TNI PT Program Executive Committee Meeting Summary

January 29, 2019

1. Roll call, approval of minutes and overview:

Chair, Maria, called the TNI PT Program Executive Committee (PTPEC) meeting to order at 1pm Central in Milwaukee, WI. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 7 members present.

2. Update

Maria prepared a slide presentation to update attendees on PTPEC business. These slides can be found in Attachment D – slides 1-16.

3. Subcommittee Reports

A review of the subcommittee reports can be found in Attachment D – slides 17-21.

4. Implementation of the 2016 TNI Environmental Standard.

Maria guided attendees through slides to provide background for today's discussion on the implementation of Volumes 3 and 4 of the TNI Environmental Standard (Attachment D – slides 22-33).

The NELAP AC has set January 31, 2020 as the implementation date for the 2016 TNI Environmental Standard. The PT Providers and PTPAs have been working with the PTPEC to establish an implementation date for Volume 3 and 4 of the Standard. They would prefer one implementation date after which all PT data will be analyzed using the 2016 TNI Standard. After much discussion and input from PT Providers, PTPAs, the TNI Board of Directors and Jerry Parr, the committee is considering a DRAFT letter to the NELAP AC regarding PT Providers implementing Section 5.9 of Volume 3 on the same date set for Volume 1 implementation. "Those NELAP ABs that have an earlier implementation date may choose to evaluate laboratory results according to the 2016 standard if they choose or may simply accept the evaluations done by the PT Providers. Those NELAP ABs who do not implement the standard by the date set by the Council may choose to evaluate laboratory results according to the 2009 standard if they choose or may simply accept the evaluations done according to the 2016 standard by the PT Providers."

One issue that was previously raised during this discussion is the concern that the PT Providers will report they are accredited to the 2009 Standard, but will be using the 2016 TNI Standard to analyze the results. There have been previous discussions about adding a footnote to PT Provider reports clarifying the implementation of Section 5.9 of the 2016 Volume 3 Standard. This clarification is needed because the PTPA's will not have audited all the PT Providers prior to the implementation of the 2016 Environmental Standard.

Draft language for the footnote was reviewed and some concerns were expressed that it didn't include enough information. A laboratory was also concerned that the footnote might create problems for labs that have accreditations in other states that are not NELAP. Andy commented that PT Providers have provided multiple reports in the past.

The PTPEC discussed sending notifications to all states or adding additional information to the footnote to avoid issues with other states. Craig Huff commented that TNI needs to prepare a written statement on implementation of the 2016 TNI Environmental Standard. Wording for PT Provider news releases would be helpful. It needs to be consistent wording.

Matt Sica will provide another draft of the PT report footnote and send it to Maria, Nicole Cairns, Shawn Kassner and Jason Poore. After review by this group, Maria will send the final DRAFT to the PTPEC for review by email.

Evaluations/Assessments

PTPA evaluations are currently done every 4 years, but we are currently behind on these because the evaluation process for NGABs is being combined with NEFAP. Should the PTPA's be evaluated this year to Volume 4 of the 2009 Standard or 2016 Standard?

There was general agreement that it would be preferred that the PTPA's be evaluated to the 2016 Standard. Shawn and Ilona will take a look at what this will entail since they are developing the evaluation checklists.

There was general agreement that all PT Providers after 1/1/2020 will be assessed to Volume 3 of the TNI Standard. Nicole noted that the PT Expert Committee could prepare a checklist for the 2016 Volume 3 Standard. Matt noted he might be done with the checklist before they can get to it.

Nicole noted that they don't require PT Providers to be accredited to all of ISO/IEC 17025.

New or Updated SOPS

Ilona reminded the group that when the PT Expert Committee finished the 2016 TNI Standard, they noted that many procedures previously in Volume 4 were removed so the PTPEC could use SOPs to document their procedures. Some these procedures may

require new SOPs or updates to previous SOPs. Maria took a look at this and thinks the PTPEC will need to prepare the following SOPs: Confidentiality, Ethics, Fields, etc ... Shawn noted that all of it does not need to be done before implementation of Volume 4. Maria and Shawn will work with the PT Program SOP Subcommittee to make sure they know what needs to be added. Shawn is a member of this SOP Subcommittee.

5. Overview

Maria provided information on PTPEC membership and TNI support for the PT Program (Attachment D – slides 34-38).

6. New Business.

- None

7. Action Items

The action items can be found in Attachment B. The action items will be reviewed at the next meeting.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on 2/21/19, Thursday, at 1pm Eastern by teleconference. (Addition: The meeting was rescheduled to 2/28/19.)

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

Maria adjourned the meeting at 2:25pm Central.

