

Summary of the Laboratory Accreditation Body Expert Committee Meeting
 Tuesday, April 19, 2022 1:00 pm Eastern

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Aaren opened the meeting. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1. The agenda was approved by acclamation. The minutes of March 22 were approved by unanimous vote after a motion by Yumi seconded by Socorro.

2. Review of Comments

The draft language submitted by Yumi (see March minutes) to address comment #65 was distributed and reviewed. Consensus was that the language from 7.6.6.d should be moved to a new section 7.9.5.1, as the language was intended to address non-conformances identified after the regularly scheduled assessment concluded (thus, an extraordinary assessment).

The draft language submitted by Aaren to address comment #84 was also distributed and reviewed. Upon consensus approval, the language of 6.4.1.1 and 7.6.7.1 was modified to reflect that “review, approval, and issuance of assessment reports” is the responsibility of the Accreditation Body.

Com-ment #	Section	Per sua-sive/ Non	Motion and Vote	Discussion	Assignment to Revise, if persuasive
22	7.8.3.d	P	Yumi/Socorro, unanimous	For environmental labs, accreditation is matrix, analyte, and technology/method. This should be specified in a stand-alone subsection.	Marlene agreed to draft proposed language retaining parallel construction.
81	7.9.3	P	Zaneta/Yumi, unanimous	Regulation overrides the Standard unless the Standard is more stringent, but this concept belongs in a different section, not 7.9.3.	TBD
89	7.9.3	TBD		Aaren requests input from NELAP AC about the issue before decision is made.	
23	7.9.4.2	P	Yumi/Zaneta, unanimous	Make change as requested	
24	7.9.5	P	Yumi, Zaneta, unanimous	Make change as was done in comment 19, “as defined by the AB”.	

At this point, time was expired and adjournment was by acclamation.

4. Next Meeting

The next teleconference meeting will be **Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 1:00 pm Eastern.** An agenda and documents will be distributed prior to the meeting.

Attachment 1

LAB Expert Committee Roster

Name/Email	Term ends	Affiliation	Present?
Aaren Alger, Chair Aaren.s.alger@gmail.com	1/30/2023	Other – Alger Consulting & Training	Yes
Socorro Baldonado sbaldonado@mwdh2o.com	1/30/2023 (1 st term)	Lab – Metropolitan Water District, La Verne, CA	Yes
Nilda Cox nilda.cox@eurofinset.com	1/30/2025 (2nd term)	Lab – Eurofins Eaton Analytical LLC	No
Yumi Creason, Vice Chair ycreason@pa.gov	1/30/2025 (1 st term)	AB – Pennsylvania	Yes
Sviatlana Haubner Sviatlana.Haubner@cincinnati-oh.gov	1/30/2025 (1 st term)	LAB – Cincinnati Metropolitan Sewer District	No
Michael Perry michael.perry@lvwd.com	1/30/2023 (1 st term)	Lab – Southern Nevada Water Authority	No
Zaneta Popovska zpopovska@anab.org	1/30/2025 (2nd term)	AB – ANAB	Yes
Alia Rauf arauf@utah.gov	1/30/2024 (2nd term)	AB – Utah Department of Health	No (on extended leave)
Program Administrator: Lynn Bradley Lynn.Bradley@nelac-institute.org	N/A		Yes
Associate Members:			
William Batschelet wbatsche@aol.com		Other – Retired from US EPA R8	Yes
Scott Haas shaas@etilab.com		Lab – Environmental Testing, Inc., and Chair, FAC	No
Paul Junio paulj@nslslab.com		LAB – Northern Lake Services	No
Michella Karapondo Karapondo.michella@epa.gov		Other – EPA OGWDW TSC/Cincinnati	No
Catherine Katsikis catherinekatsikis@gmail.com		Other – Laboratory Data Consultants	Yes
Carl Kircher, Chair carl_kircher@flhealth.gov		AB – Florida Department of Health	No
Marlene Moore mmoore@advancedsys.com		Other – Advanced Systems, Inc., Newark, DE	Yes
Mei Beth Shepherd, Vice Chair mbshep@sheptechserv.com		Other – Shepherd Technical Services	No
Aurora Shields Aurora.Shields@kcmo.org		Lab – KC Water	No
Nicholas Slawson nslawson@a2la.org		AB – A2LA	No
Ilona Taunton Ilona.taunton@nelac-institute.org		Other – TNI Program Administrator	No
Cathy Westerman cathy.westerman@dgs.virginia.gov		AB – VA DCLS	Yes

