E: steve.arms@flhealth.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Carl Kircher E: carl.kircher@flhealth.gov	Yes
IL	Scott Siders T: (217) 785-5163 F: (217) 524-6169 E: scott.siders@illinois.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Janet Cruse T: 217-785-0601 E: Janet.Cruse@illinois.gov	No
KS	N. Myron Gunsalus 785-291-3162 E: ngunsalus@kdheks.gov	No
	Alternate: Sara Hoffman shoffman@kdheks.gov	Yes Also Nick Reams
LA DEQ	Paul Bergeron T: 225-219-3185 E: Paul.Bergeron@la.gov	Yes
	Alternate: TBD	
LA DHH	Donnell Ward T: E: donnell.ward@la.gov	No
	Alternate: TBD	
MN	Lynn Boysen E: lynn.boysen@state.mn.us	Yes
	Alternate: TBD	
NH	Bill Hall T: (603) 271-2998 F: (603) 271-5171 E: george.hall@des.nh.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Tyler Croteau Tyler.Croteau@des.nh.gov	No

NJ	Michele Potter T: (609) 633-3870 F: (609) 777-1774 E: joseph.aiello@dep.state.nj.us	Yes
	Alternate : Rachel Ellis E: rachel.ellis@dep.state.nj.us	No
NY	Mike Ryan T: (518) 473-3424 F: (518) 485-5568 E: michael.ryan@health.ny.gov	No
	Alternate: Victoria Pretti victoria.pretti@health.ny.gov	No
	Included for information purposes: Lynn McNaughton lynn.mcnaughton@health.ny.gov	No
OR	Gary Ward T: 503-693-4122 F: 503-693-5602 E: gary.k.ward@state.or.us	No
	Shannon Swantek T: 503-693-5784 E: Shannon.swantek@state.or.us	No
	Included for information purposes: Scott Hoatson T: (503) 693-5786 E: hoatson.scott@deq.state.or.us	No
PA	Aaren Alger T: (717) 346-8212 F: (717) 346-8590 E: aaalger@pa.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Yumi Creason E: ycreason@pa.gov	Yes
TX	Ken Lancaster T: (512) 239-1990 E: Ken.Lancaster@tceq.texas.gov	No
	Ruthie Wedig E: Ruth.Wedig@tceq.texas.gov	No
UT	Kristin Brown T: (801) 965-2540 F: (801) 965-2544 E: kristinbrown@utah.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Jill Jones T: (801) 965-3899 E: jilljones@utah.gov	No

VA	Cathy Westerman T: 804-648-4480 ext.391 E: cathy.westerman@dgs.virginia.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Ed Shaw T: 804-648-4480 ext.152 E: ed.shaw@dgs.virginia.gov	No
NELAP AC PA and EC	Lynn Bradley T: 540-885-5736 E: lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org	Yes
EPA Liaison	Donna Ringel T: 732-321-4383 E: Ringel.Donna@epa.gov	No
California	Christine Sotelo Christine.Sotelo@waterboards.ca.gov	No
Oklahoma	David Caldwell E: David.Caldwell@deq.ok.gov	Yes
Guests:		