

**TNI PT Executive Committee
Meeting Summary
(DRAFT)
June 16, 2011**

1) Roll call and approval of minutes:

Chairman Eric Smith called the TNI PT Executive Committee meeting to order on June 16, 2011, at 1:03 PM EST. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 9 Executive Committee members present on the call. Associate members Nicole Cairns(NY State), Mike Weisrock (ACLASS), Patrick Brumfield (RTC), Stephen Arpie, Randy Querry, and Aruna were present..

2) Stuart Nagourney – Air Issue

Eric forwarded the following message to the committee:

I'm the lab. cert. officer for elementOne, Inc., a lab. in NC who specializes in air analyses.

They have raised a concern (see the text below) about the analysis of air PT samples by USEPA Method 29. I think that there is a disconnect that is hindering the generation of reliable results for these PT samples that must be addressed.

I would like to participate in the next PT Exec. Committee call so that this issue can be discussed.

Thanks,

*Stu Nagourney
NJDEP
Office of QA*

Stu believes the PT providers have the flexibility to use any method for analysis, but the labs do not. Curtis agreed, but did not feel that the method they use affects the results of the labs. They are confirming the sample has been made properly.

Stu – The lab is being punished for the method they are running because they are using a method different than what the data is based on. The lab is failing on the high side. A hot plate digestion would work, but it is not normally what they do.

The provider needs to be sure that the PT is appropriate for the methods it is being used for. The PT Executive Committee helps to ensure PTs are made appropriately through the accreditation of the PTPAs.

The appropriate action is to work with the PTPA responsible for the accreditation of the PT Provider the lab is working with. Stu will contact them. If PT Executive Committee members have more questions for Stu – they can contact him at 609-292-4945.

Gary reminded people that the concept of test prep affecting the results has been discussed before.

3) CSDB Request Regarding WET

The NELAP AC has voted that the table remain on the website. This has been communicated to Kirstin and Bob Wyeth. Eric has offered any assistance they need.

Stacie said that Kirstin noted that the PT Expert Committee is working on language for the standard and it may not need to be addressed on the FoPT table.

There is a subcommittee reviewing the WET FoPT table.

4) Lead and SCM FoPT Tables

An e-mail vote still needs to be completed. Eric is still following up with Marlene to see if the NEFAP Executive Committee needs to approve the table for Lead before it becomes effective.

5) DW FoPT Table

There were some concerns expressed by the NELAP AC. The acceptance criteria for asbestos changed. The acceptance criteria on page 4 of the VOAs were also changed. The 30% was changed to 20% at +/- >10 ug/L.

Nicole from NY: Their concerns were based on the fact that all the VOAs in their state are regulated – so they wanted to see similar criteria.

Nicole brought up another concern where PT Providers are not being consistent with how they are scoring PCBs. There is a conflict with EPA regulations and what is on the table. Jeff noted that tighter requirements can be used and Carl noted there is an allowance in Part 141 that the states can be more stringent than EPA. Curtis suggested that the EC take a look at the data again and make sure that it supports the limits TNI has set. Eric will ask the Chemistry FoPT subcommittee to take a look at this.

NY is not applying the 10% rule – they would prefer to see something in writing from EPA accepting this procedure. Gary suggested identifying the authority that gives TNI the ability to have tighter criteria. Nicole asked that she be provided with the reference and then she can work with the state. Carl will find the citation and forward the information to the committee.

The effective date will be deleted until the table is finalized.

Andy noted that if we have conflicts with EPA criteria - we should bring it to EPAs attention.

Carl moved to accept the DW table as amended and forward it to the NELAP AC for approval. The motion was seconded by Gary.

Vote:

Eric - For

Justin - For

Gary - For

Steve - For

Carl - For

Stacie - For

Andy - For

Curtis - For

6) FoPT Management SOP – Application

The subcommittee worked on it and Eric passed it along to the EC for comment. The next step will be to forward it to the NEFAP Executive Committee and NELAP AC for comment.

- Stacie commented on the use of the term “sponsor”. The term needs to be defined. It needs to be more clear. There is only a need for an analyte to be added if someone needs it. A sponsor would be an AB that has a need for an analyte. Generally some data would need to be provided too. Can it be any AB?
- To remove an analyte with the approval of all ABs?
- In Section 11 – may not want to list all the tables specifically because they may change through time.

