

TNI PT Board Meeting Summary April 17, 2008

1. Roll call and approval of minutes.

Chairman Carl Kircher called the TNI PT Board to order on April 17, 2008, at 12 Noon CDT. The following members were present: Raeann Haynes, Matt Sica, Steve Gibson, Michella Karapondo, Curtis Wood, Svetlana Isozamova, Eric Smith and Kirstin McCracken. Associate member Chuck Wibby was present. Program administrator Carol Batterton was also present. Minutes from the March 20, 2008, meeting were approved for posting on the TNI website.

2. Update on Micro FoPT recommendations

Carl Kircher reported that recommendations from the Micro FoPT subcommittee had been approved by the PT Board and forwarded to the NELAP Board for their approval and acceptance. The NELAP Board has deferred their final vote until the next meeting, April 21, 2008.

Eric Smith asked for clarification on the situations when two distinct sample sets would be required. If two methods are used, but it is the same technology, are two sets required? Carl will refer the question to the Micro PT subcommittee.

3. Update on Toxicity FoPT subcommittee

Raeann Haynes reported that this subcommittee is meeting every two weeks. They have received data from two vendors and expect data from the third by next week. They will review data at their next meeting. The subcommittee has not been able to engage EPA to the extent that they want to, but they are still working on it, and will make more contacts.

4. Progress on Re-evaluation of A2LA as PTOB

Carl indicated that at the A2LA assessor conclave last week, A2LA acknowledged that they had received the PT Board letter requesting QS materials. Carl has advised A2LA that the weeks of May 19-23 and May 26-30 are good times for the TNI oversight assessment. He hopes to hear back soon.

Chuck Wibby reported (with later clarification from Randy Querry) that the A2LA monitoring SOP was provided to the A2LA Proficiency Testing Provider Advisory Committee (PTPAC) for review and comment. The PTPAC met on Sunday, April 13. The group advised A2LA staff to reissue the document to the PT Providers again for comment and then to the full PTPAC (within 30 days) for review of the document and comments received from the PTPs. Once approved

by this committee it will go to the A2LA Criteria Council (CC) for approval. The A2LA CC meets monthly so Randy's goal is to have it to this group for the June 2008 meeting.

5. Air PT Testing

Carl reported that he had participated in conference call with other TNI members and the EPA Office of Air concerning externalization of the air PT sample program. EPA has requested TNI assistance in developing criteria for the manufacture and distribution of air PT samples. TNI will establish a new expert committee to develop these standards. This is not an accreditation standard, but will just externalize the current EPA program for stack testing PT samples. Carl asked for a motion to form a PT board subcommittee to develop acceptance criteria for air emissions testing PT samples. Raeann made the motion and Kirstin seconded. All present voted in favor. Carl requested that anyone interested in serving on this subcommittee let him know.

6. Draft ISO 17043

Carl reported that this draft document is out for comments and requested volunteers to review. Raeann, Curtis, and Eric volunteered to review it. The deadline for comments is May 1.

7. Old and New Business

Carl referred members to an email from Matt Sica dated 4-16-08 which forwarded a question from the MA laboratory certification officer concerning criteria for enterococci testing as opposed to E. coli under the ground water rule. Would enterococci testing require a 10 sample set or are other criteria applicable? Carl will forward this question to the PT subcommittee for their consensus recommendation.

9. Next meeting

The next meeting of the PT Board is May 15, 2008 at 12 Noon CDT. Members requested a report on the status of the TNI website re-design.