

**DRAFT Minutes of
THE NELAC INSTITUTE'S
Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing (WET)
Subcommittee for Acceptance Criteria
September 12, 2012**

The meeting was called the order at 1:00 pm EST by Rami Naddy (Interim-Chair).
Members present are listed in Attachment B.

The June teleconference meeting minutes were approved by the subcommittee without modification.

Discussed addressing the remaining action items and other old business. The specific action items and comments were:

- TNI resolution changing WET PTs from two times per year back to one time per year passed August 3, 2012 (Bob O. / Jamie M.).
- Analytical (i.e., PT toxicity) data regarding potential toxicity differences between dilute mineral water (DMW) and reconstituted freshwater prepared from salts (MHSF). Committee is considering whether to make a recommendation to combine these datasets for all WET PTs.
 - Concern was again expressed if combining DMW and MHSF would put labs using DMW at a disadvantage (i.e., higher likelihood of failing DMR-QAs).
 - Need to write a paragraph to soliciting input on this topic – paragraph would go to Bob O. who would then pass it on to WET labs that use RTC-Sigma for their DMR-QA studies. (completed since Sept mtg and distributed to labs that use RTC for DMR-QA – awaiting any feedback)
 - Tabled the discussion until could get feedback from WET labs that use DMW.
- Topic #2: since ‘no toxicity’ is a valid and common test result in WET studies that WET PT samples include blanks (i.e., non-toxic samples) as a valid result.
 - Committee discussed results of feedback from Chris P.’s e-mail regarding the following questions: 1) should non-toxic PT samples be used, 2) in non-toxic PT samples are used, should the dilution series be changed to include a dilution between 50 and 100%?, and 3) If a dilution between 50% and 100% is used, should it be a sixth dilution, or should another dilution be deleted? (i.e., have 6 or 7 treatments in the study). Chris received feedback from three laboratories. Results were mixed between the labs, but two labs felt that adding extra treatments would be an additional financial burden they did not want. They also expressed concern about the acceptance range if non-toxic samples were used. Faust P. suggested including a reporting only DMR-QA test that is non-toxic.
 - A recommendation was made (Chris P.) to contact North Carolina’s WQ division (Lance Ferrell) as they have a very proactive and independent DMR-QA program including the use of non-toxic PT samples. Chris will see if he can join our next call to share how the NC program works with the committee.
 - Dilution series – Teresa N-K. suggested keeping the recommended 0.5X dilution series. The committee also discussed other dilution series: dilution series of $\geq 0.5X$ (in WET manual) such as a 0.6X dilution series (i.e., 13, 22, 36, 60, and 100%). Also need to check in 40CFR146 to see what is specifically mentioned there.

Other items discussed on the call:

- Faust gave an update on how PTs were being handled in Texas (2 WPs per year and 1 DMR-QA).

The meeting concluded at 2:00 pm EST after discussing our next meeting date and time. The next teleconference will be October 17, 2012 at 1:00 pm EDT.

Attachment A

**ACTION ITEMS
TNI PROFICIENCY TESTING COMMITTEE**

| Item | Action Item | Assigned To | Due Date | Date Complete |
|-------------|--|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Keep the PT Board informed | Rami Naddy | On-going | -- |
| 2 | Request data from PT Providers for evaluation | Rami Naddy | On-going | -- |
| 3 | Finalized paragraph on eliminating the NOEC requirement from the WET Table. | Whole committee | Jan. 18, 2012 | Feb. 9, 2012 |
| 4 | Recommendation on changes to test concentrations or reporting limits for WET PT data ? | Whole committee | On-going | -- |

Attachment B

TNI WET FOPT SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS 2010-2012

| Member | Affiliation | Email | Phone | Category | Present on the Call Y / N |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Raeann Haynes (Past Chair) | Oregon DEQ | Haynes.raeann@deq.state.or.us | 503-693-5757 | AB | N |
| Stacie Metzler | Hampton Roads Sanitation District | smetzler@hrsd.com | 757-460-4217 | Lab | N |
| Ginger Briggs | Bio-Analytical Laboratories | bioanalytical@wildblue.net | 318-745-2772 | Lab | Y |
| Pete De Lisle | Coastal Bioanalysts Inc | pdf@coastalbio.com | 804-694-8285 | Lab | Y |
| Robert Kelley | ETT Environmental Inc | bobkelley@ettenvironmental.com | 864-877-6342 | Lab | Y |
| Jamie Mitchell | Hampton Roads Sanitation District | jmitchell@hrsd.com | 757-460-4220 | Lab | Y |
| Rami Naddy (Interim Chair) | AECOM | rami.naddy@aecom.com | 970-416-0916 | Lab | Y |
| Bob O'Brien | RT Corporation | bobrien@rt-corp.com bob.obrien@sial.com | 307-742-5452 | Other (PTP) | Y |
| Faust Parker | Atkins Environmental Toxicology Lab | faust.parker@atkinglobal.com | 713-977-1500 | Lab | Y |
| Steven Rewa | Environmental Resources Management | steven.rewa@erm.com | 616-738-7324 | Lab | N |
| Brian Krausz | USEPA | krausz.brian@epa.gov | 202-564-2970 | Other (EPA) | N |
| Teresa Norberg-King | USEPA | Norberg-King.Teresa@epamail.epa.gov | 218-529-5163 | Other (EPA) | Y |
| Chris Pasch | Alan Plummer Associates, Inc. | cpasch@apaienv.com | 512-687-2162 | Other | Y |