Radiochemistry Expert Committee (REC)
Meeting Summary

November 15, 2017

1. Roll Call and Minutes:

Bob Shannon, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:06 pm Eastern on November 15, 2017 by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 6 members present. Associates: Velinda Herbert, Brian Miller, Terry Romanko, Stan Stevens, and Carolyn Wong.

Meeting minutes are distributed by email for comment/revision for a week and then posted on the TNI website.

2. Training for ABs in Albuquerque on January 25th AM

Bob provided everyone with an update on training progress. Bob has been working on training with Larry and Carolyn and sent a presentation DRAFT to the committee for comment. He got nearly immediate feedback from Ron including a catch in an incorrect formula (slide 110). He would like more feedback. The presentation still needs to link to material associated with TNI Standard Module 6. Marty will forward a copy of the presentation to Stan Stevens for comment.

Terry commented that the presentation's emphasis is on Radium-228, but there is a lot of additional basic information. He asked if it made sense to turn the basic information into a series of slides of its own that could be re-used for future trainings where the same basic information applies. Bob noted that the basic information is something he will use in other presentations in order to provide background before he gets into the actual method, but that the details were customized to Ra-228 and the background information might be similarly customized for other methods.

Ilona noted that the TNI Board was enthusiastic about the idea of continuing the training with different detection technologies/methods at future meetings. In addition to four lab technologies, Bob plans to focus on a laboratory developed method which , in and of itself, is a recurring theme for labs. The four detection technologies include: gamma spec, proportional counting, alpha spec, and liquid scintillation counting. Candy commented that these 5 trainings would be a great help to assessors.

3. Status on TNI PT Acceptance Criteria SOP

There is no real update. Keith attended the last Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee meeting, but other agenda items took up the time of the call. It was only noted that the

subcommittee would begin work on Radiochemistry FoPTs on their next call.

Ilona recommend that Bob and Keith send an email to Carl requesting the additional information they need to start looking at alternatives on how to appropriately set Radiochemistry limits.

4. Committee Membership

Bob had Velinda, Brian and Terry introduce themselves as candidates for committee membership.

A vote for membership was taken right before the meeting ended. Associate members were asked to leave the call.

A motion was made by Larry and seconded by Marty to approve Velinda and Terry as new members of the committee starting in January 2018. The motion unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Marty and seconded by Tom to approve Brian as a new member of the committee starting immediately. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ilona will forward the new membership to CSDP for approval.

5. Standard Revision

Bob reminded everyone to keep sending items for consideration for the revision of the Standard. The committee has not started this effort yet, but Bob has been keeping track of suggestions being made for the next update (Attachment D).

6. New Business

- Larry noted that the DoD put out an FAQ for their QSM. They offer a correction related to gamma spec and refer to the 2016 TNI Standard – Volume 1 Module 6.
- Ilona will check on TNI's policy to share copies of the Standard with committee members.

7. Action Items

A summary of action items can be found in Attachment B.

8. Next Meeting and Close

The next meeting is scheduled for December 27, 2017 at 1 pm Eastern. *(Addition: Meeting was rescheduled to January 10, 2018).*

A summary of action items and backburner/reminder items can be found in Attachment B and C.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:48pm Eastern.

Attachment A
Participants
Radiochemistry Expert Committee

Members	Affiliation		Contact Information	
			Phone	Email
Bob Shannon (Chair) (2019) **Present**	QRS, LLC Grand Marais, MN	Other	218-387-1100	BobShannon@boreal.org
Tom Semkow (Vice Chair) (2019) **Present**	Wadsworth Center, NY State DOH Albany, NY	AB	518-474-6071	thomas.semkow@health.ny.gov
Sreenivas (Vas) Komanduri (2019) **Absent**	State of NJ Department of Environmental Protection Trenton, NJ	AB	609-984-0855	Sreenivas.Komanduri@dep.state.nj.us
Marty Johnson (2019) **Present**	US Army Aviation and Missile Command Nuclear Counting Redstone Arsenal, AL	Lab	865-712-0275	Mjohnson@tSC-tn.com
Dave Fauth (2018) **Absent**	Consultant Aiken, SC	Other	803-649-5268	dj1fauth@bellsouth.net
Keith McCroan (2018) **Present**	US EPA ORIA NAREL, Montgomery AL	Lab	334-270-3418	mccroan.keith@epa.gov
Larry Penfold (2018) **Present**	Test America Laboratories, Inc; Arvada, CO	Lab	303-736-0119	larry.penfold@testamericainc.com
Ron Houck (2018*) **Absent**	PA DEP/Bureau of Laboratories	AB	717-346-8210	rhouck@pa.gov
Yoon Cha (2020) **Absent**	Eurofins Eaton Analytical	Lab	213-703-5800	YoonCha@eurofinsUS.com
Candy Friday (2020) **Present**	CdFriday Environmental, Inc.	Lab	713-822-1951	candy@fridayllc.com
Ilona Taunton (Program Administrator) **Present**	The NELAC Institute	n/a	828-712-9242	Ilona.taunton@nelac-institute.org

Attachment B

Action Items – REC

	Action Item	Who	Target Completion	Completed
84	Forward new member information to CSDP for approval.	Ilona	11/30/17	11/28/2017
85	Check on TNI's policy to share copies of the Standard with committee members.	Ilona	12/26/17	

Attachment C – Back Burner / Reminders

	Item	Meeting Reference	Comments
5	Form subcommittee of experts in MS and other atom counting techniques to see that these techniques are adequately addressed in the radiochemistry module.	9/24/14	
6	From Action Item # 75: Prepare copy of Standard annotated with summary document language.		This is a project Carolyn was working on, but the committee decided it may duplicate the Small Lab Handbook. This project has been put on Hold.

Attachment D. Summary of Recommended Changes to the 2016 Standard

1. Tom
    a. Section 1.7.1.5.c.ii)
        i. Physical impossibility of measurement of Lucas Cell background per day of use after it has been filled with radon.
    b. Sections 1.6.2.2.b) and 1.7.2.3.e.iii)
        i. Three gamma energy ranges for DOC and two ranges for LCS are specified. Since LCSs are often used for DOC, it is inconsistent.
    c. Section 1.7.1.4.a.iii)
        i. No guidance is provided what to do if the instrument performance check source is compromised.
    d. Sections 1.7.3.5.b) and 1.7.3.5.f)
        i. Contradiction and a lack of logic in saying that "shall be reported directly as obtained" and then that specific requirements can take precedence over "shall". Then it should not be "shall".
2. Vas
    a. Consider whether existing issues would benefit from being addressed as SIRs
3. Keith
    a. 1.7.2.3(d)
        i. It makes a lot more sense to talk about activities x times the MDC than x times the critical level. The critical level isn't really a well-defined measurable quantity. As we ordinarily define and use it, it's just a statistic that can vary with each measurement. The MDC is the a priori concept, whose value we can estimate.
        When we calculate the a priori MDC, we actually do calculate an a priori critical value, too, but that value is never recorded or used for anything else.