

# Proficiency Testing Expert Committee

## Meeting Summary April 5, 2019

The Committee met by teleconference on Friday, April 5, 2019, at 11:00 AM EST. Chair Nicole Cairns led the meeting. The agenda for the meeting is attached as Attachment 1.

### 1 – Roll call

Jim Brownfield, ESC (Laboratory)	Present
Nicole Cairns, NYSDOH (Chair; Laboratory)	Present
Thekkekalathil Chandrasekhar (Chandra), FLDEP (Laboratory)	Present
Patrick Garrity, KYDOW (AB)	Absent
Craig Huff, ERA (PT Provider)	Present
Susan Jackson, SC DHEC (Laboratory)	Absent
Tim Miller, Phenova (PT Provider)	Absent
Reggie Morgan, Hampton Roads San. Distr. (Lab)	Present
Rachel Bailey, Advanced Analytical Solutions (PT Provider)	Present
Matt Sica, ANAB (AB)	Absent
Robert Wyeth, Program Administrator	Present

A quorum was present and the meeting proceeded. The meeting announcement for this call neglected inclusion of associate members. The list of associate members was provided to Bob and they will be added to the conference call invitations.

Associate Committee Member present: Brian Stringer, ERA

### 2 – Approve Minutes

The minutes from the February 8<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 conference calls were presented. No corrections or additions were made to either. A motion to approve both February and March minutes was made by Craig and seconded by Chandra. Minutes were unanimously approved by committee members. Minutes will be posted on the TNI website

### 3. - PTRL Guidance Document

The PRTL guidance document was approved and posted on the TNI website.

<https://nelac-institute.org/content/NELAP/interpret.php>

### 4 – SIR Summary

The master SIR summary for PT was prepared by staff based upon the format developed and utilized by the PTEC. No changes to information this committee previously provided were made. The new summary document simply needs to be approved by the committee. No questions or comments were presented by committee members. A motion to approve

was made by Jim and seconded by Craig. The motion was accepted unanimously. Nicole will forward to Jerry and Ilona.

As PTEC has modeled the response needed to complete the SIR summary, the question was asked as to what criteria the committee used in determining applicability to a given version of the standard. The criteria was does the SIR provide relevant information to which ever Standard is being used and does it help interpret the language of that particular standard.

## **5 – PT Requirements – DoD vs TNI**

Jerry had requested that the Committee take a look at the DoD requirements and compare them to the 2016 Standard. Nicole commented that the DoD does not have a lot in their manual related to PTs. Chandra volunteered to compare the 2016 TNI Standard and the DoD Manual. TNI has a lot more information on how to report PTs compared to the DoD document.

Nicole presented the comparison document provided by Chandra (Attachment 2) and asked for comments. There was general agreement that the document looked appropriate. A motion was made to accept the comparison document (with minor editorial changes) and the request for potential development of the companion document by Craig and seconded by Chandra. The motion was passed unanimously.

Following last month's meeting Craig volunteered to draft language on PT reporting relative to the DoD QSM which was also presented to the committee. The committee felt this language was acceptable. This raised the additional question as to whether the comparison of TNI vs. DoD was also appropriate as the TNI PT requirements include items that DoD does not address. The committee agreed that this would be of value but suggested that communication with Jerry would be appropriate and useful. Nicole communicated with Jerry since the conclusion of this conference call and Jerry agreed to the value of the companion document and asked the PTEC to proceed.

## **7 – New Business**

Committee membership is incorrect on the TNI website. Bob will update and request William to post.

## **8 – Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Craig, a second by Rachel and unanimously approved at 11:30 AM ET.

The next call will be on May 3, 2019 at 11am Eastern.

## **Attachment 1**

### **TNI Proficiency Testing Expert Committee Agenda**

**04/05/19**

**11:00 AM – 12:30 PM EST**

1. Role Call
2. Review and approve minutes from 03/01/19.
3. PTRL Guidance Document – Approved – Posted on TNI website  
<https://nelac-institute.org/content/NELAP/interpret.php>
4. SIR Summary – Review and approve new spreadsheet – same information
5. PT Requirements – DoD vs TNI – review additions
6. New Business  
Website Updates – Committee Members
  - Remove Donna, Fred and Rachell Ellis; Add Rachel Bailey, Chandra, and Matt

