



Attachment B – Minutes 8/11/10 – PT Executive Committee Meeting

TNI Proficiency Testing Program

Wednesday, August 11, 2010

Presented by: The PT Executive Committee

Session Chair: Eric Smith



Session Agenda

- Summary of PT Executive Committee Activities
- PTPA Evaluations
 - Update of PTPA Assessment SOP
 - New PTPA Application
 - Status of PTPA Assessments for 2010
- Fields of Proficiency Testing
 - Cryptosporidium
 - Status of Drinking Water, Non-Potable Water, and Solid and Chemical Materials Table Updates
 - Discussion with NELAP Accreditation Council on FoPT tables
 - FoPT Table Management SOP
- A2LA update and database presentation – Randy Query & Dan Tholen
- Open Floor for Questions / Comments





PT Executive Committee

□ Committee Members

- Gary Dechant – Laboratory Quality Systems, LLC
- Amy Doupe – Lancaster Laboratories, Inc.
- Steve Gibson – Texas Comm. on Environmental Quality
- Svetlana Isozamova – Accutest Laboratories
- Michella Karapondo – US EPA OGWDW
- Carl Kircher - Florida DOH
- Stacie Metzler – Hampton Roads Sanitation District
- Matt Sica – State of Maine
- Eric Smith – TestAmerica, Inc
- Curtis Wood – Environmental Resource Associates





Overview of PT Executive Committee Activities since Jan 2010

- Finalized PT Executive Committee responses to Standard Interpretation Requests 72 and 80.
- Formed Field PT Subcommittee and tasked the subcommittee to develop a PT table for Lead PTs in soil, paint films, and dust for use by NEFAP. This table criteria will be used for analysis of PTs in the field using field equipment.





Overview of PT Executive Committee Activities since Jan 2010 (cont.)

- Approved A2LA's TNI PT Provider Audit Checklist updated to include reference to TNI Standard Volume 3 requirements
- Finalized minor formatting updates to PT Executive Committee SOPs 4-101, 4-102, 4-103, and 4-105 and forwarded those SOPs to the Policy Committee for review.
- Retired SOP 4-006, Rev. 0 on Conducting the Annual PT Caucus.





Overview of PT Executive Committee Activities since Jan 2010 (cont.)

- Reviewed and finalized an update to the PT Executive Committee's SOP 4-104 on Evaluating PT Provider Accreditors.
- Reviewed and updated the PT Executive Committee's TNI PTPA Application
- Made a recommendation to the TNI Board of Directors that A2LA be designated as a TNI PTPA providing accreditation and oversight of Stationary Source Audit Sample providers





Overview of PT Executive Committee Activities since Jan 2010 (cont.)

- Reviewed and approved an update to the Drinking Water FoPT table and forwarded the committee's recommendation to NELAP Accreditation Council for consideration.
- Currently reviewing updates to the Non-potable Water FoPT table and Solid & Chemical Materials FoPT table proposed by the Chemistry FoPT table Subcommittee



PTPA Evaluations

- Reviewed and finalized an update to the PT Executive Committee's SOP 4-104 on Evaluating PT Provider Accreditors
 - to reflect the requirements in Volume 3 (EL-V3-2009) and Volume 4 (EL-V4-2009) of the 2009 TNI Standard-Environmental Laboratory Sector and SSAS Standard modules.
 - revisions and clarifications made to both the application and assessment processes



PTPA Evaluations

- Revised and finalized an update to the TNI PTPA Application Form
 - Removed application example from the PT SOP 4-104.
 - Clarified application requirements.
 - Improved document control features.

- TNI PTPA Application Form, Revision 1, Effective 7/15/10 will be posted on TNI website



PTPA Evaluations

- Two PTPA evaluations are in progress for 2010 –
 - New applicant, ACLASS
 - Re-evaluation of A2LA
- Evaluation teams have been assembled for both assessments.
 - ACLASS – Carl Kircher (lead) and Amy Doupe
 - A2LA – Stacie Metzler (lead) and Kirstin McCracken





Fields of Proficiency Testing

□ Cryptosporidium

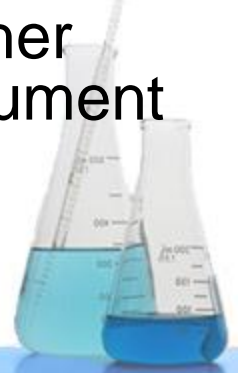
- In the Spring of 2010, the EPA sent a letter to the PT Executive Committee requesting a review of documents associated with an EPA evaluation of the technical feasibility of private vendors providing PT samples to laboratories approved to analyze raw drinking water samples for Cryptosporidium.
- The EPA has asked the PT Executive Committee to coordinate a review of the EPA's current Cryptosporidium PT procedure and potential inclusion of Cryptosporidium as a new field of proficiency testing in Drinking Water for the TNI program.





