Radiochemistry Expert Committee (REC)
Meeting Summary

May 22, 2013

1. Roll Call and Minutes:

   Bob Shannon, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1pm EST. Attendance is recorded in
   Attachment A – there were 9 members present. Associate members present:
   Terry Romanko and Tom Patton.

   Meeting times will now be at 1pm EST instead of 2pm EST.

   The minutes from the March 27, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Tom had some comments
   that were incorporated into the minutes and Bob shared these changes through WebEx.
   Larry motioned to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Keith. The
   motion passed unanimously and the minutes will be finalized and posted to the TNI
   website.

   Associate members need to let Bob and Ilona know they own a copy of ISO 17025 so
   they can be included in distributions of the draft working standard updates.

2. NEMC Meeting Announcement

   Bob shared the NEMC brochure. Keith and Vas will not be able to make the San Antonio
   meeting. Bob will check into getting a phone line. If travel funding is an issue, there is an
   application available for assistance. The committee will be meeting all day Tuesday. Vas
   asked if there could be specific times for people to call-in, but Bob felt the entire meeting
   time would be spent on the standard and this was not practical. People calling in are
   encouraged to participate as much as they can on the call.

3. Standard Review

   The committee has not been voting on changes in the standard because it will all be voted
   on in the end. Bob sent out a copy of the base standard that should be used in review and
   when making updates. He will do this after each meeting when changes are made.

   ### V1M6: Section 1.5.1 and 1.5.3 – Combining Nile and Carolyn's Language

   Carolyn distributed a copy of the standard with the language changes being
   recommended. This document was viewed on screen to facilitate discussion (1.5.1
   comparison – Carolyn's version, From 3/27/13 Minutes, Suggested Final Wording). Bob
   will be updating the standard with the information from the 3/27/13 minutes that were

just approved and confirm Carolyn's changes are consistent. Everyone was in agreement with this approach.

Carolyn proposed new language in 1.5.3 (a) – change concentration to activity. Bias was also added. The committee was in agreement.

1.5.3 (b) – add "shall".

1.5.3 (d) – text was already stricken and has been removed.

Typos will be corrected.

Bob will make all the changes discussed in the base copy of the standard.

Note: Larry raised one additional issue with 1.5.1 d - "Laboratories shall participate in proficiency testing programs for both reference and non-standard methods." He commented that there are not always PTs available for all methods, so he suggests adding a comma and adding "as available". Bob caught this change through Larry's e-mail. Everyone was in agreement.

Vas asked if something needs to be added as to whether a PT Provider has to be a TNI approved provider. Vas and Larry will work on the addition of further language to address this comment. This will be available for the next meeting.

V1M6: Comments on Base Standard Document Bob Distributed by Email

Bob received an e-mail from Richard and he is happy with the changes discussed on the last call. Richard did send some comments after starting his review of the base document Bob distributed by email:

Addition of the term Quality Assurance in line 10 is not appropriate. See the definitions in V1M2. We specify QC requirements not QA requirements.

Bob thought further discussion is needed. This module does address some quality topics that are not addressed in Module 2. The committee will be careful not to be in conflict with Module 2, but quality assurance topics do need to be addressed. Tom was in agreement. Larry agreed it is necessary and did not think there would be a conflict with Module 2. Bob will discuss any quality assurance additions with Paul Junio (Chair of Quality Systems Expert Committee) prior to the posting of the Working Draft Standard.

Definitions: If we are using a definition from a reference document, we should include the reference.

Bob agrees. There are no issues with references to MARLAP. Bob asked that everyone take a close look at the definitions. There is a suggestion to place these definitions into Module 2. Bob will send the definitions to the QS Expert Committee so they can start

looking at them. It was noted that the definition for Critical Value needs some work. Keith and Tom will work on this and submit language for the next meeting. They will also take a broader look at all the definitions. They will look at "activity" and "activity concentration" too.

For method validation, I will provide a lot of specific comments after I work through the entire section. However, ISO/IEC 17025 does contain sections on validation, see 5.4.5, and sections on when it is appropriate to validate methods, Section 5.4.3 and 5.4.4. These sections need to be added into the V1M2 and we should only list the specific requirements for rad. Keep in mind that the MDC/MDA/LLD and measurement uncertainty are required in any method validation scheme. Precision and bias are required for an initial demonstration of method performance (V1M6 section 1.6).

There will be a difference between what is there for radiochemistry vs. other methods. Radiochemistry does not censor results. The committee will wait to receive the information from Richard before this is further discussed.

Comments from Vas:

Item	Page	Line	Issue	comment
1.5.2	3	142	Module 1, Volume 2 Section 5.4.7.2 is not accurate. **Change made 5/22/13**	should be… Module 2, Volume 1 Section 5.4.7.2
1.5.3d)	4	197	Harmonized…. This is a repeat **Change made 5/22/13**	Should be moved to foot note as reference
1.7.1b)ii)	8	395	After replacement of a key component (… **Discussion resulted in a decision to vote on final wording next meeting.**	Should be After repair or replacement of a key component (…
1.7.1b)iii)	8	397	After repair… **See comment above.**	Will remain

Language is convoluted in certain areas – the focus right now is the technical aspects. Vas asked if the standard year needs to be referenced? This comment will be added to the Reminder list. Footnotes will continue to be used and the committee will count on Jan to change this if it is not appropriate when the Working Draft Standard is ready to present.

