

TNI Micro FoPT Subcommittee Minutes for 7/16/13

Present: Jennifer Best (EPA), Carol Haines (EPA), Pasty Root (IDEXX), Jeff Lowry (Phenova), Mike Blades (ERA), Bennie Cockerel (SCDHEC), Susan Butts (SCDHEC), Jennifer Loudon (Raritan Township Municipal Utilities Authority), Viola Reynolds (EPA)

Jeff moved to approve the minutes

Second by Jennifer Loudon

Minutes Approved by unanimous, majority vote

Scope item #2, justification of the strains: edited version sent July 16, 2013,

Comment from Mike: not looked at any data, is that correct?

Susan, we didn't look at data per se, but requesting strains wouldn't solve the issue at this time and should be addressed by a change to the Standard as to what's required of PT providers. General consensus was that we wouldn't review data as that wasn't really necessary.

Patsy, what was discussed was that we discussed strain requirements, we didn't review data,

Carol: agree, leaves it open if anyone else decides to pursue this; this committee will send this to the PT Expert committee to see if the PT provider auditors process is correct

Mike: concentration ranges: do we need to add anything about that? Susan: this is on the first scope item

Task: change language to reflect that we didn't review *data* from each US PT provider but we did look at what international PT providers are required to use for strains; it was determined that using specific strains wasn't a routine practice and shouldn't be a PT provider requirement under TNI

Scope item #1 Quantitation Ranges

Task: Jennifer Best to find the dilutions used on the presence/absence PT schemes when EPA was making these

Task: Carol to pull PT records for instructions

GOAL what is an acceptable PT range for P/A schemes? Review the EPA 'old' requirements to start there. Should the Standard have a range of quantitation? Most currently are 20-200 for MPN methods. What was the original concern? The 'other' non-target bacteria?

Jennifer Best: EPA report from the contractor who prepared the PTs, which describes how the PTs were made; there was a procedure sent out with the PTs, but she doesn't have that right now; that will tell us the dilution was in the end. Does appear the count is high, but dilutions had to be made.

Carol: will see if she has these instructions and will send them to Jennifer Best and the group

Susan: make-up of P/A samples, was this done by EPA the same way it's done now? TC+/TC- and non-target??

Jeff: original criteria from EPA stated what organisms would be included

Mike: sent appendix on the EPA criteria document had examples of previous P/A PTs, sent back in May

Jeff: Did we get ranges for all targets and non-targets? Patsy: I thought we had input from all but one PT Provider

Mike: Total, Fecal and Non-coliform;

Patsy: do we need to have a CofA from each P/A PT scheme ALONG with the method used to determine the concentration

TASK: Ask PT providers for each type of bacteria used in each P/A PT; we want to know the made-to value from the last 10 studies; The methods used to determine the values will also be requested. Susan will send something to each provider for gathering this information

Jeff: the providers of the methods should insure the PTs work with all methods. Jennifer Best, can't really recommend strains and can't manage that. Total Coliforms are not taxonomically defined.

EPA Could add a neo-type target, not happening; it's good that the PT providers have flexibility, NOT use strain X and there may be other strains that could be picked up

Motion to adjourn, Jennifer Best; second Jennifer Louden

Approved 10/21/13