Fields of Proficiency Testing

- Cryptosporidium (cont.)
 - PT Executive Committee review of EPA document
 - ✦ Comments from Committee members
 - ✦ Comments from the audience
 - Developing a response to EPA's request
 - Cryptosporidium PT and QA program meeting
 - ✦ Thursday, August 12th from 1:30 - 3 p.m. in the Concord room. An open session designed to allow PT providers, labs, and others to provide further input on this topic. Handouts of the EPA document will be available to attendees of that meeting.





Fields of Proficiency Testing

- PT Executive Committee's status on the plan to eliminate/retire Experimental FoPT tables
 - The PT Board's Chemistry FoPT table subcommittee was tasked with doing a technical review on each Experimental analyte.
 - Experimental analytes were given priority and reviewed first.
 - The Chemistry FoPT table subcommittee completed their technical reviews of experimental analytes associated with the Drinking Water, Non-potable Water, and Solid & Chemical Material tables and the subcommittee made table update recommendations to the PT Executive Committee.





Fields of Proficiency Testing

- Recognition of the PT Executive Committee's current Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee:
 - Carl Kircher (chair)
 - Stephen Arpie
 - Dan Dickinson
 - Amy Doupe
 - Stacey Fry
 - Jeff Lowry
 - Jim Mouser
 - Chris Rucinski
 - Eric Smith
 - Dan Tholen
 - Chuck Wibby





Fields of Proficiency Testing

- Drinking Water FoPT table update status
 - The PT Executive Committee reviewed and approved an update to the Drinking Water FoPT table and forwarded a recommendation to NELAP Accreditation Council for consideration.
 - The committee received comments on the Drinking Water FoPT table back from the NELAP Accreditation Council.
 - The committee revised the Drinking Water FoPT table based on NELAP Accreditation Council comments and submitted a revised recommendation to the NELAP Accreditation Council on July 26, 2010.
 - The NELAP Accreditation Council is currently reviewing that Drinking Water FoPT table recommendation.
 - If approved, the new Drinking Water FoPT table is expected to become effective January 1, 2011. This update would allow for the retirement of the current Drinking Water Experimental table.





Fields of Proficiency Testing

- Non-potable and Solid & Chemical Materials FoPT tables update status
 - Both tables currently under review by the PT Executive Committee
 - Discussions in progress with the NELAP Accreditation Council to ensure that table recommendations will meet NELAP Accreditation Council needs.





Fields of Proficiency Testing

- Possible FoPT table update options were presented to the NELAP Accreditation Council based on comments received from the NELAP Accreditation Council via email and during last PT Executive Committee teleconference.





Fields of Proficiency Testing

- The possible FoPT table update options presented were as follows:
 - Option #1 – All analytes currently on the draft Non-potable Water FoPT accreditation table update proposed by the subcommittee that don't meet Chapter 2, Appendix C.4.1 criteria would be removed from the draft update of the NPW Accreditation FoPT table. That short list of analytes would be placed back onto a NPW Experimental FoPT table, and a revised NPW Experimental table would be made effective on January 1, 2011 along with an updated NPW Accreditation FoPT table. Analytes remaining on the revised NPW Experimental table would then be reassessed after July 1, 2011 (implementation date of the TNI Standard) for possible transfer to the NPW accreditation table. The process outlined in this option would also be applied to the pending S&CM accreditation FoPT table update.
 - Option #2 – Set the effective date for pending NPW and S&CM FoPT table updates for after July 1, 2011. Continue to review analytes (beyond just the experimental analytes already considered) and update the tables to be ready with complete table updates after July 1, 2011. Nothing changes until after July 1, 2011.





Fields of Proficiency Testing

- The NELAP Accreditation Council has been invited to attend our session this afternoon to provide feedback on the possible options presented or to provide the PT Executive Committee with an alternative preferred option.
- At this time, the floor is open for any present NELAP Accreditation Council member to discuss any comments/questions on this topic with the PT Executive Committee.





FoPT Table Management SOP

- Over the next year, the PT Executive Committee will be developing an SOP on FoPT Table Management. It has been proposed so far that this SOP might include how to:
 - Request / add new analytes
 - Request / add high/low concentration ranges
 - Fix FoPT table typos
 - Request removal of analytes/ remove analytes
 - Set Table effective dates
 - Set minimum time windows required to process requests

- The SOP would also outline/map the approval processes necessary to make changes to the Tables.



A2LA

- A2LA update - Randy Query
- PT Database presentation – Dan Tholen



Questions

- Open Floor for Questions/Comments
 - On topics discussed today
 - On new topics/issues

