

Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Expert Committee Meeting Summary

July 18, 2018 1 pm Eastern

1. Welcome and Announcements

Rami welcomed everyone to the meeting. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1, below. The minutes from June 20, 2018, were approved.

2. Status Updates on Follow-Up Items from Conference

NEFAP/FSMO Standard – no report.

Session on 2017 Revisions to ISO 17025 at conference – on Wednesday afternoon, August 8, the afternoon TNI session will be a discussion of the major changes to ISO 17025 and consideration of how TNI should approach its next revision of Volume 1 to accommodate these changes, which are primarily to address sampling and to shift to a less-prescriptive risk-based approach.

WET Methods for the TNI Method Compendium in LAMS – this work is essentially completed for chronic methods. LAMS now has links to the individual methods on the EPA website as well as a link to the Q/QC errata from the most recent Method Update Rule. In LAMS, click on TNI Codes, choose “Methods” and then click on the particular method you wish to view. A page describing the method with a link to a copy of it (or to a site where it can be purchased) will appear. Nearly all TNI-accredited methods are available through this database!

FoPT Analyte Codes – Rami intends to reply to Craig Huff and the PTPEC that the current WET method codes serve the purpose better than the proposed revisions. It’s not clear that this is the optimal solution, and further conversations may take place.

PTPEC Request from December – Rami spoke with Nicole Cairns and she recommended talking with Kelly Black of Neptune, Inc., the consulting firm that maintains A2LA’s PT database, about possible ways to improve the size of the datasets for WET PTs.

SETAC Meeting in Sacramento, November, 2018 – Rami and Teresa’s abstract was accepted.

Agenda for WET Session at Conference – Elizabeth will moderate the session, with Ginger and Beth sharing in the presentations with her. This session will be Tuesday afternoon, August 7, from 1-3 pm Central time; teleconference capability will not be available.

3. Revising the WET Module of the TNI Standard (V1M7)

Chemistry QA/QC – John and Michele distributed draft final language for review and discussion, and the final language agreed upon may be found in Attachment 3, below.

DOC/IDOC – At the June meeting, committee members were asked to consider how to address the “similar technology” issue and also whether multiple SRTs will be included as part of the training requirements.

Participants noted that writing the standard to address using SRTs as the DOC will not cover all methods, since some methods (sediment tests, for example) do not have SRTs reflecting the actual method. A suggestion was offered to have the use of SRTs be one option with the training policy being thoroughly documented. Teresa noted that updated methods are in preparation, and were at one point scheduled for release, but that she cannot now say when release will occur. She did offer to check to see whether she can circulate the pre-publication version to the committee.

As time grew short, Rami recommended that additional input be gathered from participants at the WET session in New Orleans, and then the committee will resume this discussion in September.

4. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the WET Expert Committee will be the session at conference in New Orleans on Tuesday afternoon, August 7, but teleconference capability will not be available.

There will be no teleconference meeting at the regularly scheduled time of August 15, 2018. Monthly teleconferences will resume on September 19, 2018.

Despite the efforts of multiple people, it appears that there will be no structured interaction of WET committee members and the Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board (ELAB) during conference in New Orleans. The best we can hope for is to have the WET PT issue raised by ELAB participants or commenters during the ELAB session on Monday afternoon, August 6.

Attachment 1

Committee Membership

Member	Affiliation	Email	Category	Term Expiration	Present
Ginger Briggs	Bio-Analytical Laboratories	bioanalytical@wildblue.net	Lab	Dec. 2020 (2)	Yes
Chris Burbage	Hampton Roads Sanitation District	cburbage@hrsdc.com	Lab	Dec. 2020 (2)	Yes
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)	No
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 (EPA)	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)	No
John Overbey	American Interplex Corp.	joverbey@americaninterplex.com	Lab	Dec 2020 (1)	Yes
Chris Pasch	Alan Plummer Associates, Inc.	cpasch@apainv.com	Other	Dec. 2020 (2)	No
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)	Yes
Steven Rewa	Environmental Resources Management	steven.rewa@erm.com	Lab	Dec. 2020 (2)	Yes
Beth Thompson	Shealy Consulting	bthompson@shealyconsulting.net	Lab	Dec 2020 (1)	Yes
Elizabeth West	LA DEQ LELAP	elizabeth.west@la.gov	AB	Dec. 2020 (2)	No

