

TNI Stationary Source Audit Sample Expert Committee Teleconference
July 10, 2012, 2:00 pm EDT

Attendance:

Maria Friedman – Chair TestAmerica (Laboratory)	Committee member	present
Mike Hayes Linde (Provider)	Committee member	present
Michael Klein New Jersey DEP (State government)	Committee member	present
Theresa Lowe CCI Environmental	Committee member	present
Paul Meeter Weston Solutions (Stationary Source Tester)	Committee member	absent
Gregg O’Neal, North Carolina DAQ (State government)	Committee member	present
Michael Schapira Enthalpy (Laboratory)	Committee member	present
Jim Serne TRC Solutions (Stationary Source Tester)	Committee member	present
Richard Swartz, Vice-chair Missouri DNR (State government)	Committee member	present
Stanley Tong EPA Region 9 (Federal government)	Committee member	absent
Ken Jackson TNI (Program Administrator)	Program Administrator	absent
Ty Garber Wibby (Provider)	Associate member	absent
Shawn Kassner ERA (Provider)	Associate member	absent
Mike Miller (Member at large)	Associate member	present
Wayne Stollings (Triangle Env. Services)	Guest	present
William Daystrom TNI (Webmaster)	Guest	present
Charles Simon (VOC Reporting)	Guest	present

- 1) Double-check receipt of documents to be referenced in this teleconference.

All present confirmed receipt of the documents e-mailed July 9, 2012.

- 2) Review and approve minutes from the teleconference on June 18, 2012.

At Michael Klein’s request, the third sentence of Section 4 was amended to state: “Michael Klein stressed that while he is a regulator, he is not involved with enforcement, and he wanted that distinction noted.”

The sixth sentence of Section 4 was amended to read: “He provided a spreadsheet of the completed survey, and a field data sheet for M25 for which Michael Klein suggested improvements. “

It was moved by Gregg and seconded by Theresa to approve the minutes as amended. Approval was unanimous.

3) Chair update

Maria reported that EPA had still not responded to her request for comment on the SSAS table, and she would continue to follow up with them. On the SSAS table management SOP, Candace at EPA had told Maria they did not like using default acceptance for new methods/analytes. However, they would allow provisional limits to be established from data gathered from laboratories that have done the tests, provided the source of the data is documented. Maria suggested addressing this during the August meeting in Washington DC.

Maria also reported there has been no progress on obtaining a second audit sample provider, as required for the program to function. She will ask ACLASS if they can approach a possible provider that has shown some interest in the program, provided there is no question of conflict of interest in them doing this. There was some discussion on this topic, and it was generally expressed that the provider accreditors should be free to solicit potential providers. Gregg suggested that TNI should encourage both provider accreditors, perhaps informally at the August meeting in Washington DC, to help recruit new providers. Maria agreed that she would approach the TNI Executive Director on this topic.

4) Update from Method 25 Subcommittee

Charles reported that the subcommittee had been voting to decide which topics should be retained for consideration and which should be dropped from further discussion. 10 of the 13 subcommittee members have voted so far, and they have narrowed down the 25 topics to 10 that need to be discussed further. Wayne has reported some experience with testing aerosolized VOC that will get counted on a Method 25 analyzer depending on the filter size used. This could cause an error with Method 25 (but not method 25A) if VOCs become aerosolized in the stack when the requisite Method 25 filter is used for collection. This may become the biggest topic the subcommittee needs to address. Charles will do some side-by-side testing of the Method 25 filters and filters with a 2.2 μm cut-off that he has used in his laboratory on inlets where there is aerosolized VOC.

Maria asked if it must be made clear the testers will know what is meant if they are told to follow the "standard practice" for sample collection; i.e., that they are knowledgeable enough. Also, is it necessary to ensure consistency in procedures such as cleaning the traps. Charles responded that the method requirements do not even tell you how to clean your traps. Most laboratories have their own ways of doing things, and as a result of their experience they do things beyond the method requirements. Michael Klein expressed concern that laboratories less experienced than those of Charles and Wayne may use Method 25, and then it must be assured that they are made aware of, and able to apply the more thorough methodology used by those two laboratories. Charles responded that his and Wayne's laboratories are the only two outside California that do Method 25, but he agreed the method must be written in a way that any new laboratory can competently follow the method. Mike Miller emphasized that critical steps in the method then need to say "shall" rather than "should". Jim pointed out that EPA may take years to change the test method, so it will be important to also publish good guidance to encourage laboratories to follow the more rigorous protocols of Charles and Wayne. He suggested getting EPA engaged with what they are doing so the improvements being proposed eventually get in the method, and in the meantime get them into the frequently asked questions page on the web to encourage people to follow this good guidance.

5) Next Steps

The next meeting will be at the Environmental Measurement Symposium in Washington DC on August 9. Conference call facilities will be set up, but voting members of the Committee were reminded that TNI can normally provide travel assistance for them to attend the meeting. Charles expects to have a report ready for discussion at that meeting. Maria suggested finalizing the SSAS table SOP by e-mail, so it also can be discussed at the Washington DC meeting.

6) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm EDT.

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- 1) Double-check receipt of documents to be referenced in this teleconference
- 2) Review and approve minutes from teleconference on June 18, 2012
- 3) Chair update
- 4) Update from Method 25 Subcommittee