TNI Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
April 12, 2023

ROLL CALL

Directors	Present	Staff	Present
Jordan Adelson	X	Lynn Bradley	X
Aaren Alger	X	Paul Junio	X
Steve Arms	X	Jerry Parr	X
Travis Bartholomew	X	Ilona Taunton	X
Caitlin Brice		Janice Wlodarski	
Justin Brown	X	Bob Wyeth	
Kristin Brown	X		
Robin Cook	X		
Stacie Crandall			
Jack Farrell			
Maria Friedman	X		
Myron Gunsalus			
Jessica Jensen	X		
Harold Longbaugh	X		
Judy Morgan	X		
Patsy Root	X		
Debbie Rosano			
Valerie Slaven	X		
Nick Slawson	X		
Alfredo Sotomayor	X		
Lem Walker			
Past Chair			
Sharon Mertens			

AGENDA

1. Welcome Travis Bartholomew

- Travis has been elected to his first term. This was his first meeting, and Alfredo invited him to briefly introduce himself.
- Biographical sketches of all Directors were provided separately.
- Myron still awaits a decision from EPA Regional Counsel about whether his continued participation in the Board is permissible.

2. Review of Consent Agenda – Approved 4/12/2023 (Attachment 1)

The final comments as submitted to Ohio about its Voluntary Accreditation Program replace the draft comments in these minutes, as the final version was provided prior to the meeting and met with no comments or objections. (Attachment 5)

3. Business Plan for the Credentials Effort

- The Competency Task Force is recommending the TNI Board approve this Business Plan to initiate efforts to establish the credential initiative. See Attachment 1. (Note: A KSA document was provide separately.)
- Directors offered comments and suggestions as Jerry discussed the Business Plan. Those discussions are summarized below:
    - There appears to be both a need and a desire for such a credentialing program, as evidenced by the proliferation of similar programs in other industry sectors and the near-overwhelming support from TNI conference attendees. In particular, a certification could substitute for formal education in meeting the Technical Manager (or Technical Specialist) qualification requirement, particularly when a required specific number of hours may require an individual to take a college course that is not actually relevant to employment.
    - Badges will be tied to a particular version of the Standard (e.g., 2016 Standard will be embedded in the initial badges), and in order to "update" a badge to a new Standard, a training course in the new Standard would be required (to be re-named in the plan, as it is not "refresher" but new material). If a module is not updated in the new Standard, the badge would be updated without training. Decision to seek update would be up to either the individual or the employer (optional).
    - New badge exams will need to be created when a new Standard is adopted, regardless of whether badge updates are decided upon or not.
    - The full credential should not require re-taking a different exam, as adapting to a new Standard will be considered as an essential requirement to retain the certified professional's employment.
    - Very little liability to the organization is foreseen.
    - The badging and certification activities need to be robust enough to justify salary increases.
    - An SOP for preparing and administering exams is in development by the Training Committee.
    - A policy on taking repeat exams is needed.
    - Obtaining a certified professional certificate will still be far less expensive than college.
    - The necessary classes are not "certified" but only TNI courses will be applicable to meeting the badge requirements.
    - TNI has not surveyed to see what resources might be available to prepare for the badge (or full credential) exams but the list of references from which the requirements (and exam questions) are drawn is included in the KSA document and will be provided to all applicants.
    - Since the Competency Task Force was formed, Requests for Proposals have been issued for anticipated classes and older classes are being reviewed to determine whether they address the needed badge KSAs (or not). Course descriptions on the TNI website have been updated and will include information about which of the badges' requirements they meet.
    - The required training course material may not address all KSAs of a badge. Applicants will be expected to become familiar with the references, as even with the "open book" exams, an applicant will need to know where to look for the specific answer due to time constraints.
    - While TNI cannot predict what types of accommodations might be needed or requested by applicants, it will be our policy that "reasonable accommodations can be made upon request" for those with various special needs. Both the Standard Training Procedure and the application will note that TNI will allow exceptions from standard procedures to support accommodations to the extent possible.
    - The degree fields in the "full credential" should match those that are anticipated to be in the Technical Specialist requirements of the updated V1M2 Quality Systems module.
    - The questions from badge exams will comprise the full credential exam, and the full exam will be scored by topic (per badges) so that an applicant must pass each of the twelve

sections of the exam. There will be more questions created than are used for each exam, so that exams are drawn from a random sampling of the questions available. Exam questions will be protected to the extent feasible, close held and not made available except during the exam administration time.

- While full credential applicants will receive pass/fail scores for the overall exam and be told which of the twelve sections they did not pass, detailed numerical scores and answers to the questions will not be provided.

At this point, time was expired. Rather than rush to a vote, the Chair tabled further discussion and efforts to reach a decision until the May meeting.

4. Charter for the Credentials Committee

- The Competency Task Force's recommendation that the TNI Board transform the Task Force will be addressed once a decision is made about the credentialing activity. (Attachment 2.)

5. Review of Policy 1-115, Use of TNI Presentations

- If there are questions about this Policy, an opportunity for discussion will be provided at the May meeting. As it did not originate with Policy Committee, no action by the Board is required.

Attachment 1: Business Plan for Credential Initiative
Phase 1: Certified Environmental Laboratory Quality Management Systems Professional

April 12, 2023

Background

In February 2020, the TNI Board created a Competency Task Force with this goal "to explore and make recommendations regarding programs to document competencies for Quality Managers, Technical Managers, Assessors, Samplers, and others as appropriate."

The Task Force has met continuously since then and is now ready to present Phase I of this effort, a plan to credential Environmental Laboratory Quality Management System professionals. This document presents a Business Plan for this effort including a proposed budget for the remaining five months of fiscal year 2023.

A preliminary version of this plan was presented to the TNI membership at the January 2023 meeting in San Antonio where it received substantial support.

1.0 Summary

The proposed credentialing initiative will be governed by a process in which a certificate as a certified professional may be obtained by 1) having specified education and experience and passing a comprehensive test or by 2) accumulating digital badges. Both approaches would require ongoing professional development hours to maintain the credential.

This program will be totally voluntary. It is up to the individual, or laboratory management, to make the decision to apply.

The full credential is initially obtained by an individual demonstrating that they have achieved defined knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs), also called "competencies," for a Quality Management System (QMS) professional in an environmental laboratory. A partial example of a KSA is provided below.

> **The Data Integrity Specialist** knows or understands:
>
> a. Requirements for external ethics program training and any external resources available to employees.
> b. How to provide a procedure for confidential reporting of data integrity issues in their laboratory.
> c. The differences between improper, illegal, and unethical practices and laboratory errors.
>
> …
>
> s. How to establish and maintain a documented data integrity system

- Section 2 describes the Digital Badge option.
- Section 3 describes the Exam option.
- Section 4 describes the continuing professional development hours required to remain credentialed.
- Section 5 contains a proposed timeline and budget.

2.0 Digital Badge Option

Under this option an individual could become a Certified Environmental Laboratory QMS Professional by accumulating a series of “digital badges” by taking specified TNI training courses and passing an exam specific to each badge.

1. Basic Quality Management Specialist
2. Proficiency Testing (PT) Specialist
3. Data Integrity Specialist
4. Document Control and Records Specialist
5. Customer Service Specialist
6. Measurement Traceability Specialist
7. Corrective Action Specialist
8. Internal Audit Specialist
9. Method Validation Specialist
10. Sample Handling Specialist
11. Quality Control Specialist
12. Data Review and Reporting Specialist

Some individuals may only want to earn a digital badge for their specialty (e.g., a Customer Service Manager or a Sample Log-In Technician) and not apply to be certified.

To become a Certified Environmental Laboratory QMS Professional by the digital badge route, an individual would need to take a minimum of 40 hours of training courses offered by TNI (total for all 12 badges). Some courses may be applicable to meet the requirements for more than one badge, so the 40 hours is a maximum.

To earn a badge, the individual must take the prescribed courses and pass an exam for each badge. The exam would consist of at least 30 questions and must be answered within 25 minutes. The badge would be earned by paying a $95 administrative fee (in addition to the course fee) that allows TNI to issue the badge and record the information for each individual. For individuals that just want one or more digital badges, there would be no other costs.

Note: For each exam, there will be at least 60 questions than can be randomized so that individuals that retake the exam would see different questions.

Individuals that earn all 12 digital badges could then apply to become certified by paying a $110 administrative fee that covers verification that all training was completed, providing a certificate valid for three years, and posting the individual name in the database of certified professionals. The total fee to become certified, not counting training course fees, would be 12 badges at $95 each plus $110 for a total of $1250.

Well over 1000 individuals have taken some of the required training courses dating back to 2012. Individuals that took these classes could apply to receive the badge for the $95 fee by successfully completing the exam for that badge without having to retake training courses.

<u>Awarding of Badges and Certificates and the Database of Certified Professionals and Specialists</u>

Once TNI has verified the individual has passed the exam for each badge and completed the required course work, TNI would issue the digital badge and publish the individual’s name in a public database, showing name, contact information, the date of the award, and the applicable standard(s).

Badges have no expiration date. However, each badge is connected to a particular version(s) of a TNI standard, and if a new standard has significant changes that affect the KSAs established for that badge, an individual would need to take a refresher training course to obtain a current badge. All individuals who earn digital badges would have their name published in a public database on the TNI website.

