

TNI PT Board Meeting Summary November 20, 2008

1. Roll call and approval of minutes:

Chairman Carl Kircher called the TNI PT Board to order on November 20, 2008, at 1PM EST. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A. Associate members Dan Tholan and Chuck Wibby were also present.

Minutes from the October 16, 2008 meeting were approved for posting on the TNI website. (Motion: Gary Second: Matt) Ilona will have minutes posted on website.

2. Standard Interpretation Requests (SIRs)

Four new SIRs were submitted this past month. These were forwarded to Board members for comment via e-mail and a document was prepared summarizing all Board member comments. Two SIRs from last month are still open. Eric provided proposed language for #7 and a subcommittee (Eric, Curtis and Kirstin) is still working on #26.

- Question #7

The Board approved the response for #7.

- Question #26

The subcommittee reviewed their status on question #26. The main issue the subcommittee needed feedback on was whether the Board would support clarifying PT FoPT headers. The subcommittee proposed some reorganization of the tables that included adding categories of purgeables and extractables under Organics with subheads that have meaning.

Chuck Wibby commented that ABs would need to work with the group that reorganizes the tables. There are potential issues in doing this reorganization, so more people will need to be involved.

A quick poll of ABs on the Board indicated that not all would have required the inquirer (Question #26) to run the PT.

The Board's guidance to the subcommittee was to formulate a response similar to the following: The current function of headers is not clearly defined, so this is an issue you will need to resolve with your AB. Moving forward the PT Board has requested that the newly formed Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee

evaluate re-organizing the FoPTs so that the issue you raise will be clear in the future.

- Question #28

Carl commented that the Board was aware of the effect of the change in Oct 2008 and the PT Board addressed this specific concern by updating the DW FoPT that will be effective January 1, 2009. Curtis will draft a response to this question and submit it to the Board for comment at the next meeting.

- Questions 31-33

These three questions were submitted together. Dan commented that A2LA does not think anything needs to be addressed in the standard. A2LA is currently responding to similar requests through their assessment resolution process. They have not sent any kind of formal response. Other PT Providers are handling the issue in question. The Board decided that further clarification is needed. Curtis and Carl will draft a question and Ilona will forward it to the original inquirer. The question and response will be added to the question summary table that will be distributed prior to the next meeting.

4. Subcommittee Updates

a) WET FoPT Subcommittee

Completed tables will be distributed to Board members with a goal of discussion and approval of the Board during the upcoming December 18th meeting. EPA wants to move off the EPA criteria documents and start using the new TNI FoPT Tables as soon as possible.

5. Preparation for PT Caucus

- Rae Ann will present the new WET FoPT Tables. If she will be unable to attend the meeting, she will prepare a PPT presentation that will be given by another subcommittee member.
- Carl will present information he originally presented in Cleveland – “How Acceptance Limits are Derived for Chemistry and Radiochemistry.”
- Dan will provide a presentation that will include information on the database and ISO Standard.
- Anyone else who would like to present a topic should submit their presentation to the PT Board 1 month before the PT caucus so that the Board can consider adding it to the agenda.

6. Action Items/Old Business

- a) Action items were reviewed and the table was updated.
- b) Gary and Kirstin will submit their A2LA report for review at the December 18th meeting.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the PT Board is Thursday, December 4, 2008, at 1PM EST. This is an additional meeting for the month of December in order to take care of agenda items that were not completed at today's meeting.

There will also be a meeting of the PT Board on Thursday, December 18, 2008 at 1 PM EST.

Action Items are included in Attachment B and Attachment C includes a listing of reminders.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM EST.

Attachment A

Participants TNI Proficiency Testing Board

Members	Affiliation	Contact Information
Carl Kircher, Chair Present	Florida DOH	904-791-1574 carl_kircher@doh.state.fl.us
Ilona Taunton, Program Administrator Present	TNI	828-712-9242 tauntoni@msn.com
Gary Dechant Present	Analytical Quality Associates, Inc.	970-434-4875 gldechant@aol.com
Steve Gibson Present	Texas Comm. on Env. Quality	512-239-1518 jgibson@tceq.state.tx.us
RaeAnn Haynes Present	Oregon DEQ Laboratory	503-693-5757 haynes.raeann@deq.state.or.us
Svetlana Isozamova Present	Accutest Laboratories – Southeast Division	407-425-6700 svetlani@accutest.com
Michella Karapondo Present	USEPA	513-569-7141 karapondo.michella@epa.gov
Kirsten McCracken Absent	TestAmerica	802-655-1203 x216 kirstenl.mccracken@testamericainc.com
Matt Sica Present	State of Maine	207-287-1929 matthew.sica@maine.gov
Eric Smith Present	TestAmerica	615-726-0177 x1238 eric.smith@testamericainc.com
Curtis Wood Present	Environmental Resource Associates	303-431-8454 cwood@eraqc.com

Attachment B

Action Items – TNI PT Board

	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
8.	Gather additional names for newly formed Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee.	Carl	On-going until membership is about 14.	
10.	Let the new Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee know that information is available from NY regarding extraction/prep methods and PT results.	Carl	When Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee is formed.	
17.	Work on language for new TNI policy based on NELAC Policy #16 and EPA Criteria Document.	Chuck	11/17/08 Next Meeting	
19.	Work on language to answer Standard Interpretation Request #26. Distribute to Board members for approval.	Eric, Curtis, Kirstin	11/6/08 12-4-08	
22.	Update Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee on issue of headers for FoPT tables.	Eric, Carl, Dan, Chuck	12-16-08	
23.	Draft response to question #28.	Curtis	12-3-08	
24.	Request clarification regarding question #31.	Curtis, Carl	12-3-08	12-4-08

Attachment C

Backburner / Reminders – TNI PT Board

	Item	Meeting Reference	Comments
1	Check with the PT providers to confirm there are no objections to using their data to compare Performance Range vs. Existing Acceptance Criteria.	9/18/08	This discussion will be added to the Miami meeting agenda.
2			
3			
4			
5			