

## **Notes/Minutes for TNI Radiochemistry Module 6 Subcommittee**

**Date:** July 27, 2012 at 14:00 ET

**Participants:** Sreenivas Komanduri, Marty Johnson, Dave Fauth, Tom Semkow, Carolyn Wong, Keith McCroan, Joe Pardue, Todd Hardt, Nile Ludtke, Larry Penfold, Terry Romanko, and Bob Shannon.

### **Agenda**

**NEXT MEETING:** It was agreed that the next meeting would continue to be held the fourth Friday, August 24 at 1400 ET. Dave Fauth was the only participant who would not be able to participate.

No one on the call had any issues or additions about the previous meeting's notes.

**REVIEW OF Module 6:** Bob Shannon briefly reiterated the subcommittee's mission and indicated that the focus the discussion of the day should be on the red line changes. Our review should identify those changes that will create major issues if implemented. Minor clarifications and wish list items will be discussed later by this subcommittee.

Group discussion revealed that there had already been two votes on the changes and that the committee was trying to address concerns with voting members. One member of our subcommittee indicated that his concerns had not been addressed.

#### **SUMMARY OF REVIEW COMMENTS:**

**Section 1.4 Selection of Methods**      Prior contents deleted with referral to Volume 1 Module 2 sections 5.4.2, 5.4.3 and 5.4.4 that are excerpts from ISO 17025.

Comments were that the change made it less user friendly to use but it was done so there was agreement with ISO 17025. Bob said he would ask why the change was made while at NEMC.

**Group opinion that change was acceptable.**

**Section 1.5.1 Validation of Methods**      Items a and b were deleted. Item c re-written as a with two additional items added.

Comments were that reference methods are validated differently. The topic of uncertainty needs to be addressed in this section.

**Group opinion that change was acceptable but uncertainty should be included in next revision (Bob to get more information while at NEMC).**

**Section 1.5.2 Detectable Activity**      Re-written.

Comments were that MDC should also be discussed in this section but that should be addressed in a later revision.

**Group opinion that this section should be titled Detection Capability.**

**Section 1.5.2.1 Minimum Detectable Activity (MDA)** Changes made to items a) and d).

Comments were that the definition for MDA should be generalized and not be restrictive. SWDA standard lists 3 ways to calculate detection limits. The definition for MDA in part d) has been butchered and is meaningless. Assessors are asking for MDC (Bq/kg).

**Group opinion that this section changes should be eliminated, i.e., revert back to previous version.**

**Section 1.5.5 Evaluation of Selectivity** No redline changes

Comment that Gross alpha and gross beta are nonselective methods.

**Group opinion that this section needs more detail (next revision).**

**Section 1.6 Demonstration of Capability**

**Section 1.6.1 General** Rewrite places emphasis on analyst

Comments were generally favorable with the focus on the analyst.

**Group opinion that change was acceptable.**

**Section 1.6.2.2** No redline changes

Comment that section should be revised.

**Group opinion that this section needs more detail (next revision).**

**Section 1.7 Technical Requirements**

**Section 1.7.3 c) Background Measurements** Change from requiring weekly to quarterly for gas-proportional counters background measurements

Comments were that this change was made to conform with "old" ANSI standard. Quarterly is considered too long between consecutive background measurements and could cause a laboratory to lose a lot of data although standard does indicate that the background measurement should not take the place of a contamination check. This standard should not jerk laboratories around with frequency changes.

**Group opinion that the frequency remain at "weekly" to minimize changes that laboratories will need to implement until a more complete revision of the section can be prepared (next revision).**

**PATH FORWARD**

Bob Shannon will cover group opinions with the QC committee chair while at NEMC. For the next meeting, the committee should review the first part of the 2011 Module 6 through section 1.5. Identify sections that need attention (corrections, additions, deletions), provide suggestions for

updating the sections, and send these to Bob (BobShannon@boreal.org) by 8/17. He will summarize these and distribute to the group. These will become the basis for the discussion on the next teleconference.

Meeting was concluded at 1530 ET.