

Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Expert Committee Meeting Summary
October 21, 2020 1:00 pm Eastern

1. Welcome and Announcements

Rami welcomed everyone to the meeting. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1, below. The minutes of September 16 were approved, with Ginger abstaining due to her absence last month. There were no changes to the agenda, which is in Attachment 2, below.

2. Updates

- Rami's third term approved as Chair by the CSDEC Executive Committee
 - Associate members were invited to apply for voting membership prior to the planned December lecture
- Conference Plans
 - The winter conference will now be fully virtual and is scheduled for the week of January 25-28. Registration will only be available for the full conference, with all sessions recorded for later viewing. Each time block will have a committee meeting and a general interest session; the WET/PTPEC/PTEC meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday afternoon, January 25
- PT Instructions for PT Providers (Ginger, Pete and Mark)
 - Joint meeting during conference (see above)
- Assessor Training Errata Sheet
 - No response yet
- Draft Outline for Data Interpretation Training (Teresa and Natalie)
 - Training proposal will be submitted by Natalie (she thought Lynn would submit it, Lynn thought she would; it will be done)
- Method Codes for WET Analyses (Michele, Ginger and maybe Teresa)
 - No update
- LAMS Clean-up for WET Methods (Rami, Michele and Elizabeth)
 - Back burner

3. Continued Discussion of Analyst IDOC Write-up

Rami declared that his goal is to have a consensus agreement on the requirements before the current committee members rotate off. The current draft document will be proposed to the NELAP Accreditation Council to ensure that all other NELAP ABs will accept what those on the committee agree to, and then the resulting requirements will be written into the draft revised module.

Rami discussed comments submitted by Steve Boggs about Attachment 1. Steve explained that some of the proposed substitutions might not be acceptable due to different organism requirements and that the infrequently used West Coast species be removed from the table. Participants agreed that specialty organisms and those infrequently used will need separate IDOCs for the analysts. Steve also pointed out that for the acute fathead minnow tests, at least in California, there are three different certifications, depending on whether static, static renewal or continuous flow technology is utilized for the test.

Another discussion point was that, where chronic tests are not allowed to substitute for acute tests, the first and last days of the chronic test could be defined as usable for training for the acute tests.

Rami had circulated to all of the ABs on the committee the recommendation from September that control-only tests could be used for training and IDOC. This met with objection from several ABs.

Participants explained that serial dilutions of the test material are not used for controls, but there are many steps in a full SRT that are not performed on controls such as randomization by parental groups and more. There was some discussion about the need for an SRT with *Ceriodaphnia* but possibly not with all other organisms if the randomization was demonstrated with *Cerios*. Also, the control-only option would be more valuable for sediment tests, since recovery of organisms is more difficult in those. Another point made was that, without the standard reference material, it's not possible to know whether consistent results are being demonstrated. Yet another suggestion was to use controls for training (particularly with transfer of organisms) but an SRT for the analyst IDOC.

Rami referred to the IDOC definition in V1M2:

V1M2 §3.1 Demonstration of Capability: A procedure to establish the ability of the analyst to perform analyses with acceptable accuracy and precision.

He discussed that accuracy is not applicable to WET analyses as it is to others but that precision can be determined. Having an SRT "in range" depends on the functioning of the entire team involved with performing the test, so that when an analyst working on the team produces an "in range" result, the test could be considered satisfactory. However, an AB noted that the method states that an analyst must run the entire test and "generate acceptable test result", which cannot be done with only controls as the "result" for controls is only survival. This AB then cited previous agreement about the number of SRTs required for an analyst IDOC. There was some question about whether this was one or two, but no more than two.

The overall consensus was that for an analyst IDOC, at least one SRT per method will be needed except where the methods allow control-only IDOCs for sediment tests and the substitution list (as revised) can be used to reduce the total number of SRTs required for a new analyst. The list of steps for training has received no additional comments, so appears to be satisfactory. Rami will revise the draft IDOC document and both attachments, and circulate that to the committee, with a request that committee members who cannot be present for the November 18 meeting to please send their comments by email in advance of the meeting date.

4. Method Validation

Time was expired, and Pete was not present. Hopefully, this topic can be addressed at the November meeting.

5. New Business

There was no new business. Sarah moved and Mark seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

6. Next Meeting

The next teleconference meeting will be on Wednesday, November 18, 2020, at 1 pm Eastern. An agenda and any needed documents will be sent in advance.