Once TNI has verified the individual has acquired the 12 required digital badges, applied for the credential, and paid the fee for administrative costs, TNI would issue a certificate valid for three years, publish the individual's name in a public database, showing name, contact information, the date of the award, and the applicable standard(s).

Section 3.0 The Exam Option

Under this option an individual could become a Certified Environmental Laboratory QMS Professional by demonstrating that they meet established minimum requirements for education and experience and passing a comprehensive exam. Training courses would be available to assist with the initial certification but are not required. Table 1 summarizes the minimum qualifications.

Table 1: Proposed Minimum Qualifications for Education and Experience

EDUCATION	EXPERIENCE
High School	Five years in working in a laboratory, including at least one year in a position in quality.*
Associate's, in related field**	Four years in working in a laboratory, including at least one year in a position in quality.*
Bachelor's, in related field**	Three years in working in a laboratory, including at least one year in a position in quality.*
Master's or higher degree in related field**	Two years in working in a laboratory, including at least one year in a position in quality.*

* Working in some capacity in the area of quality control, quality assurance, or quality management.
** Chemical, environmental, biological, or physical sciences or engineering

The Exam would be open book and consist of 150 questions and would be proctored over a 2-hour time span. To become certified initially, the individual must get a grade of 70 or higher. The fee for testing and award of credential would be $375 for the initial certification.

Section 4.0 Periodic Recertification

Recertification is based on continued employment in the field and acquiring 24 professional development hours over a 3-year period, with documentation of those hours to be submitted to TNI for review with payment of the renewal fee.

Professional development hours would be awarded for such activities as participation in a professional society, preparing publications and/or presentations, attending training courses, or attending meetings. See Table 2 below.

Table 2. Examples of Professional Development Hours

Activity[1]	PDH earned	Maximum Hours[2]
Training Course (Attendee)	1/hour of course	No limit
Training Course (Instructor)	2/per hour of course	No limit
Employment	0.1/month	3.6
Relevant College Course	1/per each credit hour	No limit
Meetings/Conferences[3]	1/day	15
Committee Officer[3]	2/year	10

Committee Member[3]	0.1/per meeting attended	10
Presentation at Conference[3]	1/presentation	6
Membership in Professional Society[3]	0.5/year/society	6
Development of questions for quiz	1 hour for 20 questions	No limit
Proctor exam	4 hours per exam	No limit

Notes
1. Individuals could submit additional PDH for other similar activities.
2. Over a 3-year period.
3. Includes organizations other than TNI such as ASTM, ACS, ACIL, FSEA, etc.

Section 5.0 Timeline, Draft Budget, and Next Steps

Time	Activity	Status
December 2022	1. Competency Task Force continues to refine approach	Complete
December 2022	2. Ensure all needed training courses are available	Proposals for remaining courses due April 15
January 11, 2023	3. Plan presented to membership for feedback	Complete, but maybe more needed
TBD	4. Develop system for proctored exams	Tabled to Phase 2
TBD	5. Develop comprehensive exam	Tabled to Phase 2
April 12, 2023	6. Board approval of final plan	
April 2023	7. Develop any needed policies or SOPs.	Draft admin STP completed
April 2023	8. Compile and publish list of applicable training courses for each badge	Spreadsheet complete; Need to update training course descriptions
April 2023	9. Develop exams for each Badge and then the larger exam.	Exam of PT specialist complete; others in progress.
April 2023	10. Complete on-line system for applications and tracking.	Well underway with completion expected by early May
April 2023	11. Finalize the creation of all 12 Badges.	Template done.
April 2023	12. Identify staff support, i.e., a “Credentials Coordinator.”	Will occur after step 12.
April 2023	13. Determine which steps can be automated and which ones are manual.	Steps being reviewed by IT Administrator
May 2023	14. Open up Phase 1 initiative for members to apply	Waiting completion of other steps.

Budget (FY 2023)

For the first year of the program (May-September 23), a modest budget is proposed. This budget assumes 85 digital badge fees. This could be 85 individuals at one fee, or 11 individual at 8 badges, or any similar combination. Given 1400 laboratories in NELAP and another 700 in California that might be interested, this appears to be a very low goal. The income for Exam path would not start until FY 2024 and the Professional Development Hours would not begin until 2026.

Income	Fee	Number	Amount

Digital Badge/Badge	$ 95	85		$ 8,075
Digital Badge certification	$ 110	0		$ 0
Exam	$ 375	0		$ 0
PDH	$ 225	0		$ 0
			Total	$ 8,075
Expense				
Labor				$ 2,425
Software development				$ 5,125
			Total	$ 7,550
Net Income				$ 525

Figure 1. Examples of Digital Badges

Figure 2. Example of a Certificate

Attachment 2. Proposed Charter for the Credentials Committee

Credentials Committee
Charter

April 7, 2023

Mission:

Implement, manage, and expand efforts to document competencies for Quality Managers, Technical Specialists, Assessors, Samplers, and others as appropriate.

Composition of the Committee

1. There is no requirement for balance of membership.
2. The committee may include at-large members with unlimited terms.
3. The nature of the committee's operations makes it inappropriate to allow associate members.

Objectives:

- Define the types of professional positions to which this mission would apply.
- Define the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) each type of position should have.
- Establish generic competencies for each group.
- Coordinate with TNI Training Committee to ensure training courses exist to support credentialing.
- Recommend to the Board new types of credentials to be added.

Success Measure

- Credentials are established and maintained for the groups identified by this committee.

Available Resources:

- Volunteer committee members
- Virtual meeting services
- Program Administrator support
- Online software to manage credentialing process
- Credentials Coordinator
- Information Technology Manager

Anticipated Schedule:

- Teleconferences: regular monthly schedule of calls is fourth Wednesday at 1 pm Eastern.
- In-person meetings as needed at TNI conferences.

Approvals

Competency Task Force: March 27, 2023

Policy Committee: April 7, 2023
TNI Board of Directors: _____

Attachment 3

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of February Minutes

2. Update on TNI Voting Procedures

The Policy committee revised Policy 1-100 relating to approval of Policies and SOPs that affect multiple committees and SOP 1-102 related to voting rules. Both documents were approved on April 6 and then provided to other groups within TNI for review and comment. Final versions of booth documents should be ready for Board review and approval in May.

3. Advocacy Outreach Plan

The current TNI Strategic Plan had this objective:

> Create a plan for national accreditation and systematic outreach to data users that will explain and promote the benefits of a quality management system.

The Advocacy Committee has completed that plan and it is provided in Attachment 3.

4.1 Comments on Ohio Voluntary Action Program

The Ohio Voluntary Action Program (VAP), their hazardous waste cleanup program, proposed to eliminate their laboratory accreditation program and replace it with TNI. TNI submitted minor comments on this effort last November, and then essentially submitted the same comments last week for a public hearing to occur on April 12. The basis of TNI's comments were 1) clarify the name of our organization, 2) allow the use of NGABs, and 3) ensure only accredited PT providers are included. A copy of the comments submitted is in Attachment 4.

4.2 Agreement with DoD/DOE on Use of TNI Language

TNI and the Department of Defense and Department of Energy have entered into an agreement where DoD and DOE can use TNI language form the 2016 laboratory standard into the next version of their Quality Systems Manual. DoD/DOE plan to make the QSM available as a free download on their websites, but the cover page of the QSM will contain this statement:

> *Some material in this document is reproduced from the 2016 TNI Standard, ELV1: Management and Technical Requirements for Laboratories Performing Environmental Analysis with permission of The NELAC Institute (TNI). Any laboratory that downloads the QSM must attest they have a licensed copy of the 2016 TNI Standard during the DoD/DOE accreditation process.*

DoD/DOE will pay a one-time license fee to use the TNI language established by the TNI Finance Committee. Note: This agreement only involves language developed by TNI and not any language from ISO/IEC 17025: 2005.

5. CONSENSUS STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT REPORT

5.1 Consensus Standard Development Program Executive Committee

2022 Objectives	Status

Continue to develop policies and procedures that guide standards development to ensure full compliance with all relevant TNI requirements for Expert Committee operations and standards development.	
Ensure consistency and uniformity between Volumes and Modules of the Standard	
Provide technical and administrative assistance in developing tools to facilitate the implementation of the Standard	4/12: Created CSDP Technology Workgroup to address multiple uses of Technology such as Fields of Accreditation and PT.
Provide opportunities for stakeholder involvement throughout the development process and assist Expert Committees in dissemination of pertinent information and responses to comments.	2/6: Provided TNI Chairs and non-TNI interested parties (public) the Response to Comments document for revised Radiochemistry standard and posted on TNI website.
Submit one of the revised Modules (including the entire Development Process) to ANSI to finalize TNI's re-accreditation.	2/6: Scheduled for 2023. Most likely EL V3 or EL V4.
Continue the Standards revision process, including assuring a 'big picture' review prior to any Module becoming final	3/6: SOP 2-100 and 2-101 near completion and upon approval will be submitted to ANSI.
Determine the need for a creation of Committee focused on Consumables	2/6: Awaiting product of Consumables Task Force
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report. Internal Audits have begun. Awaiting input and schedule from Policy Committee.

