

**Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Expert Committee Meeting
September 15, 2021 1:00 pm Eastern**

1. Welcome and Announcements

Rami welcomed everyone to the teleconference and invited the new associate committee member, Mary Ann Rempel-Hester, to introduce herself. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1, below. The agenda was adopted by acclamation (see Attachment 2), with agreement that an issue raised in email prior to the meeting would be addressed as new business. The minutes of July 21 were approved by unanimous vote, and the minutes of August 10 were approved by acclamation.

2. Slides for Data Interpretation Training

Earlier in the month, Natalie shared the slides for this training with a request for committee comments by September 24. The training is scheduled for 2 pm Eastern, October 19, 2021, and an email announcement was sent out from TNI and all committee members were invited to share it with any others who might be interested.

Natalie and Teresa explained that they wanted to focus on what assessors need to know while addressing the labs' perspective of performing the interpretation. They explained that it was not designed to be in-depth training, but that additional training could be created in the future to address various problems that labs might encounter. The workgroup will create a quiz that can be taken after completion of the course, for people attending the training who want continuing education credits (CEUs).

3. Outstanding Needs for Draft Revision of WET Module V1M7

Rami issued a plea for committee volunteers to assist with revising language for two sections of the module.

The DOC section now as agreed-upon requirements for analyst initial DOCs but needs some language about the laboratory DOCs and how those are described in method manuals but also about how the analyst and laboratory DOCs mesh, for both initial and ongoing DOC. In the absence of a volunteer, Rami stated that he would try to pull together the various pieces of the DOC section by our October meeting.

The Technical Requirements sections 1.7.1 and 1.7.2 (minus §1.7.1.6) needs to be redrafted and reorganized per the outline sketched in the April 21, 2021, minutes and pasted below (in brainstorm order, may be rearranged):

- Reference toxicant and SRTs
- Negative controls
- Specifics for cultures (separate from testing)
- History of culture of the organisms
- Then include items from Chapter 4 of the WET Guidance (acute and chronic appear to be similar, but this may need more detailed consideration)
 - Waters
 - Culturing
 - SRTs (likely will need a section on SRTs in the DOC, the QC and the positive/negative controls pieces of V1M7)
 - Negative controls
 - Test sensitivity

- PMSDs
 - Equipment and calibration
 - Variability and repeatability/reproducibility (need specific metrics to be evaluated as well as regular review for conformance with good laboratory practices)
 - Test sensitivity (replicates, numbers of organisms – typically specified in permits)
 - Reagents and standards (what grade of reagents, for example)
 - Positive controls (gives context for assessors, too)
- Consensus was that test acceptability criteria (TAC) should be mentioned, but as a requirement, not as QA/QC.

Participants discussed whether and why the standard should contain language that is in the method requirements (which is most of the QC). Several assessors were clear that not all of the language in the method manuals is “requirements” language, and “shoulds” cannot be enforced by regulators or required by assessors, so that having definitive requirements in the standard itself is important.

Method Validation, Chemistry QC and PT -- The remaining items under this agenda item – sections 1.5, 1.7.1.6.e and 1.8, were not addressed as the members who took responsibility for the next steps on those sections were absent.

4. Affirm Changes to Section 1.7.1.6 from July Meeting

Participants began discussion of this section, but made little progress. Several members asked for a screen sharing tool, rather than referring to text on their own screens, so WebEx will be set up for meetings where specific language is being verified or edited. There was also discussion about the value of retaining “should” language in the standard, as a number of sub-elements of this section use that wording. With the need to address a new business issue pending and time running out, consideration of this section was again postponed until the next meeting. The revised edits already made need to be affirmed and then review of new edits can resume at subsection k.

5. New Business

Dwayne noticed in the August minutes that the DOC section states that one SRT will be required for analyst initial DOC, but he believes that the agreement was for two SRTs to be required. Rami had emailed to the full committee the language and vote results from last year’s minutes, covering final agreement and approval of the one SRT requirement, and he asked that Dwayne please go back and review those minutes (October 21 and December 16, 2020) and offered to talk further offline if necessary.

NOTE: Lynn has since verified that the NELAP AC minutes of January 4 and April 5, 2021, reflect the Accreditation Council’s agreement with the one SRT requirement. Unfortunately, the April 5 minutes are not yet posted to the website, but were approved and can be shared if requested.

6. Next Meeting

The next teleconference meeting will be on October 20, 2021, at 1 pm Eastern. As requested, all members will receive a WebEx invitation for screen sharing – expect that to arrive on the morning of the meeting date, as an email from Ilona Taunton. The agenda and any needed documents will be sent in advance.