Attachment 1

WET Expert Committee Membership

Member	Affiliation	Email	Category	Term Expiration	Present
Ginger Briggs	Bio-Analytical Laboratories	bal@bioanalyticallabs.com	Lab	Jan. 2021 (2)	Yes
Chris Burbage	Hampton Roads Sanitation District	cburbage@hrsd.com	Lab	Jan. 2021 (2)	Yes
Kari Fleming	WI DNR	kari.fleming@wisconsin.gov	AB	Jan. 2021 (2)	No
Amy Hackman	PA Dept. Environ. Prot.	ahackman@pa.gov	AB	Jan. 2021 (2)	No
Sarah Hughes	Shell Oil Co.	s.hughes@shell.com	Other	Jan. 2022 (1)	Yes
Pete De Lisle (Vice Chair)	Coastal Bioanalysts Inc.	pfd@coastalbio.com	Lab	Jan. 2021 (2)	No
Rami Naddy (Chair)	TRE Env. Strat. LLC	naddyrb.tre@gmail.com	Lab	Jan. 2021 (2)	Yes
Teresa Norberg-King	USEPA	norberg-king.teresa@epa.gov	Other (Affiliate)	Jan. 2021 (2)	No
Mark O'Neil	Environmental Enterprises USA, Inc.	moneil@eeusa.com	Lab	Jan. 2021 (1)	Yes
John Overbey	American Interplex Corp.	joverbey@americaninterplex.com	Lab	Jan. 2021 (1)	Yes
Chris Pasch	Alan Plummer Associates, Inc.	cpasch@apaienv.com	Other	Jan. 2021 (2)	No
Michael Pfeil	Texas Comm. Environ. Quality	Michael.pfeil@tceq.texas.gov	AB	Jan. 2021 (2)	Yes
Michele Potter	NJ Dept. of Environ Protect.	Michele.Potter@dep.nj.gov	AB	Jan. 2021 (2)	Yes
Steven Rewa	Env. Resources Management	steven.rewa@erm.com	Lab	Jan. 2021 (2)	No
Elizabeth West	LA DEQ LELAP	elizabeth.west@la.gov	AB	Jan. 2021 (2)	Yes
Associate Members					
Sylvia Bogdan	EPA R6	Bogdan.sylvia@epa.gov	Other (Assoc.)		No
Steve Boggs	CA ELAP	steve.boggs@waterboards.ca.gov	Other (Assoc.)		No
Dwayne Burkholder	PA DEP	dburkholde@pa.gov	AB (assoc.)		No
Antoine Chamsi	East Bay Municipal Utility Dist.	antoine.chamsi@ebmud.com	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
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.)		Yes
Stephen Clark	Pacific EcoRisk	slclark@pacificecorisk.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
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
Nicole Fortin	Honolulu City Lab	nfortin@honolulu.gov	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
Paul Junio	Northern Lake Service, Inc.	paulj@nlslab.com	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
Natalie Love	GEI Consultants	nlove@geiconsultants.com	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
VelRey Lozano	USEPA Reg. 8	Lozano.VelRey@epa.gov	Other (Assoc.)		No
Rosana McConkey	WA Dept of Ecology	rosa461@ECY.WA.GOV	Non-NELAP AB (Assoc.)		No
Marlene Moore	Advanced Systems	mmoore@advancedsys.com	Other (assoc.)		No
Linda Nemeth		lkn1304@gmail.com	Other (assoc.)		No
Katie Payne	Enthalpy Analytical	katie.payne@enthalpy.com	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
Christina Pottios	Los Angeles Cty Sanitation Districts	cpottios@lacsds.org	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Greg Savitske	US EPA OECA	Savitske.gregory@epa.gov	Other (Assoc.)		No
Justin Scott	Cove Sciences	justin@covesciences.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Caitie Van Sciver	NJ DEP	Caitie.VanSciver@dep.nj.gov	AB		Yes
Lem Walker	USEPA OW/OST	Walker.lemuel@epa.gov	Other (Assoc.)		No
Craig Watts	Hydrosphere Research	cwatts@hydrosphere.net	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Bruce Weckworth	HRSD	Bruce.weckworth@hrsd.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Tom Widera	Pace Labs	Thomas.Widera@pacelabs.com	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
Program Administrator: Lynn Bradley, lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org					

Attachment 2

WET Expert Committee Meeting Agenda, October 21, 2020

7. Welcome and Roll Call
8. Approval of Agenda and Minutes (September minutes attached)
9. Status Updates
 - a. Rami's third term approved as Chair!
 - b. Associate Members Eligible to Apply for Voting Membership
 - c. Conference Plans
 - d. PT Instructions for PT Providers (Ginger, Pete and Mark) – joint meeting during conference
 - e. Assessor Training Errata Sheet -- silence
 - f. Draft Outline for Data Interpretation Training (Teresa and Natalie) – training proposal submitted, no feedback yet
 - g. Method Codes for WET Analyses (Michele, Ginger and maybe Teresa) -- No update
 - h. LAMS Clean-up for WET Methods (Rami, Michele and Elizabeth) -- back burner
10. Continued Discussion of Analyst IDOC Write-up (Rami)
11. Method Validation (Pete, §1.5 of draft module)
12. New Business, if any
13. Adjourn