

Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Expert Committee Meeting Summary

June 19, 2019

1. Welcome and Announcements

Rami welcomed everyone to the meeting. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1, below. Minutes from May 15 were approved unanimously once a quorum was achieved, with Sarah abstaining.

2. Updates

PTPEC

Rami circulated revised draft language for an Analyte Request Application (ARA), as requested by PTPEC when he talked with Maria Friedman (PTPEC Chair) and Craig Huff in April, to convey the committee's request for a year of PT data and the related statistics from at least the three main WET PT providers. The form itself is for a different purpose but Tom provided a link to the electronic form so that Rami could submit it as requested, which was done on July 2.

SETAC in Toronto

Several people from Canada have reached out to this committee through Elizabeth, asking for participants in a WET workshop to be held in conjunction with SETAC, in November. Stephen, Sarah and Teresa are working with Trudy Watson-Leung (Canadian Association for Laboratory Accreditation and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks) to make this workshop happen, and will keep this committee informed of progress.

Agenda for Jacksonville Conference

The following agenda was agreed upon and submitted for the published agenda.

- 1:30 Welcome and Introductions
 - 1:45 Updates on Committee Activities
 - SETAC Meeting in Toronto, November 2019
 - Interactions with PTPEC
 - Interactions with ELAB
 - 2:15 Updating the WET Module, V1M7
 - Individual Demonstration of Competency
 - Possible Additional Test Types to Include
- Adjourn

ELAB Interactions

There was no update offered during the meeting. Rami plans to be in Jacksonville and speak with some of the ELAB folks with whom we've been involved in the past.

3. Revising V1M7

Steve apologized before the meeting that he was unable to spare time to either review Pete's markup (per the May meeting discussion) or attend this discussion. Pete's revisions about IDOC were distributed in advance and discussed. Discussion points are summarized below:

§1.6.5 – per conversation at the May meeting, this revision needs to address all skills but not necessarily each test method. Instead of “phases”, use the term “components” of the test method. Chronic tests generally will include all skills used in acute tests. Many skills are the same regardless of the test organism.

§1.6.6.1 – need to revise this section to accommodate other changes

General discussion:

- Factor in “similar technologies” (need clear definition for what these are)
- The goal is consistency in assessments, by various auditors
- Need to accommodate the distribution of labor among the employees involved in conducting testing – for instance, in Stephen's lab, only technicians do some tasks while “scientists” perform others (major tasks, undefined)
- Documentation to back-up training should not be required for all staff/tasks, but only for those tasks being performed by the individual staff
- Concept is “task-specific DOC” for the IDOC
- The lab DOC is defined in the method manuals. Section 1.6.2.2 is parallel to the Microbiology module; we should check the chemistry module to see if there is a parallel there.
- Sediment testing may not be accredited by all NELAP ABs but is performed for Superfund work and construction, as well as oil wells (VA, LA and CA for sure accredit sediment testing).
- Amy will discuss with other ABs on the committee (and perhaps beyond) to ensure enforceable wording.
- Although some object to the use of examples in a standard, it may be necessary for clarity. These will need to be considered later, along with possible development of a guidance document.

Rami thanked Pete and Steve for their work thus far in revising the language for IDOCs in the standard, and asked that **all members please review section 1.6.5 in light of their lab or the lab that they use for their testing.**

Rami also asked committee members to consider other test types to include, including non-WET tests. Clearly, sediment testing needs to be included, but are there others? Will a separate section need to be created for other test types? And lastly, are there other issues that the committee needs to address in this module?

4. New Business

Lynn noted that TNI is planning to offer WET assessor training in the fall, probably November.

5. Next Meeting

The next teleconference meeting will be at **1 pm Eastern on Wednesday, July 21, 2019**. An agenda and documents will be sent before the meeting.

At the July meeting, participants will need to decide whether to have a teleconference meeting later in August, after the committee session at conference in Jacksonville. At least one member spoke up in favor of the August teleconference.

