

Radiochemistry Expert Committee (REC) Meeting Summary

April 22, 2020

1. Roll Call and Minutes:

Terry Romanko, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1pm Eastern on April 22, 2020 by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 8 members present. Associate members in attendance: Keith McCroan (Guest), Carl Kircher, Bill Ray and Mary-Beth Gustafson.

Meeting minutes were distributed by email for comment/revision for a week and then posted on the TNI website. There was no meeting in March.

2. Radiochemistry FoPT Tables

Waiting for PTP Executive Committee to finish SOP 4-101 that will contain the new Radiochemistry procedure for setting limits. At that time, they will look at approving the new limits.

3. Technical Manager

No new update. The Quality Systems Expert Committee is waiting for input from the Chemistry Expert Committee.

4. PT Samples

- Carl Kircher submitted an ARA that the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee will work on. They will bring Keith and Bob in to work on this. Carl noted that a different procedure may need to be formed because there aren't any DQO's that can be easily used like the work done on the DW limits.

Gross Alpha and Gross Beta for NPW. It was suggested that the Subcommittee may want to involve Lem Walker in finding DQOs.

- Keith brought up a PT issue a few months ago where a lab failed a PT because the prep method (alkaline fusion) was more aggressive than the method used by most laboratories (acid digestion). Terry asked if the Committee thinks work should be done on this.

Carl, speaking as an AB, commented that the lab passed 2 out of 3 ... so is this really a problem?

Should sample prep be included in this? Is Uranium using two different prep techniques? Should PT be based on reported prep method? Is this similar to what the PTP Executive Committee just went through with Micro?

They are gathering information, but this is not currently a TNI issue. How do you make this representative? The PT provider is already looking to see what they can do about it.

The work done by Keith and Bob on how to calculate DW limits eliminated the bias in the new procedure.

Carl asked about number of labs and data points. He wasn't sure how many are doing Uranium in soil?

Bill Ray noted that one issue is the false assumption that all methods give the same result. Where to methods differ in their ability? Maybe there have to be more limits.

This will be looked at again in the future.

5. Public Webinar

Still looking at doing the Public Webinar on May 28th. We are hoping to get more comments and ideas on changes needed to the Standard.

Terry worked on a draft presentation for the public webinar. He looked at better ways to format the information for a presentation. Just presenting the Excel spreadsheet would make for a bad presentation. He explained how the slides work and prefers this format to an Excel spreadsheet.

One comment on third slide - change to prior to use? - Jim

The posting for the Public Webinar will include a copy of the Suggested Changes Summary Table and ask people to provide comments by email and to attend the Public Webinar.

6. New Business

None.

7. Action Items

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

8. Next Meeting and Close

The next meeting will be May 27, 2020 at 1pm Eastern.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 1:44 pm Eastern. (Motion: Robert Second: Amanda. Unanimously approved.)

Attachment A
Participants
Radiochemistry Expert Committee

Members	Affiliation		Contact Information
Terry Romanko Chair (2021*) Present	TestAmerica Laboratories, Inc.	Lab	Terry.romanko@testamericainc.com
Sherry Faye (2022*) Present	Wadsworth Center, NY State DOH Albany, NY	AB	sherry.faye@health.ny.gov
Velinda Herbert (2021*) Absent	National Analytical Environmental Laboratory	Lab	Herbert.velinda@epa.gov
Brian Miller (2021*) Present	ERA	Other	bmiller@eraqc.com
Ron Houck (2021) Absent	PA DEP/Bureau of Laboratories	AB	rhouck@pa.gov
Mark Johnson (2023*) Absent	Louisiana	AB	mark.johnson@la.gov
Stan Stevens (2023*) Present	Perma-Fix Environmental Services	Lab	stanws@aol.com
Amanda Fehr (2023*) Present	GEL	Lab	amanda.fehr@gel.com
Jim Chambers (2023*) Present	Fluor-BWXT Portsmouth LLC	Other	jim.chambers@ports.pppo.gov
Greg Raspanti (2022*) Present	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	AB	Greg.Raspanti@dep.nj.gov
Pepa Sassin (2022*) Absent	EPA - Region 3	Other	Sassin.Pepa@epa.gov
Robert Aullman (2022*) Present	Utah Department of Health	AB	aullman77@gmail.com
Ilona Taunton (Program Administrator) Present	The NELAC Institute	n/a	Ilona.taunton@nelac-institute.org

Attachment B**Action Items – REC**

	Action Item	Who	Target Completion	Completed
90	Send note about method codes and concerns to the PT Expert Committee. Is there a way to limit the codes a lab can use to report PT data?	Bob	TBD	
93	Discuss new PT criteria at next FoPT Chemistry subcommittee meeting	Bob and Keith	3/21/19	Complete
94	Harmonize Excel Checklist with Word Checklist	Terry and Candy	3/27/2019	In progress.
95	Provide information for training data package to Terry.	Yoon	TBD	Complete
96	Let Ilona know if training material needs to be pre-recorded for Jacksonville.	Terry	7/15/19	Complete
97	Submit new membership to Chair of CSDP EC for approval.	Terry	2-22-20	Complete
98				

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.