Attachment A

Participants TNI Proficiency Testing Program Executive Committee

Members	Rep	Affiliation	Contact Information
Maria Friedman (2020) (Chair) Present	AB	California Water Board	Maria.Friedman@waterboards.ca.gov
Dixie Marlin (2018*) (Vice-Chair) Present	Other	Marlin Quality Management, LLC	marlinquality@gmail.com
Ilona Taunton, Program Administrator Present		TNI	tauntoni@msn.com
Eric Smith (2019) Absent	Lab	ALS Environmental	eric.smith@alsglobal.com
Carl Kircher (2021*) Absent	AB	Florida Department of Health	Carl.Kircher@flhealth.gov
Andy Valkenburg (2021*) Present	LAB	Energy Laboratories	avalkenburg@energylab.com
Jennifer Duhon (2019*) Present	Other	Millipore Sigma	jennifer.duhon@sial.com
Matt Sica (2020)	AB	ANAB, ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board	msica@anab.org
Patrick Garrity (2019*) Absent	AB	Kentucky DEP	patrick.garrity@ky.gov
Michella Karapondo (2019*)	Other	USEPA	karapondo.michella@epa.gov
Absent Fred Anderson (2020*) Present	Other	Advanced Analytical Solutions, LLC	Fred@advancedqc.com
Jennifer Mullins (2020*) Present	Lab	Upper Occoquan Service Authority	jennifer.mulllins@uosa.org
Scott Haas (2020*) Absent	FSMO	Environmental Testing, Inc.	shaas@etilab.com

Attachment B

Action Items – TNI PT Executive Committee

	Action Items		Date Expected Actual			
	Action Item	Who	Added	Completion	Completion	
295	Moved from Backburner: PTPA Evaluation Checklist needs to be updated prior to next round of evaluations. (Originally discussed 8/6/13)	Shawn Ilona	Added	New Date: 8/31/18	In Progress (will use 2009 TNI Standards and current SSAS Standards)	
349	Review LAMS/FoPT Table Differences document. Provide comments by email and next meeting.	ALL	4/20/17	4/25/17 2/28/18 – For WET? June 2018 for all tables. New target date: 7/15/18	In Progress WET is still being reviewed. Update 1/23/18: Subcommittee expects to have updated FoPT tables with CAS #'s and LAMS changes by 3/15/18. 2/22/19: Still in progress. 6/21/18: Still working with Rami.	
352	Moved from Backburner (originally discussed 2/20/14): When new limits are established for the FoPTs, what is considered to be a statistically significant change to the old rates? At what point is it appropriate to question new limits? This lends to the TSS discussion a few months ago. Patrick commented that it would make sense to look at	All	2/20/14	TBD (see #350) 350: Prepare formal request to SOP Subcommittee regarding updating FoPT tables and applicable backburner items just	In Progress – Update of SOP 4-101 6/21/18: Gil noted that this SOP will be worked on again at the next meeting. An expected completion date will be given at July meeting.	

	Action Item	Who	Date Added	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
	changes to pass/fail rates 6 months after new limits are effective. This possible addition to procedures should be evaluated when updating the limit acceptance SOP.			moved to the Action Items table (#352, 353)	
353	Discuss possible procedural changes to how limits are updated. Maria talk to SOP Subcommittee. (Need to look at PT database implications.)	All		TBD	In Progress – Update of SOP 4-101 Maria will send a copy to close this item. 10/18/18: Maria will resend to Eric and Ilona.
358	Send request to SOP subcommittee to consider what happens when ARA's are rescinded. There is no formal process.	Maria	6-29-17	7/19/17	Maria will resend to Gil and this item will be closed. 3/15/18: Still in progress. 10/18/18: Resend to Eric to close out.
361	Analyte Code changes needed in LAMS. (TKN)	Maria Dan Hickman	7/20/17	9/30/17	Still need to look into TKN issue. 2/22/18 – Maria will confirm. 10/18/18: Maria still needs to confirm. She just got something.
363	Discuss procedural change in how changes are made to LAMS. Consider notifying			1/31/17	Will talk to IT about getting this in an SOP.