5.2 Asbestos Testing Expert Committee

2023 Objectives	Status
Continue to develop and maintain consensus standards for asbestos testing (AT) that are practical, implementable, and meet the needs of the environmental testing community while providing data of known and documented quality.	2/6: Response to Comments complete on 2nd revision to Module 3. Public Comment period closing in March, 2023. Final version of M3 to be available for implementation at discretion of AC. 4/12: No further ANSI action (BSR-9 submission) can be made until full audit resolution.
Seek American National Standard status from ANSI and pursue adoption of Module 3 in NELAP.	2/6: As final re-accreditation occurs, BS-9 to be filed with ANSI.
Serve as a technical resource regarding AT to TNI members and other interested parties.	2/6: Inputs to Quality Management Systems Expert Committee provided with continuing assistance as necessary.

Provide technical assistance in developing tools to facilitate the implementation of the Standard.	2/6: Checklist tool for compliance with EL V1 M3 being considered for development
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report. 3/6: Internal Audit has begun.

5.3 Chemistry Expert Committee

2023 Objectives	Status
Begin revision to V1M4.	2/6: Review and modification of M4 has begun with established Work Groups providing inputs for full committee consideration. 3/6: Public input to proposed changes from TNI Winter meeting under consideration. 4/12: Work groups returning recommended changes to the full committee for consideration.
Provide technical assistance in implementation of the Standard.	2/6: As revised module is developed, need for Guidance documents or other means of implantation assistance will be evaluated.
Continue to contribute to resolution of the Technical Specialist issue.	2/6: Inputs to Quality Management Systems Expert Committee provided with continuing assistance as necessary.
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report. A number of unresolved SIRs require attention but will likely need to be addressed by changes in M4 currently under way. 3/6: Internal Audit has begun. 4/12: New AB added to the committee. Final vacancy now open to any interest category maintaining appropriate balance.

5.4 Laboratory Accreditation Body Committee

2022 Objectives	Status
Publish Draft Standard V2M1, Revision 1.	3/8: All comments on Draft Standard from all sources have been addressed and Response-to-Comments document is completed (pending decision of whether justification for persuasive/non-persuasive decisions is necessary for revised Draft

	Standard). Plan to initiate committee vote on revised draft at next meeting. 4/12: Draft Standard Revision 1 approved by LAB and published for comment on March 31, 2023. The comment period is 90 days.
Discuss and rule on any comments Persuasive or Non-persuasive	2/6: Plan to work on this during comment period for Revision 1
If controversies identified, publish Revision 2 of Draft Standard and receive/review comments again.	
Committee vote for Final Standard.	
Review and update Technical Review Checklist as needed based on changes to standard.	2/6: Plan to work on this during comment period for Revision 1. 4/12: Work on checklist update being postponed while NELAP evaluators and NELAP AC representatives discuss possible improvements to the evaluation process, to look at effectiveness of implementation for an AB's documented practices.
Provide information on developing and recommending training and guidance materials as appropriate.	
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report.

5.5 Microbiology Committee

2023 Objectives	Status
Complete Volume 1 Module 5 Draft Standard.	2/6: Finishing up responses to comment and finalizing Revised Draft Standard for 90-day comment period. 3/6: The Response to Comments document has been voted on and is being prepared for posting. There will be a 30 day period for any appeals to be filed and then the Committee will vote to finalize the Standard.
Present "Understanding Microbiology" Webinar course(s).	2/6: Adding information to training in response to request in San Antonio to include references to Standard. Updates will be complete in time for March training. 3/6: Finalizing this week and sending for posting. 4/11: Class posted on the website. Dates: 4/27. 5/25, 6/22, 7/27, and 8/24.
Prepare Implementation Guidance regarding Incubator Equilibrium checks.	4/11: Work has been started on this guidance.

Continue to support Quality Management System's efforts to finalize language for Technical Specialist.	
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report. 4/11: Will be working with the new CSDP Technology Workgroup being formed.

5.6 Proficiency Testing Committee

2023 Objectives	Status
Develop and maintain consensus standards for proficiency testing (PT) that are practical, implementable, and meet the needs of the environmental community.	2/6: Notices of Intent to modify V1M1, V2M2, V3 and V4 approved, and two Work Groups established (V1/V2 and V3/V4). Work continues in these Work Groups with proposed changes being returned for full committee consideration. While all 4 elements of the Standard are being addressed, V3 and V4 are the primary focus in order to resolve full re-accreditation from ANSI.
– Complete Workgroup review and move to full committee.	3/6: Public input to proposed changes from TNI Winter meeting under consideration.
– Prepare revise Draft Standards: V1M1, V2M2, V3, and V4.	3/6: Being developed by work groups for full committee consideration. 4/12: Work groups returning recommended changes to the full committee for consideration,
Serve as a technical resource to TNI membership and the environmental testing community regarding PT performance.	
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report. 3/6: Internal Audits has begun. 4/12: Final vacancy still to be filled by AB or Other.

5.7 Quality Management Systems Committee

2023 Objectives	Status
Complete Volume 1 Module 2 Draft Standard.	4/11: Reviewing all SIRs to confirm they are addressed in the DRAFT Standard.
Finalize Technical Specialist language.	2/6: Working on exception language for Technical Specialist section.

	3/6: Working on language to make it clear current technical managers may continue as technical specialists for same areas of responsibility.
Continue working through controversial topics:	2/6: Working on defining Technology. Will work with PTPEC, Chemistry and LAMS to further this work.
– Technical Specialist	
– Internal Audits	
– Document/Record Retention	3/6: Working on records retention language. 4/11: Committee sending ideas for records retention language to Workgroup for consideration.
– Quality Manual	
– Define “Appropriate QC” in Section 7.7 (ISO/IEC 17025:2017)	
– Consistent use of Procedure and Policy	
– Clarification of unique ID	
Work on language from Sections 4.2 and 4.1.3 from ISO/IEC 17011:2017. Laboratory requirements are included in these sections and should be added to Module 2.	2/6: This effort now complete.
Continue to respond to Standard Interpretation Requests	4/11: Responded to SIR 453 regarding quarterly calibration verification of manual repeating pipettes.
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report. 4/11: Committee member, Tony Francis, will be working with the CSDP Technology Workgroup.

5.8 Radiochemistry Committee

2023 Objectives	Status
Complete V1M6 Draft Standard.	2/6: Response to Comment Document has been posted and distributed to interested Stakeholders. If no appeals are filed, Module 6 is complete.
Resolve reporting uncertainty with PT results.	4/11: The Committee has started work on this topic.
Explore options for FoPT tables for non-DW matrices.	

Continue to support Quality Management System's efforts to finalize language for Technical Specialist.	
Explore options for FoPT tables for non-DW matrices.	
Evaluate need for training development.	4/11: The Committee is looking at training opportunities for the next year.
Administrative Activities	The Committee did not meet in February. 4/11: Committee member, Jim Chambers, will be working with the CSDP Technology Workgroup.

5.9 Whole Effluent Toxicity Committee

2023 Objectives	Status
Complete review and revision of updated language for each section of revised V1M7.	2/6: Revision of V1M7 is underway, with DOC section nearing completion and Essential QC section remaining to be updated. 3/8: DOC section complete pending final affirmation of revised language. The Essential QC section remains to be updated, beginning at March meeting.
Working with PTPEC, establish path to achieve data comparability for WET PT data.	2/6: PTPEC has determined that the recently re-constituted WET FoPT Subcommittee is the appropriate group to determine how to approach this objective
Provide input as needed for QC Specialist badge for aquatic toxicity, in support of credentialing initiative.	
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report.

6. NEFAP

6.1 NEFAP Executive Committee

2022 Objectives	Status
Support standard revision process by providing comments and suggested changes to improve the TNI Field Activities Standards.	
Complete NEFAP AB re-evaluation process.	
Continue to develop training courses and implement strategic plan as it relates to training.	2/6: Working on final formatting of course (Internal Auditing for Field Sampling and Measurement Organizations). Two sections will

	be recorded ahead for students to complete prior to two final live sessions. First two recordings will be complete in Spring with goal to give final two sessions after the Field Sampling Conclave. 4/11: The Training Workgroup started recording the first two sections of the training. They are listening to the first attempt to determine whether it needs to be re-recorded.
Aggressively market the Program utilizing the strategies outlined in the strategic plan.	
– Hold a virtual Sampling Conclave	2/6: A flyer is being finalized to begin reaching out to speakers for the Field Sampling Conclave to be held virtually June 6-8. 3/6: Requests to present have been going out to various speakers. There is positive response. Registration will be opening in April and details on how to do that are being worked on this month. Flyer language was reviewed and updates are being made. 4/11: There are 21 confirmed speakers to cover all presentation slots for a Conclave to be held June 6-8, 2023, from 12-4pm each day. A vendor technology component is also being planned. Abstracts are due next Monday (4/17) and presentations will be due 5/22. Ilona is collecting and organizing the initial information received and then William will setup a website for the Conclave that will include a submission component.
– Continue to present at outside conferences.	
– Market the new Standard when completed.	
– Submit comments to Quality Management Systems committee on the use of NEFAP.	2/6: Patrick Selig is work on a request and language to be sent to QMS Expert Committee to review.
Generate more awareness of the program and drive growth and interest in participation.	4/11: Field Sampling Conclave is being planned for June 6-8, 2023.
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report.

