

**Summary of the NELAP Accreditation Council Meeting
Monday, January 3, 2022 1:30 pm Eastern**

1. Welcome and Introductions

Kristin welcomed everyone to the meeting. The minutes of December 6 were approved unanimously. Attendance is noted in Attachment 1.

2. Discussion of PT Issue Raised by New Hampshire

Bill Hall notified his Lead Evaluator of the following:

During the last evaluation we were written up for not grading misreported PTs as Not Acceptable. Wrong versions of a method may be chosen or a wrong analyte chosen from the PTP during the upload process. For a while I was attempting to meet this requirement. This has become a ridiculous battle. In trying to get to the root cause of the problem I have found that the PTP are half the problem. Some don't use the TNI method codes and some have their own variations of the method codes. This causes confusion and a great chance for error. I can't fix them to my knowledge. Bear in mind, reporting PTs is not like anything a lab routinely performs. Set procedures are in place for "normal" reporting techniques. These work just fine. Going forward, I will correct these issues, require corrected / reissued reports and corrective action. Hopefully, going forward the labs will adequately address the issues. Re-grading these results as Not Acceptable causes more work for me that I don't have time to perform. This issue needs to be addressed maybe at the NELAP and PTP level.

With Bill's permission, Lynn shared the message with both Jerry Parr and the PTPEC Chair, Shawn Kassner. Shawn invited Bill to join the PTPEC calls to discuss this; Jerry suggested a workgroup to resolve the issue(s). Apparently this is a long-standing issue, never successfully resolved.

Participants in this Council meeting were asked to share their thoughts. Travis noted that this issue aligns with the PTRL issue he raised to the Council in mid-2021, which has become a low priority issue for PTPEC to address.

It seems that the new method format for Clean Water Act methods forces labs to use different method codes for reporting PT samples, codes that may not match the method code used by the AB for accreditation. Three additional ABs acknowledged efforts to deal with the passing PT that was just reported in such a way that it doesn't match the code for the accredited method. One has changed the PTs to "fail", one sometimes offers "grace" to its labs, and one has modified its certification manual to direct labs to specific method codes that are allowable (noting that this AB's database may be more accommodating to such a change than others).

All appear to recognize that they are unable to alter the root cause of the problem, but can only find workarounds to deal with it. There was general support for a workgroup with PTPEC, to include the PT providers, in order to resolve this problem before it gets any worse.

3. Remote Participation in NELAP AC Conference Session

All ABs present were polled about attendance at conference, and the non-travelers will be offered the opportunity to participate by WebEx. Two ABs will have non-voting

representatives sitting at the head table (TX and LDEQ) with either the designated representative or alternate participating remotely. Those not present at this meeting will also receive WebEx invitations.

4. New Business

Cathy noted that Shane Wyatt is Virginia's new Director of Lab Operations.

5. Next Meeting

The conference session for the Council is scheduled for Wednesday, January 19, 2022, at 1 pm Central time. Remote participation has been arranged for those who cannot be present in San Antonio for this session -- a WebEx invitation that includes the call-in number (if computer audio is not available) will be distributed the morning of the meeting day to those who have indicated they will not be in San Antonio.

The next teleconference meeting of the NELAP AC is scheduled for Monday, February 7, 2022, at 1:30 pm Eastern. An agenda and documents will be provided in advance.

Attachment 1

STATE	REPRESENTATIVE	PRESENT
FL	Carl Kircher E: carl.kircher@flhealth.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Vanessa Soto E: Vanessa.sotocontreras@flhealth.gov	No
IL	Millie Rose T: 217-557-0220 E: mildred.rose@illinois.gov	Yes
	For information purposes: Dave Reed E: Dave.Reed@Illinois.gov	No
	For information purposes: John South E: john.south@illinois.gov	Yes
	For information purposes: Shirlene South E: shirlene.south@illinois.gov	No
KS	Carissa Robertson Carissa.Robertson@ks.gov (785) 291-3162	Yes
	Alternate: Paul Harrison paul.harrison@ks.gov (785) 296-1656	No
	For information purposes: N. Myron Gunsalus T: 785-291-3162 E: myron.gunsalus@ks.gov	No
	For information purposes: Amy Suggitt Amy.Suggitt@ks.gov	No
LA DEQ	Elizabeth West E: elizabeth.west@la.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Paul Bergeron Paul.bergeron@la.gov	No
MN	Lynn Boysen E: lynn.boysen@state.mn.us	Yes
	Alternate: Stephanie Drier T: 651-201-5326 E: stephanie.drier@state.mn.us	No

NH	Bill Hall T: (603) 271-2998 F: (603) 271-5171 E: george.hall@des.nh.gov	No
	Alternate: Brian Lamarsh Brian.Lamarsh@des.nh.gov	No
NJ	Michele Potter T: (609) 984-3870 F: (609) 777-1774 E: michele.potter@dep.nj.gov	Yes
	Alternate : Rachel Ellis E: rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov	No
NY	Victoria Pretti 518-485-5570 E: victoria.pretti@health.ny.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Lynn McNaughton E: lynn.mcnaughton@health.ny.gov	No
OK	David Caldwell (405) 702-1000 E: David.Caldwell@deq.ok.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Ryan Lerch Ryan.Lerch@deq.ok.gov (405) 702-1020	Yes
OR	Travis Bartholomew T: 503-693-4122 E: travis.j.bartholomew@dhsosha.state.or.us	Yes
	Alternate: Lizbeth Garcia 971 865 0443 E: Lizbeth.garcia@dhsosha.state.or.us	No
	Included for information purposes: Ryan Pangelinan E: Ryan.pangelinan@dhsosha.state.or.us	No
	Included for information purposes: Sara Krepps Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (503) 693-5704 E: sara.krepps@state.or.us	No
PA	Annamarie Beach E: anbeach@pa.gov T: 717-346-8212	Yes
	Alternate: Amber Ross ambross@pa.gov	Yes

	Included for information purposes: Dana Marshall dmarshall@pa.gov	No
TX	Steve Gibson (512) 239-1316 Steve.Gibson@tceq.texas.gov	Yes
	Jody Koehler (512) 239-1990 Jody.Koehler@tceq.texas.gov	No
UT	Kristin Brown T: (801) 965-2540 F: (801) 965-2544 E: kristinbrown@utah.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Alia Rauf T: 801-965-2511 E: arauf@utah.gov	No
VA	Cathy Westerman T: 804-648-4480 ext.391 E: cathy.westerman@dgs.virginia.gov	Yes
NELAP AC PA and EC	Lynn Bradley T: 540-885-5736 E: lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org	Yes
EPA Liaison	Eric Graybill Graybill.eric@epa.gov	No
California	Christine Sotelo Christine.Sotelo@waterboards.ca.gov	No