

TNI Stationary Source Audit Sample (SSAS) Expert Committee Dec. 14, 2015 Teleconference Minutes

Attendance:

Tom Widera – Chair ERA (Provider)	Committee member	Present
Charles Simon – Vice Chair VOC Reporting, Inc. (Laboratory)	Committee member	Present
Mike Hayes Linde (Provider)	Committee member	Absent
Paul Meeter, Weston Solutions (Stationary Source Tester)	Committee member	Absent
Bob O’Brien Sigma-Aldrich (Provider)	Committee member	Absent
Michael Schapira Enthalpy (Laboratory)	Committee member	Present
Katie Strickland Element One, Inc. (Laboratory)	Committee member	Present
Ed MacKinnon – TRC Environmental Corp (Stationary Source Tester)	Committee member	Present
Danny Wong New Jersey DEP (State Government)	Committee member	Absent
Andrew Chew EPA (Federal Government)	Committee member	Absent
Nishant Bhatambrekar GE Power and Water (Stationary Source Tester)	Committee member	Absent
Maria Friedman – Test America (Laboratory)	Associate member	Absent
Michael Klein New Jersey DEP (State Government)	Associate member	Absent
Gregg O’Neal North Carolina DAQ (State Government)	Associate member	Present
Jim Serne TRC Environmental Corp (Stationary Source Tester)	Associate member	Present
Stanley Tong EPA Region 9 (Federal Government)	Associate member	Present
Katie Shonk, AQS	Guest	Present
Tom Maza Michigan Dept of Environmental Quality (State Government)	Guest	Present
Lauren Smith (A2LA - Provider Accreditor)	Guest	Present

Call to Order

Tom Widera began discussions at approximately 1407 EDT. There was not a quorum present.

Review of minutes

Without a quorum the minutes were briefly discussed, but voting would be handled by e-mail.

Membership Update

Michael Klein has been approved by TNI and will replace Danny Wong on the committee, effective January 1, 2016. Mike Schapira's term expires on December 31, 2015. Mike will stay on as an associate member. Mike will also remain as the chair of the M8 sub-committee.

Charles brought up the point that only 1 person from each organization can serve on the committee. He asked Mike Schapira if there was anyone in his organization that could sit on the committee for a year until Mike can return in 2017. Mike replied that he brought that up to his organization and they felt it was not necessary to try to bring someone up to speed on committee activities and they would wait until 2017 when Mike can return.

Tom mentioned that at the first meeting of each year, elections need to be made for Chair, Vice-Chair, and a Program Administrator (if desired). Tom asked if there was anyone interested in these duties. Charles mentioned that he would be interested in continuing as Vice-Chair. Tom indicated that he would be interested in continuing as Chair.

Charter Update

The SSAS charter must be updated each year. Even though it was updated in September 2015 due to a significant number of changes in membership, it still needs to be updated in January. Tom asked for recommendations to changes in the charter.

An agreement for milestones for 2016 would be to continue the investigation into providing gaseous audit samples for M25, continue investigating the high failure rates for M8 audits, revise V1M2, and investigate the potential of lowering some of the concentration ranges for audit samples.

Stan mentioned to add mercury on filter as a success.

Charles mentioned that he was not sure we ever submitted M25Z to OAQPS.

SSAS Standards Update

V1M1 and V1M3 changes were accepted by EPA. We are now waiting on William to post them to the website. We will start looking into revising V1M3 in 2016.

Discussion on Lowering Concentration Ranges

The discussion on adding investigating lowering the concentration ranges on the SSAS table as a milestone for 2016 sparked an excellent conversation on the logistics for doing this.

Tom mentioned that it is extremely common to get audit sample requests at the low end of the current range and even below the current range. It is most common for halides and metals. Should we target these audits or look at all the audits. Tom suggested that we start the investigation with the metals and halides.

Gregg asked if it would be possible to piggy back a pilot study of samples with audits already being sent out. Also, that the analysis of these samples would be voluntary to get the ball rolling.

Jim asked if these samples would be in addition to or in lieu of a regular audit sample and would these samples be sent for free or would there be a charge for them.

Tom said he would talk to his finance people to see if ERA could send these out free of charge.

Katie was asked how she would feel about getting this extra sample to analyze. She said it shouldn't be an issue to run one extra sample, but would have to clear it with her organization. Katie asked how the reporting would be handled. She also mentioned that the samples need to be labeled different, so there would be no confusion with the regular audit sample.

Charles suggested we just label the samples as a pilot study.

Stan asked if the labs would need to run this at their own cost and Charles replied yes. He mentioned that the M25 pilot study was done at the cost of the labs.

Tom asked if we should send out an email to labs currently running these audits to see if they would be willing to participate and what we should target as the concentration range.

Charles mentioned to use 2x and 10x lower and one in between. He also mentioned talking to the stack testers. Stan mentioned we look at samples already received and discuss the ranges with the regulators.

Method 25 Audit Sample Update

Charles prepared a document for submission to EPA to request changes to SSAS Table for the Method 25 audits. The current table lists a regression equation that sets limits at 55-149% at the low concentration of 150 and 85-116% at the high concentration of 2500.

Charles' proposal suggests we set the limits at $\pm 20\%$ for concentrations greater than 250 and $\pm 40\%$ at concentrations below 250. The proposal also suggests we amend the concentration range to 120-2900, based on the pilot study conducted. This would allow us to get started on the program and look at possibly tightening the limits based on data collected.

Charles submitted the pilot study as supporting documentation for the proposal.

Charles asked if the committee needs to vote on the proposal before submitting to EPA. Tom indicated that we do need to vote on the proposal. Since there is no quorum present, it would need to be done by email.

Charles also checked with the gas vendors whether they would be willing to deliver the cylinders as well. The gas vendors were very cold to this idea and it sounds like they will not.

Adjournment

Tom suggested our next meeting be on January 11, 2016 at 2 pm ET and that seemed to work with the membership. Tom suggested that we meet on a monthly basis and that the meeting be the second Monday of each month. This would help everyone to plan their schedule. The committee agreed this would be acceptable. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1507 hours EDT.