6.2 Field Activities Expert Committee (FAC)

2023 Objectives	Status
Complete Volume 1 and Volume 2 Draft Standard.	2/6: Volume 1 and 2: Final language is being reviewed by the Committee with a due date of 3/1. The Draft Standard will then be prepared for a final vote in April for posting to the TNI website.

	4/11: The Committee is rescheduling their April meeting to later in the month so the Standard can be ready for review for posting.
Assist NEFAP in planning for Sampling Conclave.	4/11: Scott Haas (Chair) will be speaking at the Conclave to introduce the new DRAFT Standard and encourage people to comment on it.
Discuss addition of media-specific field sampling modules to Volume 1.	2/6: To be discussed after current Standard is completed.
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report.

7. NELAP

7.1 Accreditation Council

2022 Objectives	Status
Sustain governance role for the program and promoting consistency in AB operations.	3/8: Kristin Brown re-elected as Chair; nominations for Vice Chair initiated
Review and comment on V2M1 Draft Standard Revision 1.	4/12: AB representatives have been invited to review and comment on the V2M1 Draft Standard Revision 1.
Review and comment on other revised modules of the TNI ELS Standard (Volume 1) as the Expert Committees publish Draft Standards.	3/8: Received favorable recommendation on V1M3 Rev. 3.1 from LASEC
Address issues of concern to NELAP ABs as they arise.	3/8: Discussed ORELAP's database at February meeting and discussed some suggestion and questions that arose from conference session at March meeting.
Complete current evaluations and initiate 2023-2026 Evaluation Cycle.	4/12: Two evaluations from the previous cycle are lingering, and one from current cycle is underway with two applications awaiting review.
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report. 3/8: Shared warm farewell letter from Dan Hickman with Council members.

Implementation Plans for 2016 TNI ELS Standard – 2/8/2023		
State	**Process for Implementing the New Standard**	**Implementation Date**
FL	FL adopted the TNI 2016 Standards by regulation on September 26, 2018. Laboratories were granted a grace period until April 1, 2019, to implement the new standards	April 1, 2019
IL	Full implementation on January 31, 2020	January 31, 2020

KS	Rulemaking underway, but slowly. Is allowing labs to upgrade now and is assessing to 2016 Standard even though 2003 NELAC standard is still the official version	Unknown
LA	Implemented 2016 Standard in August 2022 and is transitioning now	August 2022
MN	Adopts by statute, and is updating its databases now.	January 2021
NH	Regulation finalized on November 23, 2021	March 1, 2022
NJ	Incorporated into regulation by reference	January 31, 2020
NY	Adopts by reference.	January 31, 2020
OK	Proposed rule published 12/1/2021 to adopt 2016 TNI EL Standard	September 2022
OR	Implemented 2016 Standard effective January 1, 2021	January 1, 2021
PA	Incorporated into regulation by reference.	January 31, 2020
TX	Incorporated into regulation by reference.	January 31, 2020
UT	Rulemaking complete.	June 11, 2021
VA	Rulemaking complete.	November 1, 2022

7.2 Laboratory Accreditation Systems Executive Committee

***2*023 Objectives**	**Status**
Supplement SIRs with Implementation Guidance for non-SIR questions.	4/12: Received the IG SOP 3-114 returned from Policy with editorial changes and a few questions. The SIR Management SOP 3-105 is presently being revised to address Policy requests.
Review Draft Standards as they are developed.	3/8: Prepared and approved favorable recommendation to NELAP AC for V1M3 Draft Standard Revision 3.1. 4/12: LASEC received notification that the V2M1 Draft Standard Revision 1 is available for review. After its review, LASEC will forward its recommendation to the NELAP AC. LASEC continues negotiating with CSDEC about the type of review that LASEC will conduct for final standards; CSDEC seeks to have LASEC "review for errors in the process"
Continue to provide Mentor Sessions and Assessment Forums at TNI conferences.	2/6: Succession planning for Mentor Session leadership is in place
Assume Role as Recognition Body for NGAB status (parallel to NEFAP and PTPEC recognitions)	
Develop Draft Policies and SOPs for NELAP as requested	
Sustain SIR progress and supplement SIRS with Implementation Guidance for non-SIR questions.	

Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report.

8. PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAM

2023 Objectives	Status
Work with the WET FoPT Subcommittee to develop recommendations to resolve problems with variability of testing conditions.	
Complete Proficiency Testing Provider Accreditor (PTPA) evaluations.	
Develop resolution for reporting uncertainty with Radiochemistry PT results.	3/6: Will be worked on once new Radiochemistry limits have been finalized.
Complete and gather information on PT Program metrics.	
Continue working to be inclusive of non-TNI ABs.	3/6: A workgroup has been formed to work on a document. Advocacy will use to help with this effort. 4/11: A DRAFT Position Statement was reviewed by the Committee and Stacie has sent this on to the Advocacy Committee.
Support the NELAP AC on method codes issues in LAMS for TPH/Oil and Grease/HEM, cyanides, and microbiology	
Explore adding Perfluoroalkyl substances in drinking water to the TNI PT Program.	2/6: The Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee discussed the addition and is collecting more data and reaching out to labs to update the survey previously done. 4/11: The Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee has received a format from William to request additional data. They will request any data obtained over the last 3 years. The Subcommittee has some ideas on how to proceed but want to receive data before they make any final recommendations to the PTPEC. They are also looking at ways to expedite data in order to provide comments to the Proposed Rule EPA announced. The rule involves 6 compounds, but the original ARA involved 29 compounds. They will start with the 6. The Subcommittee will begin discussing nomenclature.
Ensure that fields of Proficiency Testing (FoPTs) are appropriate for their intended use.	4/11: The Committee started the approval vote on the new Radiochemistry DW limits. The vote is being completed by email. The implementation date will be 10/1/23.

Finalize changes to SOP 4-101 and 4-107.	2/6: 4-107 (FoPT Table Management): Ready for PTPEC vote in February and distribution to the Policy Committee. 4-101 (Recommendation, Evaluation, and Calculation of Acceptance Criteria and Applicable Concentration Ranges for Proficiency Tests): Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee worked on examples and will be recommending that a link to a video discussion on how to calculate limits be added to the SOP. 3/6: SOP 4-101 is being updated with comments from the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee and the video link will be added. 4/11: The updates to SOP 4-101 have been made and the SOP has been sent to the PT Program SOP Subcommittee.
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report. Prepared comments in response to DMRQA request for public comments. 3/6: Stacie will be working with other committees to help define "technology". This is being done through Committee participation on the CSDP Technology Workgroup. 4/11: The Committee added two new members – Jack Denby and Jennifer Best. Four voting members completed two terms and rotated off: Scott Hass, Michela Karapondo, Jennifer Bordwell, and Fred Anderson. They will be added as Associate members. Shawn Kassner finished up one term and also rotated off the Committee.

9 ADMINISTRATION

9.1 Advocacy Committee

2023 Objectives	Status
Create a plan for national accreditation and systematic outreach to data users that will explain and promote the benefits of a quality management system.	34/12: Outreach Plan and accompanying Implementation Plan approved and provided to Board in this Consent agenda.
Revise the "Introduction to TNI" to create a webinar for new members.	2/6: Preliminary webinar presented in San Antonio; revisions underway.
Monitor EPA/federal activities for opportunities to share TNI's activities and promote national accreditation.	2/6: Worked with PT Executive Committee and WET Expert Committee to review comments on EPA DMRQA program.
Update the State of National Accreditation Report and deliver to EPA Environmental Methods Forum and non-NELAP state contacts.	3/8: Will ask programs to update their sections of 2021 report. Committee

	members are asked to consider what new activities should be included (if any). 4/12: Discussed potential additions to this report and have requested that executive committees focus their updates on progress towards a national program rather than just documenting TNI activities.
Look for opportunities to add TNI Ambassadors for non-NELAP states. Sustain – organizing newsletter publication, – providing assistance to conference planning, and – support for Small Laboratory Advocate role.	3/8: Spring newsletter articles due April 15.
Provide outreach (e.g., presentations and papers) to promote The NELAC Institute and TNI's programs.	3/8: Reviewed draft final presentation for Clinisys user meeting in April and TCEQ Trade Fair in May on "Case Studies of Faulty Laboratory Data due to a Lack of a Strong Quality Management System." This presentation will form the basis for an Advocacy white paper later in spring. 4/12: Draft White Paper reviewed and close to being final. Will wait for feedback from attendees at TCEQ meeting in May before approving.
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report. 3/8: considered request for "retiree rate" for membership from a long-time member. Committee consensus was that TNI's membership cost is quite low and there is no justification for a reduced rate for retirees wishing to remain active.

9.2 Policy Committee

2023 Objectives	Status
Continue to Review SOPs and Policies	2/6: Reviewed second revision to SOP 3-105 (Standard Interpretation SOP) – To be sent back to LASEC. 3/6: Revised Policy 1-100 (Creating or Revising General Policies for TNI) was sent for comment before finalization. Review of revised SOP 1-102 (Voting Rules for TNI Committees) underway. 4/11: Revised Policy 1-100 (Creating or Revising General Policies for TNI) was approved and sent to other committees for review and comment.

