

**TNI Stationary Source Audit Sample Expert Committee Teleconference
March 16, 2009**

Committee members present:

Maria Friedman
Jim Serne
Candace Sorrell
Gregg O'Neal
Stanley Tong
Jack Herbert
Richard Swartz
Michael Klein

Associate members present:

Shawn Kassner
Mike Miller
Steve Eckard

Guests:

Dan Tholen – A2LA
Frank Jarke – GE Energy
Michael Schapira – Enthalpy

1) Greetings to guest Dan Tholen, A2LA

Dan gave an overview of A2LA's role as an Accreditor for audit sample Providers. In addition to overseeing the Providers, one of A2LA's goals is to help ensure the database is set up properly so the oversight function can be performed efficiently.

2) Review and approval of minutes from teleconference on March 9, 2009

Motion – Richard; Second – Gregg; Minutes approved as written

3) TNI SSAS Program presentation at the SES conference on March 13, 2009

Shawn reported the SES conference was very well attended. Robin Segall from EPA spoke about EPA's plans to no longer provide audit samples for stationary source air testing program. There was a lot of interest and many good questions were asked including: clarification about whether the new privatized program involved PT samples or audit samples, the availability of practice samples, and the status of the various work groups and Providers to be involved in privatizing the program. Participants are looking forward to continuing some version of the audit sample program. Participants also asked about audit samples for methods that were not currently in EPA's program (e.g., Method 5). Ray and Shawn asked for more people to get involved with the SSAS committee.

SES members indicated some States consistently require audit samples while other States are not as regimented. SES members were told this may be resolved by EPA's revision to their General Provisions expected to come out in April 2009.

The deadline for submission of comments from SES is 4/3/2009.

4) Recap of review plan for all WDS

- a) Maria reminded the SSAS committee that she annotates the date when she updates the spreadsheet and that it is constantly being updated. Spreadsheet rolls that are highlighted in yellow have to be revisited or are assignments for committee members. Since we are

expecting to get more comments from the SES, SSAS committee members with outstanding assignments don't have to submit their assignments on the WDS right now, but we will be revisiting those areas when all comments have been received. Shawn indicated one of the items he and Ray were working on might be sent out today, as originally requested.

- b) Candace cautioned that the committee should not use the term "transferring" to say EPA is "transferring" the audit program to TNI. EPA will no longer provide audit samples after September 30 and is only allowing the program to go private.
 - c) The plan is to finish addressing the public comments, resolve the highlighted comments, then address the internal comments.
- 5) **Comments to lines 60 to 70 re. section 10 (data review) of Provider WDS**
Dan submitted his comments, which were emailed to committee on 3/13/09 for review.
- 6) **Comments to line 79 re. section 11.3.2 of Provider WDS**
Highlighted yellow; submitted comments still being reviewed by Maria
- 7) **Comments to lines 80 and 81 (Michael Klein's assignment) of Provider WDS**
We accepted Michael's proposed response to the comments on lines 80 and 81.
- 8) **Commence review of Provider Accreditor WDS**
Line 2 – "Does draft require a technical annex to Vol. 3 or revision of Vol. 3?"
The committee was unclear what the commenter asked. Maria will contact commenter for clarification.
- Line 3 – "Does draft require an EPA standard for technical content?"
Candace was requested to respond and said that an EPA standard is not required.
- Line 4 – Re. consistent use of terms such as "laboratory", "participant", "facility", "FoPT", and "PT Board"
This is already an assignment for Shawn and Ray, from the review of the Provider WDS public comments.
- Line 5 – Add reference to ISO 17011.
ISO 17011 is for any accrediting body, not just for laboratory accrediting. It would be appropriate to add this reference. Agreed to add.
- Line 6 – Replace "Field of Proficiency Testing (FoPT) Table" with "SSAS Table".
This has already been addressed during the review of the Provider WDS public comments. Agreed.
- Line 7 – 3.1 - Remove section 3.1 (definition for SSAS Table)
This term will be used in the module, so it will not be removed.
- Line 8 – 3.3 - Remove last sentence in definition of SSAS Program
The last sentence was moved after discussions in Miami. Maria will ask Jane where the sentence was moved. The committee strove to ensure all the definitions were consistent between the 3 WDS.

Line 9 – 3.4 - Replace "accredited by the TNI-approved SSAS PA" with "that offers an SSAS program". See section 6.0.
Keep existing wording and add to end "in accordance with Section 6.0 of this Standard, Vol. XX Module YY."

Line 10 – 4.1.1 a) - Replace "matrix" with "sampling media".
We should use both terms as a matrix is what the sample is made from - chloride in water, chloride in soil vs sampling media (for Method 23: XAD resin or Method 18: pressurized canister). Agreed to use the phrase "matrix or collection media, as appropriate"

Line 11 – 4.2.3 - Replace "seeking to be" with "designated as" (re. selection of SSAS Provider Accreditor).
Agreed

Line 12 – 4.3.2 a) - Maybe just include verification testing in the database (re. criteria for oversight of providers by provider accreditor)
Confusion may be arising due to the potential for different databases (Provider in-house database [or record] and TNI "failure rate" database). Maria will contact the PT Board to get their opinion.

Line 13 – 4.3.2 b) - Are items i to iv relevant?
See Line 12 above. Steve indicated that if an audit sample result had to go through a referee lab, labs would like to know if the audit sample lot had a high percentage of unacceptable results. Dan pointed out that in any complaint, the laboratory should go to the Provider first. Note that section 6.0 of the Participants WDS addresses complaints handling and resolution.

Shawn indicated audit sample results would be uploaded on a periodic basis, Maria said "periodic" can be determined between the provider accreditor and the provider.

Line 14 – 5.1.2 b) - Replace "that conforms with" with "in".
Agreed

Line 15 – New - 5.1.2 f)
Add new section 5.1.2 f) as follows: "having or have access to technical expertise in ISO/IEC Guide 43a or ILAC G13, for the design and operation of proficiency testing schemes."
All – Provide comments to Maria and Jane by COB 3/17/09.

9) Actions/ Reminders

- a) All – provide your comments regarding line 15 (see above) of the Provider Accreditor WDS, by COB 3/17/09, 5pm Eastern / 2pm Pacific.
- b) All – provide your comments to Dan's response to comments on section 10 of the Provider WDS, by COB today (3/16/09).
- c) All – send all other comments re. WDS by due date of 4/3/09, for review for incorporation (if approved) into the VDS. Comments received after that time will not be reviewed until the next revision of the SSAS Standards.

10) Next Meeting – 3/23/09, 2pm Eastern

Motion to adjourn – Maria, Second – Gregg; meeting ended at 3:35 Eastern.