	Action Item	Who	Date Added	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
	PTPEC before relevant changes are made and provide a summary of changes at some frequency.				12/21/17: Maria will follow-up on this. 3/20/18: Maria will check this week. 6/21/18 – still being worked on.
368	Forward Jerry's question to Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee. (Analyte code change for the non- polar extractable materials.)	Maria	8/24/17	9/1/17	Maria will resend to Carl. 6/21/18 – Maria will send to Ilona. 10/18/18: Maria will send Dan's new info. 11/15/18 – Ilona received the info and needs to review it.
373	Carl will notify the PTPEC when Bob and Keith complete their comparison table to the Radiochemistry FoPT work the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee has already prepared.	Carl	12-21-17	3-31-18	In Progress
384	Meet with Dan Hickman to get Analyte Codes and then prepare final DRAFT of Micro DW and WW tables. Send to Jennifer for review.	Maria	4/19/18	5/15/18	Still in Progress
385	Send Micro DW and WW tables to PTPEC for review and vote at next meeting.	Maria	4/19/18	5/15/18	Still in Progress

	Action Item	Who	Date Added	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
389	Present recommended LAMS updates to Dan Hickman.	Maria	5/17/18	5/20/18	Agenda item for November.
395	Let Shawn Kassner and Ilona know whether to use 2009 or 2016 Standard for combined evaluation checklist.	PTPEC	9/20/18	10/31/18	
396	Jennifer to talk to Keith Ward and Maria regarding FoPT tables. She will also look at completing a new vote on the Microbiology FoPT table in it final form.	Jennifer Best Keith Ward Maria	10/18/18	11/15/18	In Progress
397	Discuss Vol 3 and 4 implementation with NELAP AC.	Maria	10/18/18	11/15/18	In progress.
398	Pull previous discussions on DBT breakdown and send to committee.	Ilona	11/15/18	12/18/18	
399	Discuss 2016 Standard Implementation options with NELAP AC.	Jerry Parr	11/15/18	12/18/18	
400	Follow-up on subcommittee reports from WET and the FoPT Table Format Subcommittee.	Maria	11/15/18	12/18/18	
401	Send DW table to William for posting.	Maria	12-20-18	1/16/19	
402	Update Microbiology FoPT Table with MPN additions and send to Committee for final review.	Maria	12-20-18	1/16/19	

	A -42 T4	XX/I	Date	Expected	Actual
403	Action Item Work on new committee membership for next meeting discussion.	Who Maria/Ilona	Added 12-20-18	Completion 1/16/19	Completion
404	Prepare slides for Annual Presentation.	Maria/Ilona	12-20-19	1/21/19 – Due to Jerry Parr.	
405	Forward MPN tables for DW and NPW to the NELAP AC.	Maria	1/24/19	2/21/19	
406	Forward Rachel's Resume to Chair of TNI Board and request confirmation.	Maria	1/24/19	2/21/19	
407	Prepare DRAFT footnote for PT Provider reports to Maria, Shawn, Nicole and Jason Poore.	Matt	1/29/19	2/6/19	
408	Send DRAFT footnote for PT Provider reports to Committee for review.	Maria	1/29/19	2/8/19	

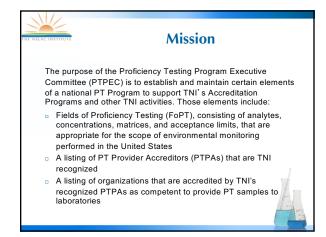
Attachment C

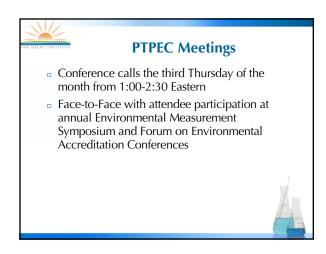
Backburner / Reminders – TNI PT Executive Committee

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	Item	Meeting Reference	Comments			
7	Add the Field PT Subcommittee to the limit update SOP during its next update.	3/4/10	In Progress			
11	Evaluate how labs are accredited for analytes that co-elute.	5-19-11				
13	Charter needs to be reviewed/updated in November.	Ongoing				
18	Shawn noted that PTPEC should have some specific measurements. This should be passed along to the PTP SOP Subcommittee. Nicole noted that we need to determine which items to measure.	6-29-17				