	Revised SOP 1-102 (Voting Rules for TNI Committees) was approved and sent to other committees for review and comment. SOP 3-114 (Preparation and Approval of Implementation Guidance (IG) for the Laboratory Standards) was reviewed and recommended changes were sent back to the LASEC. The LASEC Charter update was reviewed and needs to be voted on during a full quorum meeting. The Committee reviewed a Charter for the Credentialing Committee that will be shared with the Board in April. Policy 1-115 (Use of TNI Presentations) was approved and is ready for Board review.
Begin Maintaining Glossary	
Ensure all committees complete an internal audit and summarize the findings	2/6: Checklists finalized and being provided to William for posting on TNI Management.
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report.

9.3 Information Technology Committee

2023 Objectives	Status
Continue to support the website and LAMS	3/6: Transfer of LAMS administration from Dan Hickman to Paul Junio and William Daystrom completed on schedule.
Continue to support the Mentor initiative	
Develop tools needed to support the credential initiative	2/6: William Daystrom has agreed to build the on-line tools needed to support this effort.
Expand LAMS into non-NELAP states	
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives and a LAMS report for Annual Report.

9.4 Training Committee

2023 Objectives	Status
Continue Linked-In presence.	
Work with Competency Task Force to develop Credentialing Program.	4/11: The Committee has started work on an SOP on how to develop and administer tests.
Prepare an SOP for developing exams.	

Look for opportunities to collaborate with other training providers.	
Continue to develop ideas for training courses.	2/6: RFPs in development for: – Quality Control for Field Activities – Risk Based Assessment Principles - ISO/IEC 17011 – Managing a Data Integrity Investigation 3/6: Course on the 2023 proposed MUR in development. 4/11: The due date for responses to the RFP is April 15, 2023. We have received 2 submissions to date.
Expand use of technology to administer, automatically grade tests, and provide certificates.	
Prepare and issue RFPs to meet Credentialing needs.	2/6: RFPs in development for: – Managing the Accreditation Process: Laboratories – Customer Service: It is More than Reporting Results – Policies and Procedures Needed for a NELAP Laboratory – Method Selection, Validation and Demonstration of Capabilities (for each Module) 3/6: RFP is complete and will be distributed this week.
Complete Training Course SOP (1-128) and then update training course descriptions to be consistent and to include applicable digital badges.	2/6: Input was gathered in San Antonio to work on this SOP. 4/11: The SOP will be reviewed during the April Training meeting.
Review training to ensure it is not obsolete.	Ongoing.
Develop Course Catalog	2/6: Format should be finalized during the February meeting. 3/6: Work still in progress.
Post Webcast for how to complete training application to teach courses.	
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report.

9.5 Forum on Environmental Accreditation

The 2023 Forum was held from January 9-12, 2023 in San Antonio, TX. We had 211 attendees with 20 participating virtually. The Forum featured 2 training courses, 10 TNI committee meetings, the Annual

Report, a special Field Sampling session, a panel session by Non-Governmental Accreditation Bodies, and a special session on the credential effort.

The 2024 Forum will be held in Columbus, OH from January 22-25, 2024.

9.6 Environmental Measurement Symposium

The 2023 Symposium will be in Minneapolis, MN from July 31-August 4. Registration is now open at: https://iattend.net/EventHome?id=ems23. The preliminary program is also available at: https://envirosymposium.group/meeting/2023/techprog.php

9.7 NGAB

10. TASK FORCES AND OTHER EFFORTS

10.1 Competency Task Force

2023 Objectivities	Status
Transform Task Force into a Committee and undertake pilot credentialing program for Quality Manager role, in accordance with approved business plan.	2/6: Plan presented to public at San Antonio meeting and minor changes made. 3/8: Finalized the details of badge and credential requirements. Development of exam questions will begin once approval is obtained. 4/12: Formal proposal for approval to initiate this credentialing effort at the April Board meeting
Select next roles for potential credentialing.	
Coordinate with TNI Training Committee in developing courses.	
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report.

10.2 Consumables Task Force

2023 Objectives	Status
Finalize the decision tree and certificates documents.	2/6: Based upon various concerns expressed to the Task Force, the focus of attaining the Task Force mission may shift from laboratories to a combination of vendors and laboratories. Both documents are in the final stages of preparation and review but may require modification based on potential change of focus.

Test the guidance with selected stakeholder groups	2/6: Accomplished with laboratories; require vendor inputs. 3/6: Laboratory and vendor comments/suggestions are being incorporated in revised focus of the Task Force.
Develop implementation tools for laboratory	3/6: Development will include guidance for laboratories and vendors
Prepare guidance document and/or standards module	2/6: Decision on Guidance versus a Volume as a part of the Environmental Standard not yet complete.
Administrative Activities	2/6: Provided 2022 accomplishments and 2023 objectives for Annual Report. 4/12: New members have volunteered for the Task Force and progress toward re-focus of efforts being outlined and strategized for continued development.

10.3 Environmental Monitoring Coalition

10.3.1 2023 Proposed Method Update Rule

EPA is seeking public comment on a proposed rule that updates its list of approved methods for measuring pollutants in wastewater and surface under the Clean Water Act. Regulated and regulatory entities use these methods to characterize effluent for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit applications, determine compliance with NPDES permit limits, or fulfill other Clean Water Act monitoring requirements. This action proposes to add some new and revised methods and makes other minor editorial changes. https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-02-21/pdf/2023-02391.pdf

The EMC has prepared draft comments related to EPA not approving methods from ASTM and Standard Methods for TKN.

10.3.2 2023 Proposed Rule for PFAS in Drinking Water

EPA has proposed to regulate perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA) and its ammonium salt (also known as a GenX chemicals), perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), and perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS), and mixtures of these PFAS as contaminants in drinking water. Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) for PFOA and PFOS are set at 4 ng/L (ppt) while a “Hazard Index” MCL is set for the other 4 at 1.0 (unitless) and calculate by dividing the measure concentration by a health-based value as shown in the equation below.

Hazard Index = (GenX / 10 ppt) + (PFBS / 2000 ppt) + (PFNA / 10 ppt) + (PFHxS / 9.0 ppt)

Groundwater systems serving greater than 10,000 and all surface water systems would be required to monitor quarterly within a 12-month period for the 6 regulated PFAS using EPA methods 533 or 537. Laboratories would be required to report down to 1/3 of the Practical Quantitation Limit, e.g., 1.3 ppt for PFOA. The proposed rule states “EPA has sufficient confidence that while measurements below the PQL may be slightly less precise and accurate, they are achievable by individual laboratories and appropriate for this intended purpose.” Although note discussed in the preamble, the proposed rule would require laboratories to analyze “Performance Evaluation” samples for all six compounds with limits of 70-130%.

EPA estimates the annual sampling and analytical costs to be $90 million.
https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-03-29/pdf/2023-05471.pdf

The EMC has prepared draft comments related to terminology for MDL, PQL, MRL, etc., reporting data below the PQL, the HI equation, and "unnecessarily different" requirements between the 2 EPA methods. Comments are due May 30.

11. MEMBERSHIP

- 1145 active members

11.1 Committee Applications – Voting/Associate

First	Last	Organization	Interest	Committee
Jessica	Redifer	EA Engineering Science and Technology Inc.	Associate	WET
Cody	Medley	Pace Analytical Services	Associate	WET
Deanna	Kiska	U.S. Micro-Solutions, Inc.	Associate	Microbiology
Ryan	McMullin	Orange County Sanitation District	Associate	Quality Systems
Jennifer	Best	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Voting	PT Executive

11.2 New and Renewed Members:

- Of the 41 expired memberships from February, 13 renewed or requested an invoice after contact (1 retired and 2 left their previous organization or took on different rolls). Emails were sent to March expired members on April 3, 2023.

- 84 New and Renewed memberships in March

First Name	Last Name	Company/Organization
Sheela	Agrawal	NEORSD Analytical Services
Kristen	Anderson	City of Edgewater
Stephen	Arms	TNI
Latonya	Armstrong	US Ecology of Republic Services
Paul	Banfer	EISC
Eric	Becker	Water Environment Services
Debmalya	Bhattacharyya	Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
Claire	Bogner	Teklab, Inc.
Patricia	Carvajal	San Antonio River Authority
Michael	Cecchini	Norlite, LLC
David	Chance	Deibel Bioscience of Oregon, LLC
Audrey	Cornell	Waters/ERA
Nicole	Cummings	City of Longmont
William	Daystrom	
Charles	Decker	
Arthur	Denny	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
Elizabeth	Dickinson	ddms, inc.
Indriayini	Dipsingh	NYCDEP
Steven	Drielak	Drielak & Associates Inc.