Associate Members					
Debmalya Bhattacharyya	NE OH Regional Sewer District	bhattacharyad@neorsd.org	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Silvia Bogdan	EPA R6	Bogdan.silvia@epa.gov	Other (Assoc.)		No
Steve Boggs	CA ELAP	steve.boggs@waterboards.ca.gov	Other (Assoc.)		Yes
Michael Chanov	EA Eng., Sci. &Tech.	mchanov@eaest.com	Lab (Assoc.)	--	yes
Steven Clark	Pacific EcoRisk	slclark@pacificecorisk.com	Lab (Assoc.)		Christa Prosser for him
Erin Consuegra	ERA LAB	econsuegra@eralab.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Kevin Dischler	Element Materials Technology	Kevin.dischler@element.com	Lab (Assoc.)	---	No
Monica Eues	CK Associates	Monica.eues@c-ka.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Marshall Faircloth	FL DEP	joseph.faircloth@dep.state.fl.us	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Katie Fox	ATC Group Services	Katie.Fox@atcgs.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
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
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.)		No
Christina Pottios	Los Angeles Cty Sanitation Districts	cpottios@lacsdsd.org	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
Shain Schmitt	ESC Lab Sciences	sschmitt@esclabsciences.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Greg Savitske	US EPA OECA	Savitske.gregory@epa.gov	Other (Assoc.)		No

Thekkekalathil "Chandra" Chandrasekhar	FL DEP	Thekkekalathil.Chandrasekhar@dep.state.fl.us	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
Jordan Thorngren	Eurofins (Horsham, PA)	jordanthorngren@eurofinsUS.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Tom Widera	ERA	twidera@eraqc.com	Other (Assoc.)		No
Lynn Bradley	TNI Program Administrator	Lynn.Bradley@nelac-institute.org			Yes

Attachment 2 –

Items from this table and all future action items will be carried in the Excel Tracking Spreadsheet, as of September 2018

Action Items

	Action/Activity	Responsible Person(s)	Anticipated Completion	Comments
15	Draft language about DOC requirements	Steve and Pete, with others	??	Ongoing indefinitely
17	Draft language about QC requirements for water chemistry measurements	Michele, John, others?	7/18/18	
20	Work with TNI Database Administrator about WET methods in the compendium	Rami, Elizabeth	July 2018	
21	Review FoPT table with inserted analyte codes	Rami, Michele, Beth, Chandra	July 2018	

Attachment 3

Language for QC of Chemistry Measurements Supporting WET Testing, Consensus of 7/18/18

Instruments used for routine measurements of chemical and physical parameters such as pH, DO, temperature, conductivity, salinity, alkalinity and hardness must be calibrated and verified according to the instrument manufacturer's procedures and/or as indicated in the general section on quality assurance of each referenced test method.

Unless otherwise noted by a mandated method or by regulation, chemical, and physical tests, in toxicity testing are supporting parameters to help aid in the interpretation of toxicity results. As these are support measurements, only the calibration requirements specified in the applicable reference methods apply. Performing matrix spiking, duplicate analysis, and quality control charting of such results is not required during the performance of these tests unless more stringent standards are mandated by a separate State or Federal program.

Documentation of the calibration is required for all support measurements. The preparation of calibration solutions and the identity of the solutions utilized shall also be recorded. The details of initial instrument calibration procedures shall be included in the quality system documentation. Sufficient raw data records shall be retained to permit reconstruction of the initial instrument calibration (e. g. calibration date, method, instrument, analysis date, analyte name, analysts initial or signature, concentration and response, calibration curve or response factor, or unique equation or coefficient used to reduce instrument responses to concentration). Sample results shall be quantitated from the initial instrument calibration and may not be quantitated from any continuing instrument calibration verification unless otherwise required by regulation, method, or program. All initial instrument calibrations shall be verified with a standard obtained from a second manufacturer or from a different lot. Commercially prepared standards shall be traceable to a national standard when commercially available. Criteria for the acceptance of an initial instrument calibration shall be established (e.g. correlation coefficient or relative percent difference). The criteria used shall be appropriate to the calibration technique employed.