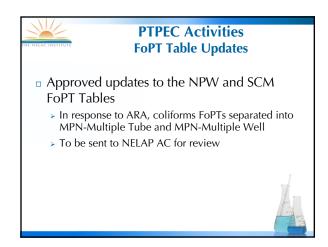


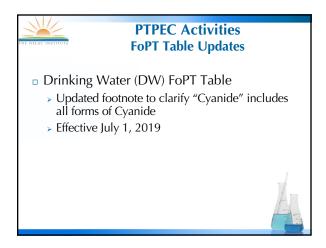




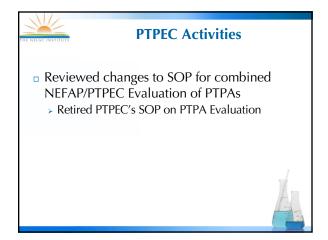


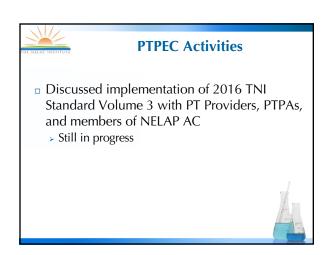


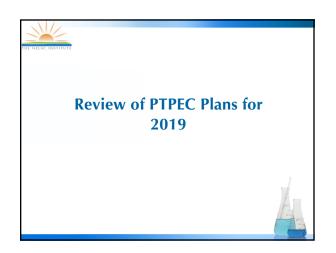


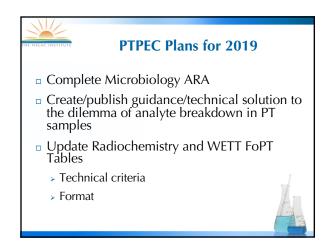


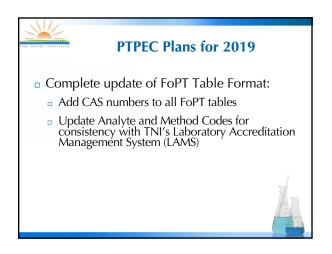


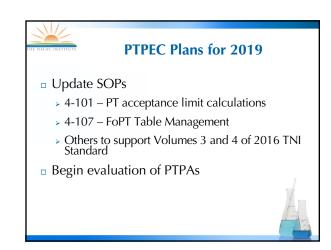








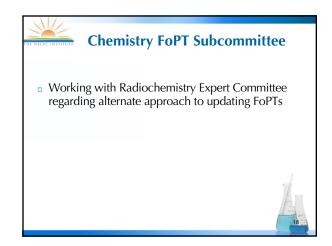










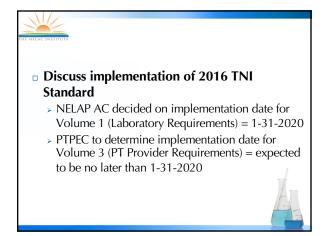


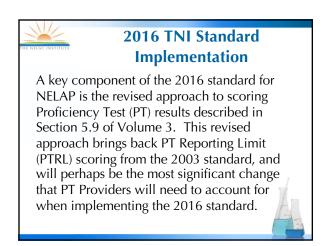














2016 TNI Standard Implementation

2009 TNI Standard: If PT assigned value > PTRL, lab may report PT result as "<" (e.g, <10.0 μ g/L) and receive an acceptable score as long as 10.0 was higher than the lower acceptance limit

2016 TNI Standard: If PT assigned value > PTRL, lab must report a number within acceptance limits: no "<" or ">" symbols permitted



2016 TNI Standard Implementation

Example Evaluation: Benzene in Nonpotable water: Spiked PT Concentration is $12.5~\mu g/L$

- Laboratory obtained PT sample result = 9.35 μg/L
- PTRL = $7.0 \, \mu g/L$
- Lab LOQ = 10.0 μg/L
- Acceptance Limits = 8.75 16.3 μg/L

Lab reports <10.0 μg/L

2009 Std: Acceptable Acceptable

2016 Std: Not Acceptable

Lab reports 9.35 µg/L

2009 Std:

2016 Std: Acceptable



2016 TNI Standard Implementation

Questions we need to answer to meet the NELAP AC implementation date of 1-31-2020

 How to avoid haphazard implementation, e.g., some PT Providers reporting with 2009 rules, some reporting with 2016 rules?





2016 TNI Standard Implementation

The Plan:

TNI's PT Providers will all implement Section 5.9 of Volume 3 of the 2016 standard on the implementation date set by the NELAP Accreditation Council for Volume 1, 1-31-2020.

ABs will always receive PT reports scored according to the standard in effect at the time of reporting, i.e. according to the 2009 standard before 1-31-2020, and according to the 2016 standard on or after 1-31-2020.

This date is <u>not</u> dependent on whether a particular AB has implemented the 2016 standard by 1-31-2020.



2016 TNI Standard Implementation

Questions we need to answer to implement the plan

- Which standard to use to evaluate PTPAs, 2009 or 2016?
 - If 2009, checklist already at-hand; some PTPs may have already been re-assessed/re-evaluated to 2009.
 - If 2016, need SOPs to cover topics from 2009 V4 that were removed in 2016 V4; need 2016 checklist.



2016 TNI Standard Implementation

Proposal if evaluating PTPAs to 2009:

Any TNI PT Providers that have not been assessed to the 2016 TNI Standard by 1-31-2020 will include a footnote in their PT reports stating that the PT Provider was accredited to the 2009 TNI Environmental Laboratory Standard, but that the PT Provider reports results per Section 5.9 of the 2016 TNI Environmental Standard

Is this acceptable to PTPAs?