Toni	Favero	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Danielle	Fisher	Eugene Water and Electric Board
Thomas	Fritz	Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati
Stacey	Fry	Babcock Laboratories, Inc.
Kristen	Greenwood	NEORSD Analytical Services
Wanda	Harney	Metropolitan Sewer District
Nicolette	Hawthorne	Beaumont Water
Jeanette	Hernandez	San Antonio River Authority
Michael	Higgins	Planergy, Inc.
Norma	James	Arkansas Analytical, Inc.
Stephen	Johnson	Carbon Dynamics Institute, LLC
Theresa	Johnson	McCampbell Analytical Inc.
Alo	Kauravlla	City of Sunnyvale
Theresa	Kingston	City of Port Orange Central Lab
Deanna	Kiska	U.S. Micro-Solutions, Inc.
Mike	Knight	Trinity River Authority
Liang	Kong	
Sandra	Lavoie	East Port Laboratory / Charlotte County Utilities
Diane	Lawver	Quality Assurance Solutions, LLC
Paul	LeBlanc	NV5/ Dade Moeller
Katalina	Li	Spectrum Environmental Assoicates, Inc.
Teresa	Lyons-Oten	Metro Water Services
Meaza	Mariam-Woods	The Dow Chemical Company
Heather	Marmorstein	Chemserve
William	Massmann	Spectrum Environmental Assoicates, Inc.
Angel	Mata	LCRA Environmental Laboratory Services
Lisa	Mazuca	San Francisco Water Power Sewer
Holly	McClure	Georgia Power Company
Michelle	McGowan	EMSL Analytical, Inc.
Cody	Medley	
Adrian	Mocanu	City of Deerfield Beach Water Plant
Devon	Morgan	Clark County Water Reclamation
Ken	Mueller	Fibertec Environmental Services, Inc.
Charles	Newton	NV5/Dade Moeller
Fred	Norris	City of Garland
Linda	O'Donnell	Philadelphia Water Department
Sandra	Perez	
Melissa	Pipes	City of Odessa Laboratory Services
Amy	Pollard	PamCo Tech
Nicolae	Popescu	California Water Service
William	Reeves	Eurofins Environment Testing America
Estella	Rieben	Apex Laboratories, LLC
Melanie	Roshu	Matrix Sciences International, Inc.
Jose	Saenz	Brownsville-PUB

Nawshin	Sardar	PREE Laboratories
Jennifer	Shackelford	City of Portland WPCL
Paul	Shrewsbury	Summit Scientific
Cheryl	Soltis-Muth	NEORSD Analytical Services
Alfredo	Sotomayor	Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District
Matt	Sowards	ACZ Laboratories, Inc.
Casandra	Statuto	City of Lubbock Water Treatment Plant
Cindy	Story	Gulf Coast Authority
Tracy	Szerszen	Perry Johnson
Alexandria	Tite	EnviroScience, Inc.
Nivia	Torres	Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
Rachel	Van Exel	Orange County Sanitation District
Robbert	Van Wessel	TE Instruments
Tracey	Varvel	Ana-Lab Corporation
Fidji	Victoriano	ALS Environmental - Simi Valley
Jennifer	Vydra	EnviroScience, Inc.
Geri	Wellborn	City of Norman, Vernon Campbell WTP - Laboratory
Jason	Wells	City of Odessa
Paul	Wentworth	ChemServe Environmental Analysts
Cally	Whitman	City of Bend Water Quality Laboratory
Kelvin	Yuen	Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

11.3 Expired Memberships

- 34 Memberships Expired in March

First	Last	Company/Organization
Hunter	Adams	City of Wichita Falls
Fred	Anderson	Advanced Analytical Solutions
Stephen	Arpie	Absolute Standards, Inc.
Carol	Batterton	NELAC-Institute (retired)
Mary	Boden	Nebraska Public Health Environmental Laboratory
Laura	Carrillo	City of Laredo Health Dept Laboratory
Kim	Chamberlain	Eurofins Environment Testing America
Teresa	Coley	Tribe
nancy	Cornwell	Cornwell Engineering Group
Melissa	DAlmeida	ddms, inc.
Anna	DiSalvo	Meridian Analytical Labs
Maureen	Dobransky	Allegheny County Sanitary Authority
Stacy	Evans	San Luis Obispo County Health Agency
Michael	Goss	EEC/DEP/Division of Environmental Program Support
Mark	Grushayev	SASM (Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin)
Brigid	Guerra	EASI, LLC
Scott	Haas	Environmental Testing, Inc
Leslie	Hill	City of Fort Collins

Linnea	Hoover	Alameda County Water District
Sean	Jenkins	Servi-Tech Laboratories
Catherine	Katsikis	LDCFL-NAOS Consulting, LLC.
Richard	Kirsch	Missouri DNR
Lisa	Laflamme	Airthings Lab
Ann	Lawson	Arlington Water Utilities Laboratory Services
Jacqueline	Lopez	USEPA
Roberto	Luna	City of Longmont
Lori	Mangrum	Eurofins Environment Testing America
Logan	Martin	LJMFRESH LLC
John	Moorman	South Florida Water Management District
Tatum	Neal	
Enoma	Omoregie	New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
MaryGail	Perkins	Upstate Freshwater Institute
Kaitlyn	Rodriguez	
Ken	Rosnack	Waters
Kristine	Saffrin	Perkin Elmer
Surjit	Saini	Santa Clara Valley Water District
Jessica	Schneider	City of Pendleton
Scott	Schroeder	
Chris	Shelvin	Thermo Fisher Scientific
David	Smith	Environmental Express
Raul	Soto	City of Laredo Health Dept Lab
Trent	Sprenkle	Restek Corporation
Dale	Tapp	WaterOne
Andy	Toledo	Miami-Dade Water and Sewer
Erik	Werstler	Biogen Lab Developments
Amanda	Wheeler	Fairfax Water
Jan	Wilson	Cammia Environmental
Doug	Wolfe	Pace Analytical Services LLC
Patricia	Wood	Hanford Laboratory Management & Integration
Kathleen	Young	PerkinElmer
Kayla	Zeppeiro	American Environmental Testing Laboratory

11.4 California Rule-Making Memberships

- Due to how the expiration dates were recorded in the TNI database, those members who had memberships in the 'Access for Rule-Making Review' category were not being notified if their actual membership had expired. We've modified the process to track those dates. 2 members will be expiring in April.

First	Last	Organization	Outcome
Stephanie	Jiron	Metropolitan Water District of So. CA	
Carla	Kagel	K Prime, Inc.	

11.5 Free Access to TNI Standard

These are individuals who registered to view an unlicensed copy of the standard. It is view only with no ability to download or print.

Randy	Mora		Burbank	CA
Kurtis	Westbrook	City of Vacaville	Elmira	CA
Alex	Condelli		Los Angeles	CA
Ashleigh	Findley	City of Vacaville WQ Lab	Elmira	CA
Elder	Turcios	Orange County Water District	Fountain Valley	CA
Nicki	Branch	Escondido Hale Avenue RRF	Escondido	CA
Elyse	Dayrit	Escondido Hale Avenue RRF	Escondido	CA
Elizabeth	Serrano	Metropolitan Water District	La Verne	CA
Stacey	Fry		Moreno Valley	CA
Michael	Johnson	USEcology Vernon	Vernon	CA

Attachment 4: Advocacy Committee Outreach to Data Users Plan

Approved by TNI Advocacy Committee April 6, 2023

Introduction

TNI's Strategic Plan, adopted in April of 2020, has the creation of this plan as a high priority objective for its strategy to "Promote TNI as the premier resource for all activities related to generating environmental measurement data":

> Develop a long-range plan for promoting the use of the TNI accreditation program to data users.
> - Show the value/benefits.
> - Demonstrate the improvement in performance and data quality.

Several members of TNI's Advocacy Committee volunteered to draft the plan, and this document represents their best thoughts about how to promote the use of TNI's accreditation program to data users. These volunteers envision a long term, phased effort that begins with the currently available documentation and resources but continues into future years with identifying data users and best ways to access them as well as on-going refinements to our information about the benefits of accreditation and the improvements it can bring data quality.

A. Initial Steps – what TNI can begin to do right now!

1. Identify existing documents and tools that describe accreditation's benefits, plus easily prepared new items. As of right now, the following are known or in preparation:
   - White Paper: Laboratory Accreditation Makes a Difference – Data You can Rely On (Done)
   - Special NEMC Session on Ensuring Reliable Data scheduled for August 1, 2023 with 6 presenters
   - Article: Case Studies of Faulty Laboratory Data Due to a Lack of a Strong Quality Management System (TBD)
   - Article: TNI Resources for Implementation of the TNI Standard (Draft Complete)
   - Presentation: Laboratory Accreditation Makes a Difference – Data You can Rely On (Done)
   - Presentation: Case Studies of Faulty Laboratory Data Due to a Lack of a Strong Quality Management System (PowerPoint done, will form basis of white paper)
   - Create "Benefits of Accreditation" video and post to TNI website (draft PowerPoint already exists)
   - The "Why NEFAP" video (exists now)

2. Distribute these materials through known and available routes or mechanisms. Focus on "organic" promotion rather than attempting to target only data users, at least initially. By "organic", we anticipate that the materials developed will be valuable enough that TNI members and accredited labs will voluntarily share them with clients and any other interested parties, as well as having them on TNI's website as an "inventory", including them in the LinkedIn page and other social media sites as those are established, and using Ambassadors, the Small Lab Advocate, and volunteer members to distribute these materials in other ways such as:
   - Identify TNI member volunteers interested in contributing through the social media realm, especially for videos and podcasts
     - Jerry Thao – LinkedIn
     - YouTube
     - Instagram
     - WhatsApp
     - Other – Tribel Social, Mastodon, Twitter, more?
   - Presentations at conferences
   - Reach out to state certification programs
   - Reach out to state regulatory programs

