

Summary of the NELAP Accreditation Council Meeting September 4, 2018

1. Introductions

The NELAP Accreditation Council (AC) met at 1:30 pm Eastern on Tuesday, September 4, 2018. The meeting was rescheduled due to the Labor Day holiday. Due to the Chair's absence, Vice Chair Paul Bergeron led the meeting. Minutes from July 2, 2018, were approved. Those present are listed in Attachment 1.

Lynn informed the Council that the "Decoupling Policy" POL 3-102 should be approved by Policy Committee and then presented to the TNI Board at its September 12 meeting. NOTE: the Board had no questions about this policy, after its approval by Policy Committee, and thus it is effective next month.

2. Renewal Recommendations for PA and NJ

Lead Evaluator Steve Arms had sent the Evaluation Team's recommendation to renew Pennsylvania's recognition on June 13, but the Vice Chair was not available to manage that portion of the meeting until this teleconference. Cathy moved and Bill seconded that the renewal recommendation be accepted by the Council, and there was no discussion. All eleven ABs present at the time of the vote cast votes in favor, and the absent ABs were requested to vote by email. As of September 7, all votes were cast, with fourteen in favor and PA abstaining.

Steve sent the renewal recommendation for New Jersey on August 15. Celeste moved and David seconded that the renewal recommendation be accepted by the Council, and there was no discussion. All eleven ABs present at the time of the vote cast votes in favor, and the absent ABs were requested to vote by email. As of September 7, all votes were cast, with fourteen in favor and NJ abstaining.

3. Request that NELAP ABs Notify PT Providers Concerning the Reporting Requirements Needed for the Standard Implemented by that State AB

A question arose during the public session at conference in New Orleans about how PT Providers (PTPs) should proceed, since Volume 3 (PTP requirements) is adopted and implemented by the PT Program Executive Committee, but Volumes 1 and 2 are not yet implemented. In response to this question, Aaren had advised that individual ABs should notify the PTPs of their expectations for PT reporting.

NELAP ABs were reminded of this request during the teleconference. NOTE: At the September 12 TNI Board meeting, a discussion of this topic prompted the TNI Executive Director to commit to contacting PTPs to remind them that if the ABs do not contact the PTP, then the PTP should reach out to the state ABs about their implementation status of the 2016 standard and what the AB's PT reporting requirements will be.

4. NELAP ABs Requested to Advise NELAP Chair of Missing Items in the Standard

Participants were reminded, as follow-up to Aaren's email of July 10, to please review their state regulations for items which should go into Volume 1 of the NELAP standard. A tentative deadline was set for the November Council meeting (November 5) to have all of these items

identified, so that they can be consolidated and turned over to CSDEC for its consideration in the next revision of the standard.

5. Review of Chemistry Guidance Documents

The requested guidance documents for the Chemistry module of the 2016 Standard (V1M4) were provided to the Council in late July. While the documents are lengthy, it is important that they be reviewed for readability as well as accuracy, since the purpose in requesting them was to ensure that ABs are explaining and implementing the new requirements consistently. Lynn explained that concurrent reviews are being conducted due to the expectation that the Council will soon set its implementation date for the 2016 Standard, and these guidance documents need to be approved prior to that happening.

NOTE: Lynn has asked whether the FAQ attachment to the Detection and Quantitation Guidance 3-109 will remain, but still awaits a response. If you are able to review the main body of the document, even without that 15-page appendix, please do so.

Paul asked that AB representatives continue their review and provide some form of response by the October 1 meeting, whether that is specific comments or an “ok by me” response.

6. Review of ISO 17025:2017 Revision

After conference in New Orleans, Jerry distributed a controlled copy of the newly revised ISO 17025 standard, and the ISO 17011 standard, as well. Hopefully, the NELAP ABs will be able to review the 17025 document and discuss it with counsel to ensure that the state’s attorneys are satisfied that the new “risk assessment and management” paradigm will be considered enforceable in a regulatory environment. The purpose of this is to avoid TNI’s committees creating a new revision, only to meet a veto vote by the Council. Your review and input on the ISO 17025 document will also help inform TNI’s decision about whether to move forward with a full transition to the new paradigm, or to proceed in some slower or alternative fashion. Also, having the ISO 17011 revision will enable AB representatives to better review the draft outline to be published for comments about the revised Volume 2 Module 1 document being developed by the LAB Expert Committee.

7. Review and Comments on LASEC’s Lessons Learned

This document, along with CSDEC’s responses, was shared with the Council on June 28 and discussed briefly at the July meeting. While its contents are familiar to the NELAP ABs, the purpose of the document and the requested feedback on it is to help LASEC either re-shape its review process or approach the Board about revising LASEC’s responsibility for that task. Cathy agreed to draft some comments for the Council, within the existing framework of the document, addressing only the items where the NELAP AC is identified as having some shared responsibility. These comments will be distributed for review prior to the October meeting so that they can be returned to LASEC thereafter.

8. Next Meeting

The next teleconference meeting of the Council will October 1, 2018. An agenda and documents will be sent in advance of the meeting.

Attachment 1

STATE	REPRESENTATIVE	PRESENT
FL	Carl Kircher E: carl.kircher@flhealth.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Vanessa Soto E: Vanessa.sotocontreras@flhealth.gov	Yes
IL	Celeste Crowley T: 217-557-0274 F: 217-524-6169 E: celeste.crowley@illinois.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Becky Hambelton Rebecca.Hambelton@Illinois.gov	No
	For information purposes: Kathy Marshall Kathy.Marshall@Illinois.gov	No
	For information purposes: John South John.South@illinois.gov	No
KS	Paul Harrison paul.harrison@ks.gov	No
	Alternate: N. Myron Gunsalus 785-291-3162 E: ngunsalus@ks.gov	No
LA DEQ	Paul Bergeron T: 225-219-3247 E: Paul.Bergeron@la.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Elizabeth West elizabeth.west@la.gov	Yes
LA DOH	Grant Aucoin Grant.aucoin@la.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Scott Miles Scott.Miles@la.gov	No
MN	Lynn Boysen E: lynn.boysen@state.mn.us	No
	Alternate: Stephanie Drier 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	Yes
NJ	Michele Potter T: (609) 984-3870 F: (609) 777-1774 E: michele.potter@dep.nj.gov	Yes (after votes were recorded)
	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: Chris Armstrong (405) 702-1000 E: chris.armstrong@deq.ok.gov	No
OR	Alia Servin 503-693-4122 E: alia.d.servin@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	Yes
	Included for information purposes: Scott Hoatson Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (503) 693-5786 E: hoatson.scott@deq.state.or.us	No
PA	Aaren Alger T: (717) 346-8212 F: (717) 346-8590 E: aaalger@pa.gov	No
	Alternate: Yumi Creason E: ycreason@pa.gov	No
TX	Ken Lancaster T: (512) 239-1990 E: Ken.Lancaster@tceq.texas.gov	Yes

	Alternate: Kristy Deaver T: (512) 239-6816 Kristy.deaver@tceq.texas.gov	Yes
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	Yes
VA	Cathy Westerman T: 804-648-4480 ext.391 E: cathy.westerman@dgs.virginia.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Ed Shaw T: 804-648-4480 ext.152 E: ed.shaw@dgs.virginia.gov	No
NELAP AC PA and EC	Lynn Bradley T: 540-885-5736 E: lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org	Yes
EPA Liaison	Donna Ringel T: 732-321-4383 E: Ringel.Donna@epa.gov	Yes
California	Christine Sotelo Christine.Sotelo@waterboards.ca.gov	No
Guests:		