## Attachment 2 DOD vs TNI PT Comparison

Topic	DoD/DOE Section	2016 TNI Section	Notes
<b>Requirements for Accreditation</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	
<b>Initial Accreditation</b>	<b>2.1</b>		
Initial Accreditation	2.1.1	4.3.4	No difference: A single PT standard can be used for multiple methods using the same technology, single SOP and most stringent QC requirements of the methods in the SOP.
PT samples for initial accreditation	2.1.2	4.1.3	<b>DOE:</b> ISO/IEC accredited provider. <b>TNI:</b> Provider approved by TNI-approved PTPA.
PT samples from non-ISO/IEC accredited provider	2.1.3 – 2.1.4		<b>DOE:</b> If PT samples cannot be obtained from an approved provider, permission from AB required to obtain a PT sample from alternative provider. <b>TNI:</b> Does not allow for PT samples from non-approved providers.
Analysis Date	2.1.5	5.1.1 (b)	<b>DOE:</b> Initial (2) PT sample results no more than 12 months old. <b>TNI:</b> Initial (2) PT samples performed no more than 18 months prior to obtaining accreditation. Closing date of most recent less than 6 months prior to application.
Study determination	2.1.6		No difference. Scoring (P/F) by analyte/matrix/method determined by PT provider using approved procedures.
Analysis as regular samples	2.1.7	4.2.2	No difference.
<b>Continuing Accreditation</b>	<b>2.2</b>		
Maintaining accreditation	2.2.1	5.2.1.1 5.2.1.2 (a)	Requirements almost identical to TNI – 2 PT studies per calendar year; 1 for WET. <b>DOE:</b> PT studies should be <b>not less than 4 months and no longer than 8 months</b> apart. <b>TNI:</b> Closing dates for PT studies <b>no more than 7 months</b> apart.
PT history	2.2.2	5.2.1.1 5.2.1.2 (b)	Same as TNI – 2 successful PT rounds out of most recent three (3) studies. <b>DOE:</b> Corrective PT samples must be analyzed at least <b>15 calendar days</b> apart. <b>TNI:</b> Opening date of corrective action study at least <b>7 days after closing date</b> of first study.
Failure to meet	2.2.3	4.1.2	<b>DOE:</b> Unapproved analyte-matrix-method combinations must be removed

criteria		4.3.3	from scope of accreditation. <b>TNI:</b> Allows for analyte-matrix-method combinations outside FoPT tables for approved matrices in scope of accreditation.
<b>Requirements for Participation</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>See note</b>	<b>Note:</b> <i>There is no equivalent section in the TNI Standard. As long as a laboratory has continuing accreditation, the lab can participate in non-DOE programs in States that accept TNI accreditation.</i>
<b>Initial Accreditation</b>	<b>3.1</b>		
Initial Accreditation for DOECAP-Accreditation Program	3.1.1		<b>DOE:</b> Same requirements as 2.1.1 in DOE QSM. The lab should show successful participation for a minimum of 1 year in a PT program for all analyte/matrix/method combinations in their scope using methodology in DOE contracts.
PT Samples for Initial Inclusion	3.1.2		<b>DOE:</b> Maintain proficiency in ISO/IEC PT program for all analyte/matrix/method combinations in DOE contracts. For radiochemical analyses, the lab should have a license from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).
PT Samples not from an ISO/IEC PT Provider	3.1.3		<b>DOE:</b> Must obtain permission from AB. The PT provider must meet requirements of AB. <b>TNI:</b> NELAC samples can only be provided by TNI-approved providers.
PT samples not from a PT Provider	3.1.4		<b>DOE:</b> If PT sample is not available from an ISO/IEC provider, obtain written permission from AB to ensure that QC requirements meet the 2009 TNI standard.
Analysis Date of PT Samples	3.1.5		<b>DOE:</b> PT sample results no more than 12 months old. Analysis date between successive PT samples shall be at least <b>7 calendar days</b> apart.
PT Study Determination	3.1.6		<b>DOE:</b> Same as section 2.1.6 in DOE QSM.
PT Samples run same as Regular Samples	3.1.7		<b>DOE:</b> Same as section 2.1.7 in DOE QSM.
<b>Continued Participation</b>	<b>3.2</b>		
Maintaining Participation	3.2.1		<b>DOE:</b> Lab should maintain continued proficiency through the term of the contract. 2 PT samples per calendar year approximately 6 months apart. The client reserves the right to send the lab additional blind PT samples.
Laboratory PT History	3.2.2		<b>DOE:</b> Same as section 2.2.2 in DOE QSM.
Reporting Requirements for DOE Sites	3.2.3		<b>DOE:</b> PT results from commercial PT providers should be provided to the DOE contract holder within 10 days of receipt of results from the PT provider.
Failure to Meet Criteria	3.2.4		<b>DOE:</b> Not Reported (NR) results are not acceptable. Other requirements the same as section 2.2.2 in DOE QSM.

PT Reporting			
PTRL's, LOQ's and Reporting PT Results		4.3.5 and 4.3.7	<b>TNI:</b> Laboratories shall report chemistry PT results to the PTRL (as defined in the TNI FoPT tables) or LOQ if the LOQ is below the PTRL. If the laboratory LOQ is above the PTRL, allowances are made for the lab to rescale/recalibrate and perform reanalysis if needed.

The table above summarized the similarities and differences between the DoD/DOE QSM 5.2, Volume 1, Module 1 (2018) and the 2016 TNI Standard, Volume 1, Module 1, Rev. 2.1. for PT Studies.