- Reach out to state executive branch associations (APHL, ASDWA, others)
- Reach out to related trade associations: AWWA, WEF
- Reach out to state laboratory associations (CWEA, VWEA, CSEA, FSEA, NYPAAEL, etc.)
- Maintain established communications with EPA program offices, especially OW and OLEM
- Encourage NELAP ABs to promote the use of the TNI FSMO standard within each state
- Promote "Why NEFAP" video

B. Intermediate Steps – information gathering and expanded outreach

1. In order to accomplish any type of outreach, we will need to identify those organizations that are data users. Regulators (governmental programs) are the one category of data users that is most easily identifiable through internet searches (see some details in Appendix), while other categories are plentiful but far more difficult to match with names and affiliations. These others range from other federal agencies (USGS, DOI, FDA, DOJ, etc.) and their related state agencies through engineering firms doing remediation, construction, and resource explorations and even to general industry where monitoring of all types of waste and accidental discharges is required. Some possible ways to identify these others are:
   - Consider creating a TNI Task Force to focus specifically on outreach to data users and related activities
   - Ask major labs and ABs to identify businesses or business categories that we should target for outreach.
   - Ask friendly regulators to identify business categories covered by their regulations that involve environmental testing
   - What we know now: all drinking water utilities, some wastewater utilities, asbestos users industry, radioactive materials users, some state solid waste programs have accreditation or certification requirements

2. Determine what characteristics of data are most valuable to the various types of data users – reliability, defensibility, cost of data generation, and other aspects that would determine how those data users acquire their data.

3. Prepare materials to educate all data users about the following:
   - differences between certification (technical only) and accreditation (quality management system) in environmental programs, as this is considered to be a likely point of confusion (see details in Appendix)
   - comparison of TNI standard to state certification programs (and benefit of quality system aspects)
   - TNI additions to ISO/IEC 17025 (including additional management practices) to show that the TNI Standard is above and beyond the basic 17025
   - Webcast for TNI ambassadors to show how they can remain current and present the benefits of accreditation.

4. Seek support of the Environmental Monitoring Coalition and inquire of NGABs for resources/support

5. Prepare additional outreach materials, expanding the existing library to include:
   - Brochures
   - YouTube Videos (use humans, not just slides/voice)

- Podcasts (individual speakers, interviews with industry leaders, new converts to accreditation)
- A TNI blog
- Assortment of white papers
- A generic presentation for use by speakers

6. Distribute Outreach Materials in Accessible Pathways
   - Social Media
   - Small Lab Advocate can readily distribute social media items and the inventory of currently available "tools"
   - Create a tab on TNI web page for both free video promotions and "tool box" inventory
   - Have a TNI table at NEMC to share brochures/information/sample tools, set up as an exhibit possibly, and promote on conference phone app plus announcement at Annual Meeting
   - Work with TNI Ambassadors and Friendly Non-Profits plus DOE/DoD/USGS/FDA labs – expand Ambassadors to all states and give them more materials to use include the activities for NELAP, NEFAP and PTP

7. Plan to make presentations at a variety of conferences – federal/state/associations, all types of presenters (ABs, TNI leadership, other?)

8. Continue focus on "organic" promotion while beginning to target data users via personal or video visits with state and federal Regulators, trade associations, data users and FSMOs, as they are identified

9. Implement processes to keep the outreach materials current

10. Develop baseline data on usage of accreditation by known data users

C. Long Range Steps – expanding the reach of accreditation programs

1. Work with existing NELAP state ABs and their state regulatory agencies to expand (and consolidate) the existing accreditation programs.
   - Create presentation on reasons why NELAP ABs should have a single program for all laboratories (benefits to state and public health)
   - Seek consolidation of existing two-tier state programs (NJ, PA, VA, others?)
   - Seek to make accreditation mandatory for all media (identify state ABs that do not address all media -- OR, TX, Others?)
   - Identify ways to compare or contrast data used in environmental programs from states with non-NELAP certification programs to states with NELAP accreditation programs (or states using the TNI Standard)

2. Revisit plan for other groups in order to refine and improve our outreach.

3. Monitor Impacts
   - Anecdotal
   - Feedback from accredited organizations: NELAP, NGAB, NEFAP
   - Feedback from data users (via survey) who use accredited, certified or neither for their sampling and testing needs
   - Feedback from engineering firms using field and measurement organization(s) and laboratories.

Appendix – Additional Details *(NOTE: some of this may or should be incorporated into the body of the plan, and there is likely still some duplication between here and above, but I'm uncertain how much detail to put there and how much to leave here – please offer up your thoughts! It didn't seem right to delete these items just because I couldn't figure out where to put them.)*

Governmental Regulators and Some Data Users

- Internet searches for federal/state/tribal **regulators**
  - ALL STATE AGENCIES -- https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/health-and-environmental-agencies-us-states-and-territories
  - CLEAN AIR -- https://www.4cleanair.org/
  - AIR POLLUTION CONTROL -- https://cleanairact.org/
  - SOLID WASTE -- https://astswmo.org/
  - DRINKING WATER -- https://www.asdwa.org/
  - CLEAN WATER -- https://www.acwa-us.org/
  - STATE CERT. PGM CONTACTS -- https://www.epa.gov/dwlabcert/contact-information-certification-programs-and-certified-laboratories-drinking-water
  - STATE HAZ. WASTE PROGRAMS -- https://www.epa.gov/hwgenerators/links-hazardous-waste-programs-and-us-state-environmental-agencies#va
  - PESTICIDE REGULATORY AGENCIES -- http://npic.orst.edu/reg/state_agencies.html
  - LAND REVITALIZATION -- https://www.epa.gov/land-revitalization/state-and-territorial-environmental-agencies-land-revitalization

Determine Benefits of TNI Standard Compared to Alternatives (with full Advocacy Committee?)

- TNI Accreditation Standards (Field and Lab) – distinguish from state "certification programs" that may or not be evaluated for technical or quality system operations and from generic ISO/IEC 17025 accreditations
- TNI approach is an improvement over alternate programs
  - More specificity
  - Consensus Based
  - Includes requirements for others (ABs and "PT Providers)
- Identify and (as possible) quantify value/benefits to data reliability
- Reduce the possibility of problems during sampling and testing and thus increase the reliability of the data
- Partner with other programs such as wastewater surveillance, shifting focus to improving public health through reliable monitoring rather than accreditation *per se*
- Identify data users and other trade associations willing to assist in promoting a national program for accreditation for organizations generating data (e.g., laboratories, field sampling and measurement organizations and new technologies, etc.)
  - Explore possibilities of working with ACIL for getting more regulatory programs to require accreditation
  - Explore with Environmental Monitoring Council possibilities for supporting non-drinking-water accreditation requirements – while national accreditation is one of its goals, broad general issues are not as easy for the group of technical specialists to tackle
  - Explore with Water Environment Federation getting more wastewater labs accredited?
  - Explore with APHL the understanding the value of a TNI accreditation

Implementation Plan for Outreach to Data Users

Item	Details	Content	timeframe	Responsible party/parties
A – Initial Steps	Identify existing documents and tools	From available materials	3 months	Jerry/Advocacy
	Distribute materials	Website and LinkedIn/SLA sites at minimum	6 months then ongoing	Conference teams, webmaster
	--Create new materials	Videos, podcasts, other social media	1st year	Volunteers
	--Outreach at conferences and to state & federal regulators/ certification programs and trade associations	In person efforts	Expand at beginning of 2nd year	TNI leadership and volunteers
B –Interme-diate steps	Identify data users	Various sources	Begin during 3rd year	Recommend creating a staffed Task Force
	Determine which data characteristics users prioritize as most important	Reliability, defensibility, cost, other?	Begin during 4th year	Recommend creating a staffed Task Force
	Prepare materials to educate data users	Focus on advantages of quality system accreditation over technical certification	Begin mid-4th year	Recommend creating a staffed Task Force and enlist additional volunteers for actual creation
	Consider EMC and NGAB support/ involvement	*(Can't hurt to ask)*	Begin during 3rd year	Jerry/Advocacy
	Prepare and distribute additional (and better targeted) outreach materials; keep them updated	- Brochures - YouTube Videos (use humans, not just slides/voice) - Podcasts (individual speakers, interviews with industry leaders, new converts to accreditation) - A TNI blog - Assortment of white papers - A generic presentation for use by speakers	Begin once priority data characteristics and the identity of non-regulatory data users are known – 5th year?	Volunteers coordinated by Task Force
	Distribute Outreach Materials in	-Social Media	Ongoing, look to expand	TNI leadership, staff,

	Accessible Pathways	-Small Lab Advocate can readily distribute social media items and the inventory of currently available "tools" -Create a tab on TNI web page for both free video promotions and "tool box" inventory -Have a TNI table at NEMC to share brochures/ information/sample tools, set up as an exhibit possibly, and promote on conference phone app plus announcement at Annual Meeting	options in 3rd year and later	Ambassadors, SLA, volunteers
	Increase conference presentations		4th year	TNI leadership and Ambassadors
	Continue organic promotion and begin targeting interactions with data users	Target data users via personal or video visits with state and federal Regulators, trade associations, data users and FSMOs, as they are identified	Begin expanded interactions in 3rd/4th years	TNI leadership and Ambassadors
	Implement processes to keep the outreach materials current			TNI staff with Task Force
	Develop baseline data on usage of accreditation		3rd year	Task Force
C – Long Range Steps	Initiate efforts to expand existing NELAP accreditation programs	-Document reasons for a single program for all laboratories -Seek consolidation of existing two-tier state programs -Seek to make accreditation mandatory for all media -Identify ways to compare or contrast data from states with non-NELAP certification programs to states with NELAP accreditation programs	4th year and ongoing	Task Force coordination with NELAP AC

	Revisit plan to refine and improve outreach efforts for all targeted parties		5th year and ongoing	Task Force and volunteers
	Monitor impacts	-Anecdotal -Feedback from accredited organizations: NELAP, NGAB, NEFAP -Feedback from data users (via survey) who use accredited, certified or neither for their sampling and testing needs -Feedback from engineering firms using field and measurement organization(s) and laboratories.	4th year and ongoing	Task Force

Attachment 5. Comment on Proposed Changes to the Ohio Voluntary Action Program Rules

April 12, 2023

Comments provided by:
The NELAC Institute (TNI)
Contact: Jerry Parr
Phone: 817-308-0449
Email: jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org

The NELAC Institute (TNI) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose mission is to foster the generation of environmental data of known and documented quality through an open, inclusive, and transparent process that is responsive to the needs of the community. Among other activities, TNI manages the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP) and is accredited by the American National Standards Institute as a consensus standards development organization.