V1M6: Section 1.7.1b)ii) and 1.7.1b)iii)

Tom pointed out that it needs to be clear what is meant by key component. He also does not agree that a recalibration would necessarily be needed after a repair.

Keith is in agreement that if a slight repair causes no change in instrument performance – a recalibration may not be needed. A performance check can be done. Replacement of a key component would always require a recalibration.

Bob noted that all key components cannot be listed in the standard and that is why iii) was added. It would allow for the check for performance after repair. If the check does not pass, then recalibration should be considered.

Larry asked if giving examples of key component replacements and repairs might be helpful? There was no agreement to add examples.

Vas noted that the standard should state that re-calibration is needed when repair or replacement to key components occurs. Others disagreed and noted that this is being made stricter than necessary.

Terry R. stated that if the repair does not affect the performance of the instrument, a recalibration is not necessary. It would be difficult to note all key components, so taking this position should suffice. Bob agreed. It would be too difficult to decide what is a major repair and requires recalibration.

Keith is fine with the criteria in the base document distributed by Bob after the last meeting. Bob noted that he did add information about recalibration and the committee noted that the addition is backwards – it requires recalibration. Bob will change this. Also … "check indicates performance change".

Dave also agreed that as long as the lab has documentation that the repair did not affect performance, a recalibration is not necessary. He is OK with changes to base document.

Marty is also fine with the wording in the base document.

After much discussion and Vas's communicated concerns, the committee generally agreed that the wording in ii) and iii) is fine. Bob will distribute this language to the committee by e-mail and ask people to prepare for a vote at the start of the next meeting so a final decision can be reached on this language.

Vas, Tom and Bob will work more on 1.7.1.

4. Action Items

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

5. Next Meeting and Close

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 26th at 1pm EST.

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

A motion was made by Marty and seconded by Larry to close the meeting. The meeting ended at 2:35 pm EST.

Attachment A
Participants
Radiochemistry Expert Committee

Members	Affiliation		Contact Information	
			Phone	Email
Bob Shannon (Chair) **Present**	QRS, LLC Grand Marais, MN	Other	218-387-1100	BobShannon@boreal.org
Tom Semkow (Vice Chair) **Present**	Wadsworth Center, NY State DOH Albany, NY	AB	518-474-6071	tms15@health.state.ny.us
Sreenivas (Vas) Komanduri **Present**	State of NJ Department of Environmental Protection Trenton, NJ	AB	609-984-0855	Sreenivas.Komanduri@dep.state.nj.us
Marty Johnson **Present**	US Army Aviation and Missile Command Nuclear Counting Redstone Arsenal, AL	Lab	865-712-0275	Mjohnson@tSC-tn.com
Dave Fauth **Present**	Consultant Aiken, SC	Other	803-649-5268	dj1fauth@bellsouth.net
Carolyn Wong **Absent**	Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Livermore, CA	Lab	925-422-0398	wong65@llnl.gov
Keith McCroan **Present**	US EPA ORIA NAREL, Montgomery AL	Lab	334-270-3418	mccroan.keith@epa.gov
Todd Hardt **Absent**	Pro2Serve, Inc. Oak Ridge, TN	Other	865-241-6780	HardtTL@oro.doe.gov
Nile Ludtke **Absent**	Dade-Moeller and Associates Oak Ridge, TN	Other	865-481-6050	nile.luedtke@moellerinc.com
Larry Penfold **Present**	Test America Laboratories, Inc; Arvada, CO	Lab	303-736-0119	larry.penfold@testamericainc.com
Richard Sheibley **Absent**	Sheibley Consulting, LLC	Other (Former AB)	651-485-1875	RHSHEIB111@yahoo.com
Ilona Taunton (Program Administrator) **Present**	The NELAC Institute	n/a	828-712-9242	Ilona.taunton@nelac-institute.org

Action Items – REC

	Action Item	Who	Target Completion	Actual Completion
2	Richard will look at all of 1.5.2 (including 1.5.2.1) and propose some new language. He will review it with Nile before submitting to committee. (2/27/13: Carolyn and Tom also asked to review this before submission to the committee.)	Richard	2-26-13	
3	Richard will prepare language update for 1.5.3 and submit to committee.	Richard	2-26-13	
9	Carolyn and Nile will work on combining their language for 1.5.1 and present it at the next meeting.	Carolyn Nile	5/22/13	Complete
10	Prepare definition for "activity" based on today's conversation.	Bob	5/22/13	
11	Complete and distribute language proposed for 1.7.1.	Bob Tom Vas	~~5/22/13~~ To be finished for 6/26/13 meeting.	In Progress
12	Prepare language on 1.7.1b)ii) and 1.7.1b) iii) discussed on 5/22/13 call and send out for committee review and vote at the next meeting.	Bob	6/26/13	
13	Does a PT Provider need to be a TNI PTPA approved provider? Language will be worked on and discussed at next meeting.	Larry Vas	6/26/13	
14	Work on all definitions so they can be sent to QS Expert Committee for comment (Critical Value, Activity, Activity Concentration, etc.)	Tom Keith	6/26/13	

Attachment C – Back Burner / Reminders

	Item	Meeting Reference	Comments
1	Update charter in October 2013	n/a	
2	Issue of noting modifications to methods.	1/16/13	
3	Look at batching when QC is looked at.	1/16/13	
4	Look at need to reference year for any standard references– which version is being referenced. Is this necessary?	5/22/13	