

**DRAFT Minutes of
THE NELAC INSTITUTE'S
Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing (WET)
Subcommittee for Acceptance Criteria
September 11, 2013**

The meeting was called the order at 1:00 pm EST by Rami Naddy (Chair). Roll call was taken and members present are listed in Attachment A.

The June teleconference meeting minutes were approved by the subcommittee. Committee discussed old business and remaining action items from last meeting. Goal is to have committee re-evaluate the issues and try to make recommendations (as necessary) to get as many wrapped up by end of the year as possible. Brian Krausz thought that he would need any recommendations by mid-November. Specific action items and comments were:¹

- Topic #2: Analytical (i.e., PT toxicity) data regarding potential toxicity differences between dilute mineral water (DMW) and reconstituted freshwater prepared from salts (MHSF). Overall the committee is still considering making a recommendation to combine these datasets for all WET PTs (draft paragraph written and submitted to committee by Teresa) regarding proposed background and recommendation.
 - Committee thought we could get this wrapped up by end of year
 - Brian K. asking PT providers for their data; so committee can have more data to analyze.
 - Faust recommended that we require all PT studies to be conducted using MHSF- will draft and circulate.

- Topic #3: since 'no toxicity' is a valid and common test result in WET studies that WET PT samples include blanks (i.e., non-toxic samples) as a valid result. Committee has a draft paragraph (submitted by Chris P.) regarding proposed background and recommendation. Committee discussed this topic to see if we could reach a recommendation by end of the year.
 - Blanks are included for chemistry PTs
 - Part of the original issue with this topic was that for certain tests the NOEC/LOEC PT values were always the same and thus easier to pass. If drop the NOEC/LOEC PT endpoints becomes less of an issue.
 - Committee decided to table this topic for now, depending on results of dropping the NOEC/LOEC recommendation.

- Topic #4: Review of WET PT mixing instructions to check for accuracy and consistency. Jamie M. provided an overview of the summary she provided to the Committee (e-mail from June 14). Committee discussed the goal – to have same base information on preparation from each provider – not necessarily have all text the same. Pete D. / Jamie M. suggested the following changes as the committee recommendation (see e-mail 9/17/13 with specifics):
 1. Water to use in testing should be similar to water mentioned in the WET manuals,
 2. Specify errors to be corrected should be mentioned and correct for specific test method (e.g, Test mtd 47 [sheepshead chronic] and removal of 40 fathoms for Test mtds 42-47)

¹Note: RBN re-numbered old business topics to be in alignment with our recommendations. Topic #1 was dropping NOEC from WET PT reporting.

New business: Teresa N. said that she will be pulling together an errata for WET testing methods and asked that anyone with suggestions, please send them to her.

Topic came up from TNI that NELAC needs WET expert committee to help address questions / topics as they arise (Chris P. and Jamie M.). Jamie is going to ask Stacie Metzler (on TNI's Laboratory PT committee – an expert committee) to be on next call to provide our committee with more information.

Teresa N. / Brian K. to provide guidance on WET methods that are in the federal laws.

The meeting concluded at 2:00 pm EDT after discussing our next meeting dates and times. The next teleconference was scheduled for October 24, 2013 at 1:00 pm EDT. The November meeting was also scheduled for November 6, 2013 at 1:00 pm EDT, with an additional backup meeting for November 13, 2013 1:00 pm EDT, if the committee needs one more meeting to finalize recommendations.

Attachment A

TNI WET FOPT SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS 2012-2013

Member	Affiliation	Email	Phone	Category	Present on the Call Y / N
Ginger Briggs	Bio-Analytical Laboratories	bioanalytical@wildblue.net	318-745-2772	Lab	N
Pete De Lisle	Coastal Bioanalysts Inc	pfd@coastalbio.com	804-694-8285	Lab	Y
Robert Kelley	ETT Environmental Inc	bobkelley@ettenvironmental.com	864-877-6342	Lab	N
Jamie Mitchell	Hampton Roads Sanitation District	jmitchell@hrsd.com	757-460-4220	Lab	Y
Rami Naddy (Chair)	AECOM	rami.naddy@aecom.com	970-416-0916	Lab	Y
Bob O'Brien	RT Corporation	bobrien@rt-corp.com bob.obrien@sial.com	307-742-5452	Other (PTP)	N
Faust Parker	Atkins Environmental Toxicology Lab	faust.parker@atkinglobal.com	713-977-1500	Lab	Y
Steven Rewa	Environmental Resources Management	steven.rewa@erm.com	616-738-7324	Lab	N
Brian Krausz	USEPA	krausz.brian@epa.gov	202-564-2970	Other (EPA)	Y
Teresa Norberg-King	USEPA	Norberg-King.Teresa@epa.gov	218-529-5163	Other (EPA)	Y
Chris Pasch	Alan Plummer Associates, Inc.	cpasch@apaienv.com	512-687-2162	Other	Y
Jennifer Loudon	Raritan Township Municipal Utilities Authority	JLoudon@rtmua.com	908-787-7453 x 19	Lab	N
Joe Pardue (affiliate member)	Pro2Serve	Parduegjjr@oro.doe.gov	423-404-4117	Other	Y

Attachment B

**ACTION ITEMS
TNI PROFICIENCY TESTING COMMITTEE**

Item	Action Item	Assigned To	Due Date	Date Complete
1	Keep the PT Board informed	Rami Naddy	On-going	--
2	Request data from PT Providers for evaluation	Rami Naddy	On-going	Provided by RTC-Sigma (April 11, 2012)
3	Finalized paragraph on eliminating the NOEC requirement from the WET Table.	Whole committee	Jan. 18, 2012	Feb. 9, 2012
4	Recommendation on changes to test concentrations / reporting limits / addition of blanks for WET PT data.	Whole committee (lead Chris P.)	On-going	--
5	Recommendation on combining DMW and MHSF DMR-QA data for specific test methods.	Whole committee (lead Teresa N.)	On-going	--
6	Are PTP instructions among methods and PTPs consistent and provide sufficient instruction	Whole committee	On-going	--