TNI supports The Ohio EPA proposed rule to transition the Oho VAP laboratory accreditation program from a state-run program to one which allows accreditation from a TNI-recognized Accreditation Body.

As compared to many other accreditation programs, TNI's environmental laboratory accreditation provides an independent, third-party evaluation of a laboratory's quality system and technical competence, resulting in a formal recognition by a recognized authority, called an Accreditation Body. Accreditation by a TNI-recognized Accreditation Body (AB) is unique among accreditation programs because:

- it is based on an internationally recognized standard (IS/IEC 17025) that has been expanded to focus on unique aspects of environmental testing,
- it is performed with respect to a specific scope of accreditation conducted by qualified assessors,
- it includes many elements missing from ISO 17025 such as a data integrity element and specific requirements related to instrument calibration, and
- it involves review of periodic proficiency testing (PT) results provided by accredited PT providers performed by the laboratory.

TNI has published an article providing more detail about the requirements in the Standard including a comparison between TNI's standard and ISO/IEC 17025. https://nelac-institute.org/docs/comm/advocacy/Articles/TNI's%20National%20Environmental%20Laboratory%20Standard%20Compared%20to%20ISO-IEC%2017025.pdf

Accreditation to the TNI Standard provides an objective way of showing clients, the public and the government that a laboratory has the demonstrated capability to provide the services they conduct.

For the public, accreditation to the TNI Standard promotes confidence that environmental decisions are based on reliable, authentic data. Accreditation is a concept that the public recognizes in many other aspects of their lives. Various industries and institutions where the public needs a high degree of confidence in the service provided are accredited to ensure conformance to recognized standards. For example, hospitals, universities, and forensic laboratories are accredited to national standards.

For data users, accreditation to the TNI Standard serves a consumer protection purpose. It provides assurance that the laboratory has been evaluated and has met accepted standards

established by experts in the environmental laboratory profession. Using a technically competent organization minimizes the risk of producing unreliable data and minimizes the need for expensive re-testing. Regulators will have more confidence in data produced by an accredited organization.

For the profession, accreditation to the TNI Standard advances the field by promoting uniform accepted standards of practice and advocating rigorous adherence to these standards. For those individuals who are active practitioners in the environmental testing profession, accreditation advances the profession by providing a venue to share knowledge. It allows professional interaction in a consensus process and a forum for best practices improvement. The TNI Standard was developed though a consensus process using feedback from governmental agencies, laboratories and other interests such as PT provider, data users, and academic institutions.

For government agencies, accreditation to the TNI Standard serves as a basis to ensure that environmental monitoring data are reliable and adequate for their intended purpose. Government regulators are constantly called upon to make decisions related to protecting the health and welfare of consumers and the public and protecting the environment. In order to do this work, they must develop regulations and requirements to ensure compliance monitoring.

Government regulators must have confidence in the data generated by laboratories in order to make these decisions. Using a laboratory accredited to the TNI Standard can help establish and assure this confidence.

If a laboratory is accredited to TNI's standard, it means that the laboratory has demonstrated their competence to produce reliable data that are accurate, traceable, and reproducible – critical components in governmental decision-making.

Using a laboratory that is accredited to TNI's standard means government agencies (State and Federal) have increasing confidence in the data that are used to establish baselines for key analyses and decisions, and reducing uncertainties associated with decisions that affect the protection of human health and the environment. Using an accredited organization increases public confidence, because accreditation is a recognizable indication of competence, and it eliminates redundant reviews and improves the efficiency of the assessment process (which may reduce costs).

Using an accredited organization also increases confidence that decisions are based on comparable data. Costs associated with problems, such as re-testing, re-sampling, and lost time are minimized, and false positives and negatives, which can directly affect compliance with regulations, are minimized.

For the laboratory, accreditation promotes ongoing self-evaluation and continuous improvement, provides an effective system for accountability and enhances its reputation. Accreditation benefits laboratories by allowing them to determine whether they are performing their work correctly and provides them with a benchmark for maintaining that competence. Many laboratories operate in isolation to their peers, and rarely, if ever, receive any independent technical evaluation as a measure of their performance.

In order to become accredited, laboratories demonstrate consistent acceptable performance on proficiency test samples, maintain a quality system consistent with the TNI standards, and undergo periodic rigorous onsite assessments to confirm that they meet all requirements specified in the Standard.

A regular assessment by an accreditation body checks all aspects of laboratories' operations related to consistently producing accurate and dependable data. Areas for improvement are identified and discussed, and a detailed report provided at the end of each visit. Where necessary, follow-up action is monitored by the accreditation body so the laboratory is confident that it has taken the appropriate corrective action.

TNI has published a White paper further describing the improvements in laboratory data quality and performance: Laboratory Accreditation Makes a Difference – Data You Can Rely On

Currently TNI has 18 recognized ABs (14 governmental and 4 non-governmental) as summarized in the table below.

Governmental (State) Accreditation Bodies

Agency	Contact	Telephone	E-mail	Program Website
Florida Department of Health	Carl Kircher	904-791-150	Carl.Kircher@flhealth.gov	http://www.floridahealth.gov/licensing-and-regulation/environmental-laboratories/environmental-laboratory-certification/index.html
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency	Mildred Rose	217-785-5163	Mildred.Rose@Illinois.gov	https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/certification-training/lab-accreditation/Pages/default.aspx
Kansas Department of Health & Environment	Paul Harrison	785-296-1656	paul.harrison@ks.gov	http://www.kdheks.gov/envlab/index.html
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality	Tramecha Rankins	225-219-3247	tramecha.rankins@la.gov	http://deq.louisiana.gov/page/la-lab-accreditationLouisianaLaboratoryAccreditationProgram.aspx
Minnesota Department of Health	Lynn Boysen	651-201-5324	lynn.boysen@state.mn.us	http://www.health.state.mn.us/accreditation
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services	Brian Lamarsh	603-271-5314	Brian.M.Lamarsh@des.nh.gov	https://www.des.nh.gov/water/drinking-water/new-hampshire-environmental-laboratory-accreditation-program
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	Michele Potter	609-292-3950	michele.potter@dep.nj.gov	http://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/oqa.html
New York State Department of Health	Amy Steuerwald	518-473-0748	amy.steuerwald@health.ny.gov	https://www.wadsworth.org/regulatory/elap
Oklahoma Department of	Ryan Lerch	405-702-1020	Ryan.Lerch@deq.ok.gov	

Environmental Quality				
Oregon Health Authority	Travis Bartholomew	503-693-4122	Travis.J.Bartholomew@oha.oregon.gov	https://www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/LaboratoryServices/EnvironmentalLaboratoryAccreditation/Pages/index.aspx
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	Annmarie Beach	717-346-7200	anbeach@pa.gov	https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/OtherPrograms/Labs/Pages/Laboratory-Accreditation-Program.aspx
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	Steve Gibson	512-239-1316	Steve.Gibson@tceq.texas.gov	https://www.tceq.texas.gov/agency/qa/env_lab_accreditation.html
Utah Department of Health	Kristin Brown	801-965-2540	kristinbrown@utah.gov	https://uphl.utah.gov/certifications/environmental-laboratory-certification/
Virginia Department of General Services	Cathy Westerman	804-648-4480	cathy.westerman@dgs.virginia.gov	https://dgs.virginia.gov/division-of-consolidated-laboratory-services/certification-accreditation/cert-accred/

Non-Governmental Accreditation Bodies

Organization	Telephone	E-mail	Website
ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB)	414-501-5494	anab@anab.org	https://anab.ansi.org/laboratory-accreditation/tni-ngab-elap
American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)	304-644-3248	info@a2la.org	https://a2la.org/accreditation/environmental-testing/
International Accreditation Service (IAS)	562-364-8201	iasinfo@iasonline.org	https://www.iasonline.org/services/nelap-tni-accreditation/
Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation, Inc. (PJLA)	877-369-5227	pjlabs@pjlabs.com	https://www.pjlabs.com/