

**Summary of the NELAP Accreditation Council Meeting
Monday, November 1, 2021 1:30 pm Eastern**

1. Welcome and Introductions

In Kristin's absence, Michele welcomed everyone to the meeting. The minutes of October 4 were approved unanimously. Attendance is noted in Attachment 1.

2. Status of Updated Technical Manager Concept

Lynn explained that the Competency Task Force received more feedback after the October meeting, this time contradictory – one AB prefers the current 2016 Technical Manager paradigm, while another expressed disappointment that Option 1 (labs define qualification and experience requirements) is no longer being considered, while yet another asked for a change in terminology to "Technical Expert". There was also considerable discussion about whether to include and how to enforce (if included) the requirement for bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, particularly for those who attended non-U.S. schools, and whether it would be the responsibility of the assessor or the AB to verify such accreditation.

Eventually, the Task Force's decision was to offer the Option 3 with "technical expert" terminology to the Quality Systems Expert Committee (QS) for its consideration, with accompanying explanation of the issues remaining unresolved. The QS Chair participates in the Task Force as an associate member, and stated that the expert committee was certain to devote several meetings to further discussion of this changed paradigm before settling on final draft language.

Also, after this discussion, Carl noted that the LAB Expert Committee was unable to reach consensus on draft replacement language for assessor qualifications and training, so the committee will continue reviewing the remaining comments and return to the assessor section last. He also noted that the LAB committee needs NELAP AB representation.

3. Status Updates from NELAP ABs

The NELAP ABs present shared details of their current operational status. There will be a public discussion of operational status at the NELAP AC session at conference, Wednesday afternoon, January 19, 1-3 pm Central. A summary of this conversation is distributed to NELAP AC members along with these minutes.

4. New Business

With time remaining in the scheduled ninety minutes, Florida raised two issues for discussion – one about the "draft" PFAS method number 1633 and the other about emergency use of a "temporary lab". Apparently, "draft" means that the method has only been validated in one lab, thus far.

PFAS Methods -- NY has added three PFAS methods, numbers 1633, 3512 (a prep method) and 8327 (a solid waste method) to its fields of accreditation. NH is accrediting to 8327 now, and will accredit to 1633 if requested, but no labs have thus far asked for accreditation; NH noted that the meaning of "draft" status for the method is unclear. NJ is looking into adding 1633, and VA has added 8327 to its database but no lab has yet requested it. PA offers accreditation to 1633 but no labs have actually requested it, yet. IL

is working to get the PGAS methods approved (requires legislative approval).

“Temporary lab” -- FL clarified that by “temporary lab”, they mean an accredited lab using not a mobile lab but moving some equipment to an emergency site on an emergency basis. As full accreditation of a new mobile lab takes a prohibitive length of time, FL hopes to identify some minimum requirements for ensuring data quality and reliability.

Eric (EPA Liaison) noted that some of the non-NELAP states may have mutual assistance agreements among their state labs for addressing emergencies. Several AB representatives noted that having some “continuity of operation” planning would be helpful for the large commercial labs, and that perhaps some draft language or a NELAP policy could be created to legitimize such a temporary lab in the event of a governor’s declaration of emergency, but that the ultimate decision about data reliability would fall to the data user(s).

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the NELAP AC will be on Monday, December 6, 2021, at 1:30 pm Eastern. The 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	Yes
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	Yes
	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
	For information purposes: Daniel Vang Daniel.Vang@ks.gov	No
LA DEQ	Kimberly Hamilton-Wims T: 225-219-3247 E: Kimberly.Hamilton-Wims@la.gov	No
	Altérnate: Elizabeth West E: elizabeth.west@la.gov	Yes
MN	Lynn Boysen E: lynn.boysen@state.mn.us	no

	Alternate: Stephanie Drier T: 651-201-5326 E: stephanie.drier@state.mn.us	Yes
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	Yes
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	Annmarie 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	No
	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	Yes
California	Christine Sotelo Christine.Sotelo@waterboards.ca.gov	No