Attachment 1

Committee Membership

| Member | Affiliation | Email | Category | Term Expiration | Present |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Ginger Briggs | Bio-Analytical Laboratories | bal@bioanalyticallabs.com | Lab | Dec. 2020 (2) | Yes |
| Chris Burbage | Hampton Roads Sanitation District | cburbage@hrsd.com | Lab | Dec. 2020 (2) | No |
| Kari Fleming | WI DNR | kari.fleming@wisconsin.gov | AB | Dec. 2020 (2) | No |
| Amy Hackman | Penn. Dept. Environ. Protection | ahackman@pa.gov | AB | Dec. 2020 (2) | Yes |
| Sarah Hughes | Shell Oil Co. | s.hughes@shell.com | Other | Dec. 2021 (1) | Yes |
| Pete De Lisle (Vice Chair) | Coastal Bioanalysts Inc. | pfd@coastalbio.com | Lab | Dec. 2020 (2) | Yes |
| VelRey Lozano | USEPA Region 8 | Lozano.VelRey@epa.gov | Other (Affiliate) | Dec 2020 (1) | No |
| Rami Naddy (Chair) | TRE Env. Strat. LLC | naddyrb.tre@gmail.com | Lab | Dec. 2020 (2) | Yes |
| Teresa Norberg-King | USEPA | norberg-king.teresa@epa.gov | Other (Affiliate) | Dec. 2020 (2) | Yes |
| John Overbey | American Interplex Corp. | joverbey@americaninterplex.com | Lab | Dec 2020 (1) | Yes |
| Chris Pasch | Alan Plummer Associates, Inc. | cpasch@apaienv.com | Other | Dec. 2020 (2) | Yes |
| Michael Pfeil | Texas Comm. Environ. Quality | Michael.pfeil@tceq.texas.gov | AB | Dec. 2020 (2) | Yes |
| Michele Potter | New Jersey Dept. of Environ Protect. | Michele.Potter@dep.nj.gov | AB | Dec. 2020 (2) | No |
| Steven Rewa | Environmental Resources Management | steven.rewa@erm.com | Lab | Dec. 2020 (2) | No |
| Beth Thompson | Shealy Consulting | bthompson@shealyconsulting.net | Lab | Dec 2020 (1) | No |
| Elizabeth West | LA DEQ LELAP | elizabeth.west@la.gov | AB | Dec. 2020 (2) | Yes |

| Associate Members | | | | | |
|--|--|--|----------------|-----|-----|
| Silvia Bogdan | EPA R6 | Bogdan.silvia@epa.gov | Other (Assoc.) | | No |
| Steve Boggs | CA ELAP | steve.boggs@waterboards.ca.gov | Other (Assoc.) | | No |
| Thekkekalathil "Chandra" Chandrasekhar | FL DEP | Thekkekalathil.Chandrasekhar@dep.state.fl.us | Lab (Assoc.) | | Yes |
| Michael Chanov | EA Eng., Sci. &Tech. | mchanov@eaest.com | Lab (Assoc.) | -- | No |
| Stephen Clark | Pacific EcoRisk | slclark@pacificecorisk.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | Yes |
| Erin Consuegra | ERA LAB | econsuegra@eralab.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | Yes |
| Kevin Dischler | Element Materials Technology | Kevin.dischler@element.com | Lab (Assoc.) | --- | Yes |
| Monica Eues | CK Associates | Monica.eues@c-ka.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | No |
| Nicole Fortin | Honolulu City Lab | nfortin@honolulu.gov | Lab (Assoc.) | | Yes |
| Christina Henderson | Bio-Aquatic Testing, Inc. | chenderson@bio-aquatic.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | No |
| David Johnston | Valero Refining Co - Benecia | david.johnston@valero.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | No |
| Natalie Love | GEI Consultants | nlove@geiconsultants.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | Yes |
| Linda Nemeth | Northwestern Aquatic Sciences | lnemeth@tds.net | Lab (Assoc.) | | No |
| Mark O'Neil | Environmental Enterprises USA, Inc. | moneil@eeusa.com | Lab (Assoc.) | --- | No |
| Katie Payne | Nautilus Environmental | katie@ nautilusenvironmental.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | Yes |
| Christina Pottios | Los Angeles Cty Sanitation Districts | cpottios@lacs.org | Lab (Assoc.) | | No |
| Greg Savitske | US EPA OECA | Savitske.gregory@epa.gov | Other (Assoc.) | | No |
| Jordan Thorngren | Eurofins (Horsham, PA) | jordanthorngren@eurofinsUS.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | No |
| Craig Watts | Hydrosphere Research | cwatts@hydrosphere.net | Lab (Assoc.) | | No |
| Bruce Weckworth | HRSD | Bruce.weckworth@hrsd.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | No |
| Tom Widera | ERA | twidera@eraqc.com | Other (Assoc.) | | Yes |
| Lynn Bradley | TNI Program Administrator | Lynn.Bradley@nelac-institute.org | | | Yes |