Eric will work on the language, forward it to the subcommittee and then pass the SOP to the NEFAP EC and NELAP AC. It will also be discussed in Bellevue.

7) TNI Bellevue Meeting

Draft agenda –

- Discuss NPW FoPT table update
- Discuss S&CM FoPT table update
- Discuss FoPT Table Management SOP & Application (to get audience input)
- Any PTPA presentations from A2LA and ACLASS

Committee members are asked to let Eric know about any additional items that should be added.

8) Review Open Action Items

Updated in table.

9) New Business

None.

10) Next Meeting

The next meeting of the PT Executive Committee will be in July 21, 2011.

Action Items are included in Attachment B and Attachment C includes a listing of reminders.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 EST. (Motion: Curtis Second: Gary Unanimously approved.)

Attachment A

Participants TNI Proficiency Testing Executive Committee

Members	Affiliation	Contact Information
Eric Smith, Chair (2010) Present	TestAmerica Laboratories, Inc.	615-726-0177 x1238 eric.smith@testamericainc.com
Ilona Taunton, Program Administrator Present	TNI	828-712-9242 tauntoni@msn.com
Justin Brown (2011) Present	Environmental Monitoring and Technologies, Inc.	847-875-2271 jbrown@emt.com
Gary Dechant (2009) Present	Analytical Quality Associates, Inc.	970-434-4875 gldechant@aol.com
Amy Doupe (2009) Absent	Lancaster Laboratories, Inc.	717-656-2300 x1812 aldoupe@lancasterlabs.com
Steve Gibson (2011) Present	Texas Comm. on Env. Quality	512-239-1518 jgibson@tceq.state.tx.us
Michella Karapondo (2011) Absent	USEPA	513-569-7141 karapondo.michella@epa.gov
Carl Kircher (2010) Present	Florida DOH	904-791-1574 carl_kircher@doh.state.fl.us
Stacie Metzler (2009) Present	HRSD	757-460-4217 smetzler@hrsd.com
Joe Pardue (2011) Present (left call early)	Pro2Serve, Inc.	423-337-3121 joe_pardue@charter.net
Dr. Andy Valkenburg (2011) Present	Energy Laboratories, Inc.	avalkenburg@energylab.com 406-869-6254
Curtis Wood (2010) Present	Environmental Resource Associates	303-431-8454 cwood@eraqc.com

Attachment B

Action Items – TNI PT Executive Committee

	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
161	Complete vote on FSMO FoPT Table.	Eric	Next Meeting	
162	Complete vote on SCW FoPT Table.	Eric	Next Meeting	
163	Distribute updated DW table to subcommittee for review.	Eric	Next Meeting	Complete
164	Distribute Nicole's information to EC for consideration.	Eric	Next Meeting	Complete
165	Follow-up on need for NEFAP EC approval of the FSMO FoPT Table.	Eric	Next Meeting	
166	E-mail vote on amended DW table.	Ilona	Next Meeting	
167	Find citation for using tighter limits.	Carl	Next Meeting	
168	Update FoPT Management SOP, distribute to EC and then distribute to NEFAP EC and NELAP AC for comment.	Eric	Next Meeting	
169	Contact Chem FoPT Subcommittee to look at the PCB data again and make sure that it supports the limits TNI has set.	Eric	Next Meeting	
170				

Attachment C

Backburner / Reminders – TNI PT Executive Committee

	Item	Meeting Reference	Comments
6	DW Table Micro Total Coliform Rule Request	10/15/09	9 out of 10 vs. 10 out of 10
7	Add the Field PT Subcommittee to the limit update SOP during its next update.	3/4/10	
8	Implement all policies and procedures necessary for operation and continual improvement of a national PT program – including FoPTs for various matrices, stakeholders and accreditation programs. (Need to update SOPs – including an appeals process) – Complete by 7/1/11.	10/21/10	From 2010 Strategic Plan Review
9	Implement a process to periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the PT provider oversight program and the Fields of Proficiency Testing. Complete by 6/1/11.	10/21/10	From 2010 Strategic Plan Review
10	Define a process for addition or removal of analytes from FoPT tables. Complete by 7/1/11.	10/21/10	From 2010 Strategic Plan Review
11	Evaluate how labs are accredited for analytes that co-elute.	5-19-11	