Attachment 1

WET Expert Committee Membership

| Member | Affiliation | Email | Category | Term Expiration | Present |
|--|--------------------------|--|-------------------|-----------------|---------|
| Dwayne Burkholder | PA DEP | dburkholde@pa.gov | AB | Jan. 2024 (1) | Yes |
| David Caldwell | OK DEQ | David.caldwell@deq.ok.gov | AB | Jan. 2024 (1) | No |
| Thekkekalathil "Chandra" Chandrasekhar | FL DEP | Thekkekalathil.Chandrasekhar@dep.state.fl.us | Lab | Jan. 2024 (1) | Yes |
| Stephen Clark | Pacific EcoRisk | slclark@pacificecorisk.com | Lab | Jan. 2024 (1) | Yes |
| Sarah Hughes | Shell Oil Co. | s.hughes@shell.com | Other | Jan. 2022 (1) | Yes |
| Rami Naddy (Chair) | TRE Env. Strat. LLC | naddyrb.tre@gmail.com | Lab | Jan. 2024 (3) | Yes |
| Teresa Norberg-King | USEPA | norberg-king.teresa@epa.gov | Other (Affiliate) | Jan. 2022 | Yes |
| John Overbey | American Interplex Corp. | joverbey@americaninterplex.com | Lab | Jan. 2024 (2) | No |
| Natalie Love | GEI Consultants | nlove@geiconsultants.com | Other | Jan. 2024 (1) | Yes |
| Rosana McConkey | WA Dept. of Ecology | rosa461@ECY.WA.GOV | Non-NELAP AB | Jan. 2024 (1) | Yes |
| Ila Meyer-Fritzsche | VA DCLS | ila.meyer-fritzsche@dgs.virginia.gov | AB | Jan. 2024 (1) | Yes |
| Katie Payne | Enthalpy Analytical | katie.payne@enthalpy.com | Lab | Jan. 2024 (1) | No |
| Caitie Van Sciver | NJ DEP | Caitie.VanSciver@dep.nj.gov | AB | Jan. 2024 (1) | Yes |
| Bruce Weckworth | HRSD | Bruce.weckworth@hrsd.com | Lab | Jan. 2024 (1) | Yes |
| Tom Widera | Pace Labs | Thomas.Widera@pacelabs.com | Lab | Jan. 2024 (1) | No |
| Associate Members | | | | | |
| Travis Bartholomew | ORELAP | Travis.J.Bartholomew@dhsosha.state.or.us | AB (assoc.) | | No |
| Yakuta Bhagat | EnviroScience | ybhagat@enviroscienceinc.com | Lab (assoc.) | | No |
| Sylvia Bogdan | EPA R6 | Bogdan.sylvia@epa.gov | Other (Assoc.) | | No |
| Steve Boggs | CA ELAP | steve.boggs@waterboards.ca.gov | Other (Assoc.) | | No |

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|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|----------------|--|-----|
| Ginger Briggs | Bio-Analytical Laboratories | bal@bioanalyticallabs.com | Lab (assoc.) | | Yes |
| Chris Burbage | Hampton Roads Sanitation District | cburbage@hrsd.com | Lab (assoc.) | | No |
| Antoine Chamsi | East Bay Municipal Utility Dist. | antoine.chamsi@ebmud.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | Yes |
| Michael Chanov | EA Eng., Sci. &Tech. | mchanov@eaest.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | Yes |
| Erin Consuegra | ERA LAB | econsuegra@eralab.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | No |
| Chad Cooper | PDC Labs | ccooper@pdclab.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | No |
| Pete De Lisle | Coastal Bioanalysts Inc. | pfd@coastalbio.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 |
| Kari Fleming | WI DNR | kari.fleming@wisconsin.gov | AB (assoc.) | | No |
| Nicole Fortin | Honolulu City Lab | nfortin@honolulu.gov | Lab (Assoc.) | | No |
| Amy Hackman | PA Dept. Environ. Prot. | ahackman@pa.gov | AB (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 |
| Paul Junio | Northern Lake Service, Inc. | paulj@nlslab.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | No |
| VelRey Lozano | USEPA Reg. 8 | Lozano.VelRey@epa.gov | Other (Assoc.) | | No |
| Marlene Moore | Advanced Systems | mmoore@advancedsys.com | Other (assoc.) | | Yes |
| Linda Nemeth | | lkn1304@gmail.com | Other (assoc.) | | No |
| Chris Pasch | Alan Plummer Associates, Inc. | cpasch@apaienv.com | Other (assoc.) | | No |
| Michele Potter | NJ Dept. of Environ Protect. | Michele.Potter@dep.nj.gov | AB (assoc.) | | Yes |
| Christina Pottios | Los Angeles Cty Sanitation Districts | cpottios@lacsds.org | Lab (Assoc.) | | No |
| Mary Ann Rempel-Hester | EcoAnalysts | mrempel@ecoanalysts.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | Yes |

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|----------------|-------------------------|--|-------------------|--|-----|
| Greg Savitske | US EPA OECA | Savitske.gregory@epa.gov | Other (Assoc.) | | No |
| Justin Scott | Cove Sciences | justin@covesciences.com | Lab (Assoc.) | | No |
| Lem Walker | USEPA OW/OST | Walker.lemuel@epa.gov | Other (Assoc.) | | No |
| Craig Watts | Hydrosphere Research | cwatts@hydrosphere.net | Lab (Assoc.) | | Yes |
| Elizabeth West | LA DEQ LELAP | elizabeth.west@la.gov | AB (assoc.) | | No |

Program Administrator: Lynn Bradley, lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org

Attachment 2 – Agenda

- Welcome and Roll Call
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes (July minutes and Summary of August conference session attached)
- Slides for Data Interpretation Training – brief explanation (file sent separately on Friday, comments due 9/24/21 COB)
- Brief Review of Outstanding V1M7 Needs (Draft revision of V1M7 attached)
 - Request for Volunteers to Assist with Revisions of DOC §1.6 and Portions of §1.7 (1.7, 1.7.1, 1.7.1.1, 1.7.1.2, 1.7.2.1, & 1.7.2.2, see note at beginning of draft revision)
 - Comments from Conference to be Considered (refer to attached minutes)
 - Method Validation §1.5 (Pete is on vacation)
 - Chemistry QC §1.7.1.6.e (John and Michele)
 - Review of Draft New PT §1.8 (Tom, maybe others?)
- Affirm Changes to §1.7.1.6 from July
- Resume Review of Draft at §1.7.1.5.k
- New Business, if any
- Adjourn