

**Radiochemistry Expert Committee (REC)
Meeting Summary**

February 28, 2018

1. Roll Call and Minutes:

Bob Shannon, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1 pm Eastern on February 28, 2018 by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 8 members present. Associates: Robert Aullman (Utah Dept of Health), Jim Chambers (Fluor-BWXT Portsmouth LLC), Dave Fauth, Sherry Faye (State of NY), Keith McCroan (EPA – NAREL), Joe Pardue (DOECAP), Greg Raspanti (NJ DEP), Stan Stevens, and Carolyn Wong.

Meeting minutes are distributed by email for comment/revision for a week and then posted on the TNI website.

Bob noted there has been additional interest in committee membership. These applicants have been added as Associate members and the committee will revisit additional membership this summer after people have had a chance to participate in meetings. Committee size can include as many as 15 members.

2. 2016 Standard Checklist

The committee originally completed the Checklist in Word and then TNI decided they needed an Excel version too so that it could also be distributed within a master 2016 TNI Standard Checklist.

Larry is still working on reviewing the Excel version that Ilona and Bob put together. He will have this completed before the next meeting.

There were changes made to the Excel version where items were found to be missing in the Word version. When the Excel version is complete, the Word version will need to be updated with this version.

Robert Aullman and Greg Raspanti volunteered to review the Word version of checklist against the finalized Excel version. They will add any language to ensure that the two documents do not diverge from one another. Bob will make sure each has a copy of the 2016 TNI Standard to help with this work.

3. Status on TNI PT Acceptance Criteria SOP

Bob and Keith are waiting for the data from the PT Providers. Ilona thought they had a due date for the data in late March or early April.

4. Training for laboratories/ABs in Albuquerque, NM – Re-Cap

The training went well. People really liked the data packages and hands-on review, but 6 hours was not really enough time to cover all the material prepared. Having people do a “take home exam” helped give some time back to the class, but not enough.

Ilna noted that one attendee commented it was the best TNI class he has taken to date. He really liked the amount of information and the format. She also noted that the TNI Board was enthused to hear that more of these classes will continue at future meetings. The course survey results were very good.

There was a problem with the recording on a section of the webex. After discussing this, Bob and Larry decided to re-record the webinar so that all the information could be covered in the detail needed and both data packages could be covered. These recordings will make-up the recorded webcast.

Everyone agreed the next class in New Orleans needs to be a full day class – 8 hours.

5. New Orleans Meeting

Liquid scintillation will be the general topic with alpha beta and tritium being used as examples of methods of interest for New Orleans.

6. Standard Revision

Bob reminded everyone to keep sending items for consideration for the revision of the Standard. The committee has not started this effort yet, but Bob has been keeping track of suggestions being made for the next update (Attachment D).

7. New Business

- None.

8. Action Items

A summary of action items can be found in Attachment B.

9. Next Meeting and Close

The next meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2018 at 1pm Eastern.

A summary of action items and backburner/reminder items can be found in Attachment B and C.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35pm Eastern.

Attachment A
Participants
Radiochemistry Expert Committee

Members	Affiliation		Contact Information
Bob Shannon (Chair) (2019) Present	QRS, LLC Grand Marais, MN	Other	BobShannon@boreal.org
Tom Semkow (Vice Chair) (2019) Present	Wadsworth Center, NY State DOH Albany, NY	AB	thomas.semkow@health.ny.gov
Sreenivas (Vas) Komanduri (2019) Absent	State of NJ Department of Environmental Protection Trenton, NJ	AB	Sreenivas.Komanduri@dep.state.nj.us
Marty Johnson (2019) Present	US Army Aviation and Missile Command Nuclear Counting Redstone Arsenal, AL	Lab	Mjohnson@tSC-tn.com
Velinda Herbert (2021*) Present	National Analytical Environmental Laboratory	Lab	Herbert.velinda@epa.gov
Brian Miller (2021*) Present	ERA	Other	bmiller@eraqc.com
Terry Romanko (2021*) Present	TestAmerica Laboratories, Inc.	Lab	Terry.romanko@testamericainc.com
Ron Houck (2018*) Present	PA DEP/Bureau of Laboratories	AB	rhouck@pa.gov
Yoon Cha (2020) Absent	Eurofins Eaton Analytical	Lab	YoonCha@eurofinsUS.com
Candy Friday (2020) Present	CdFriday Environmental, Inc.	Lab	candy@fridayllc.com
Ilona Taunton (Program Administrator) Present	The NELAC Institute	n/a	Ilona.taunton@nelac-institute.org

Attachment B

Action Items – REC

	Action Item	Who	Target Completion	Completed
86	Review Excel 2016 Standard Checklist for finalization.	Larry Penfold	2/15/18	
87	Review DRAFT PPT for the New Mexico training.	All	1/15/18	Complete
88	Get PT data for PT Acceptance Criteria SOP	Ilona	March 31	In progress.
89	Carolyn and Bob will develop draft for LSC training – obtain and incorporate changes based on feedback from Terry.	Carolyn – Bob - Terry	June 15	

Attachment C – Back Burner / Reminders

	Item	Meeting Reference	Comments
5	Form subcommittee of experts in MS and other atom counting techniques to see that these techniques are adequately addressed in the radiochemistry module.	9/24/14	
6	From Action Item # 75: Prepare copy of Standard annotated with summary document language.		This is a project Carolyn was working on, but the committee decided it may duplicate the Small Lab Handbook. This project has been put on Hold.

Attachment D. Summary of Recommended Changes to the 2016 Standard

1. Tom

- a. Section 1.7.1.5.c.ii)
 - i. Physical impossibility of measurement of Lucas Cell background per day of use after it has been filled with radon.
- b. Sections 1.6.2.2.b) and 1.7.2.3.e.iii)
 - i. Three gamma energy ranges for DOC and two ranges for LCS are specified. Since LCSs are often used for DOC, it is inconsistent.
- c. Section 1.7.1.4.a.iii)
 - i. No guidance is provided what to do if the instrument performance check source is compromised.
- d. Sections 1.7.3.5.b) and 1.7.3.5.f)
 - i. Contradiction and a lack of logic in saying that “shall be reported directly as obtained” and then that specific requirements can take precedence over “shall”. Then it should not be “shall”.

2. Vas

- a. Consider whether existing issues would benefit from being addressed as SIRs

3. Keith

- a. 1.7.2.3(d)
 - i. It makes a lot more sense to talk about activities x times the MDC than x times the critical level. The critical level isn't really a well-defined measurable quantity. As we ordinarily define and use it, it's just a statistic that can vary with each measurement. The MDC is the a priori concept, whose value we can estimate.
When we calculate the a priori MDC, we actually do calculate an a priori critical value, too, but that value is never recorded or used for anything else.