

**DRAFT Minutes of
THE NELAC INSTITUTE'S
Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing (WET)
Subcommittee for Acceptance Criteria
June 20, 2012**

The meeting was called the order at 1:00 pm EST by Rami Naddy (Interim-Chair).
Members present are listed in Attachment B.

The May teleconference meeting minutes were approved by the subcommittee without modification.

Discussed addressing the remaining action items and other old business. The specific action items and comments were:

- Analytical (i.e., PT toxicity) data regarding potential toxicity differences between dilute mineral water (DMW) and reconstituted freshwater prepared from salts (MHSF). In theory the results produced from both water types should be similar / produce similar results and therefore these data could be combined for reporting purposes. Data provided by Bob O'Brien (RTC) was submitted to the group in April and discussed at May mtg – results were similar between both water types. Committee is considering whether to make a recommendation to combine these datasets for all WET PTs.
 - Concern was again expressed if combining DMW and MHSF would put labs using DMW at a disadvantage (i.e., higher likelihood of failing DMR-QAs).
 - Need to write a paragraph to soliciting input on this topic – paragraph would go to Bob O. who would then pass it on to WET labs that use RTC-Sigma for their DMR-QA studies. (still need to do)
 - Tabled the discussion until could get feedback from WET labs that actually use DMW.
- Topic #2: 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.
 - Chris Pasch sent out figure of proficiency test results to the group (May mtg). The group needed more time to digest the information presented in the figure. Chris P. provided a draft paragraph for discussion prior to the May meeting. E-mail resubmitted to committee on June 21, 2012.
 - Suggestion was to see if we can get saltwater DMR-QA study results (RTC-Sigma) where it is not uncommon to see a non-toxic result. The idea was to use this information to then make a decision. There was no additional data from RTC to help with this point.
 - Bob O. gave an overview of how PT's work. Discussed that the recommended concentrations for tests was on the NELAC field of testing (set by Expert Committee). This was last updated April 2009.
 - Committee discussed recommendation for changing test concentrations and having a non-toxic PT sample or adding a toxic sample that would elicit a strong response (similar to what would be encountered with an actual effluent sample). Some Committee members were in favor of this recommendation. Chris P. requested getting input from laboratories on this matter so the committed could understand all pros / cons before making a recommendation.
 - Bob O. said that PTPs could analyze the data regardless of the test results (i.e., if it was toxic or not), so that was not a reason not to make the recommendation.

Other items discussed on the call:

- TNI resolution changing PTs from two times per year back to one time per year didn't pass (Expert Committee via Bob O.).

The meeting concluded at 2:00 pm EST after discussing our next meeting date and time. Rami will send out e-mail trying to determine if we should postpone meetings until September. The next teleconference will be September 11, 2012 at 1:00 pm EDT.

Attachment A

**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	--
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 or reporting limits for WET PT data ?	Whole committee	On-going	--

Attachment B

TNI WET FOPT SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS 2010-2012

Member	Affiliation	Email	Phone	Category	Present on the Call Y / N
Raeann Haynes (Past Chair)	Oregon DEQ	Haynes.raeann@deq.state.or.us	503-693-5757	AB	N
Stacie Metzler	Hampton Roads Sanitation District	smetzler@hrsd.com	757-460-4217	Lab	N
Ginger Briggs	Bio-Analytical Laboratories	bioanalytical@wildblue.net	318-745-2772	Lab	N
Pete De Lisle	Coastal Bioanalysts Inc	pdf@coastalbio.com	804-694-8285	Lab	N
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 (Interim 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)	Y
Faust Parker	Atkins Environmental Toxicology Lab	faust.parker@atkinglobal.com	713-977-1500	Lab	N
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@epamail.epa.gov	218-529-5163	Other (EPA)	N
Chris Pasch	Alan Plummer Associates, Inc.	cpasch@apaienv.com	512-687-2162	Other	Y