Attachment 2 – LAB Expert Committee Meeting Agenda, April 19, 2022

1:00 Welcome and Roll Call

1:05 Approval of Agenda

1:10 Approval of Minutes (March minutes attached)

1:15 Resume Review of Comments (see latest versions of comments spreadsheet and draft Revision 1, attached)

- Consider draft language for sections 7.6.6.d and 7.6.7.1 (file “Proposed Language” attached)

2:20 New Business

2:30 Adjourn

Attachment 3 – Summary of Comments Addressed at this Meeting

Comment Number	Vote & Justification (Persuasive/non-Editorial (Y/N)	Editorial (Y/N)	Section/Clause	Comment	Committee Action	Date Addressed	Committee Comment
22	P		7.8.3.d	7.8.3 d – I am unsure if the added text is meant to be a separate sub bullet, a separate requirement, or whatever. I would suggest that the TNI language be added as its own letter i) and refer to only 7.8.3 i) applying to Volume 1 to avoid any issue with someone incorrectly making the assumption that materials or products tested apply to this Standard.		4/19/2022	Marlene to submit proposed language

81	P	7.9.3	<p>7.9.3 I am not sure the solution to this but EPA Drinking Water has stated that after the pandemic that use of remote assessments would not be supported. This language was received from Dan Hautman from the Office of water on March 4, 2021 "Outside of the travel and social distancing limitations imposed by the pandemic and special considerations that have been afforded that included remote audits during this difficult time, the EPA Drinking Water Program would not consider the routine use of remote audits to consistently and effectively provide a sufficient degree of laboratory oversight from the state drinking water primacy program. For example, an auditor conducting a remote audit is limited to only seeing what the lab wishes to show the auditor through the webcam and auditors often catch things that can be significant findings through direct and indirect observation of lab staff</p>	4/19/2022	<p>discussion that regulations override the Standard unless the Standard is more stringent, but this concept should be addressed in a different section (perhaps under Accreditation Scheme?) . No language offered pending outcome of comment #89 about same issue</p>
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				and the lab work environment." Maybe a note should be included in the standard that regulatory agencies may have restrictions on the use of certain assessment techniques.			
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89	not yet determined	7.9.3	<p>Section 7.9.3: EPA Drinking Water Program is not allowing the use of remote assessments or “other assessment techniques” to replace the onsite assessment as stated in the standard. As written, the standard allows ABs to perform remote or other assessments in place of onsite assessments in perpetuity. If ABs choose to do remote assessments of drinking water laboratories, there is a potential that the mutual recognition from one AB to another will be affected. Suggest adding a note to clarify that remote assessments may not be an option for some regulatory programs. Also suggest adding a limit to the time-frame between onsite assessments if remote or other assessment techniques are used in between. Due to the risk involved with the use of the data (e.g. public drinking water), it is not prudent to allow ABs in perpetuity to not perform an onsite assessment.</p>	Aaren requests that the NELAP AC discuss this issue and provide input. Cathy will lead that discussion	4/19/2022	
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23	P		7.9.4.2	7.9.4.2 I suggest using the phrase 'as well as' in lieu of the word 'including' in this section.		4/19/2022	
24	P		7.9.5	7.9.5 Note – similar to my comment regarding 7.6.6 b) 2, I suggest referencing a laboratory application for accreditation to serve as a defined source for 'key personnel'. Failing that, Key Personnel should be defined in this Volume.	add "as determined by the AB"	4/19/2022	