

TNI Board of Directors Meeting Summary March 11, 2026

ROLL CALL

Directors	Present	Staff	Present
Aaren Alger	X	Paul Junio	X
Steve Arms	X	Jerry Parr	X
Justin Brown	X	Ilona Taunton	X
Kristin Brown	X	Janice Wlodarski	X
Robin Cook	X	Bob Wyeth	X
Maria Friedman			
Susan Jackson	X		
Jessica Jensen	X		
William Lipps	X		
Harold Longbaugh	X		
Judy Morgan	X		
Prem Parmar	X		
Stephanie Rippeon	X		
Patsy Root			
Valerie Slaven	X		
Alfredo Sotomayor	X		
Tracy Szerszen	X		
Michelle Wade	X		
Past Chair			
Sharon Mertens	X		

AGENDA

1.0 Review of Agenda and Consent Agenda

Agenda Approved: Unanimous

Consent Agenda: Unanimous

2.0 Welcome New Directors

We welcome Stephanie Rippeon and Michelle Wade.

3.0 Election of Officers

The Officers shall be Chair, Past-Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Other Officers may be established by the Board of Directors. The Officers, with the exception of the Past-Chair, shall be elected annually at the first meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors, from among its members.

. The current officers are:

- o Alfredo Sotomayor, Chair
- o Kristin Brown, Vice Chair

- Patsy Root, Secretary
- Robin Cook, Treasurer

All four officers have indicated a willingness to continue to serve, but also a willingness to step aside if anyone else is interested in serving.

Taken together as a slate of officers,

Motion to keep the slate the same: Judy Morgan

Second: Jessica Jenson

Approved: Unanimous

4.0 TNI Annual Report and Plan of Work for 2026

The presentation provided in Boston on January 12 was converted into an Annual Report consisting of accomplishments in 2025 and objectives for 2026. TNI's Quality Management Plan requires the Board to approve this report for posting on the TNI website and thereby approving all of the objectives, or Plan or Work, for 2026 to authorize TNI committees to work on these objectives.

Information was presented in Boston. It was also in the February Consent Agenda, so there is nothing new in the document presented today.

Motion to Approve the TNI Annual Report and

Plan of Work for 2026, as amended: William Lipps

Second: Harold Longbaugh

Approved: Unanimous

5.0 Financial Reports

The Fiscal Year 2025 and 2026 Budgets were reviewed during this meeting

6.0 Review and Approval of SOPs 1-100, SOP Preparation and 1-101, Committee Operations

Each of these documents had minor, but significant changes reflecting the creation of the professional development program.

- Section 18.3.6 of SOP 1-100 was revised to allow the PDP to use the "6" designation for numbering SOPs by replacing SSAS with "Professional Development." If approved, this action will require renumbering of the 4 training SOPs. (18.3.7 was also revised by changing NGAP program to NGAB evaluations.)
- Appendix A of SOP 1-101 was revised by adding the Professional Development Program. The appendix was also revised by removing the IT committee and changing LASEC to NELAP EC.

These documents require approval by the Board.

Motion to Endorse SOPs 1-100, SOP Preparation and

SOP 1-101, Committee Operations: Robin Cook

Second: Steve Arms

Approved: Unanimous

7.0 Potential Review SOP 2-103, Format and Style of TNI Standards

These were minor changes:

- Added bulleted list (and an example) and subsection to definitions.
- Minor edits to 6.6.
- Revised 6.7.2 to have most subsections not indented.
- Added 6.7.3 on bulleted lists.
- Added a Note to 6.7.4.
- Renamed 6.9.

This SOP does not require review or approval by the Board.

8.0 Potential Review SOP 2-100, Standards Development

These were minor changes: mostly concerning references to ANSI and posting of standards and related documents on the website.

- Templated language announcing the issuance of a Notice of Intent (NOI) or Draft Standards has been added to Sections 8.2, 8.3.5.1, and 8.5.2;
- References to ANSI requirements removed in Sections 1.0, 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 8.2, 8.3, 8.3.5, 8.5.6, 8.6.3, 8.6.4, 8.6.5, 8.6.6;
- Clarified the list of individuals to be notified of standards activity in 8.2 and 8.3.7;
- Clarified 8.3.3 by adding language about committee deliberations and deleting 3 subsections that were ANSI requirements;
- Sections 13-17 (Patent Policy, Antitrust Policy, Commercial Terms and Conditions, and Metric Policy, all ANSI requirements) removed in their entirety;
- References to ANSI Essential Requirements and ANSI Standards Action in the former Section 17 (now Section 13) removed;
- Revised the definition for the NEFAP EC;
- Other minor editorial corrections;
- Other sections re-numbered as a result of these changes.

This SOP does not require review or approval by the Board.

9.0 Review of TNI's Quality Management Plan

This document was approved in 2016 and revisions were tabled until after the 2025 Strategic Plan was revised, The Policy Committee started efforts on revisions in 2025, but these were frequently overshadowed by Policies and SOPs with a higher priority. The Policy Committee completed its edits in this docent in December and a revised draft is being provided to the Board. The changes include:

- Adding the word "reliable" in front of data in Section 1.1 to be consistent with recent efforts by the Advocacy committee.
- Adding the word "generally" to the last sentence of the first paragraph in Section 1.2 to reflect that other stakeholder groups are possible.
- Eliminated a sentence referencing ANSI in Section 1.3 to allow an option to not be ANSI-accredited.
- Eliminated 5 bullets in Section 2.0 as being redundant. Removed the word "environmental" from the second paragraph in this section to allow expansion into non-environmental areas.

- Revised Section 2.2 by adding the Professional Development Program. Moved language about Program Administrators from this section to Section 3.3.
- Revised Section 2.3 to clearly indicate this section applies to administrative committees only.
- Moved the last sentence from Section 2.4 to Section 3.1 as this sentence relates to Board duties and then deleted section 2.4.
- Revised Section 3.3 to only apply to Program Administrators and moved language about other TNI staff from this section to a new Section 3.4.
- Deleted the opening paragraph in Section 5.0.
- Revised Section 5.1 to clarify the education and experience of Program Administrators, the process used to evaluate the performance of TNI staff, and the selection and evaluation of volunteers serving on committees.
- Revised Section 5.2 extensively to reflect actual activities and for clarity.
- Deleted the opening sentence in Section 6.0 related to the Information Technology committee.
- Revised Section 6.1 by removing an extensive list of duties and instead referencing a Standard Training Procedure.
- Revised Section 6.2 to make it more generic for all TNI databases.
- Replace the existing Section 6.3 on other databases with a new section on Standard Training procedures.
- Revised Sections 6.4 and 6.5 to only contain a reference to a specific SOP.
- Revised Section 6.5 (now 6.5) by removing redundant language.
- Deleted Section 7.0 on Customer Satisfaction as this activity is not performed.
- Added language to Section 7.0, Ethics, on obligations of non-TNI members.
- Replace Section 8.2, Internal Audits, with Management Reviews.
- Added Section 9, Glossary.
- Added Standard Training procedures to Section 10.
- Other minor revisions for clarity with no change in intent.

Sent back to committee for clarification regarding disputes and discrepancies.

10.0 California Update, pulled from the Consent Agenda

The California Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program held a public “listening session” on February 26 to share information about the expansion of their accreditation program. This expansion will introduce a voluntary full TNI accreditation option in addition to the current “TNI-2” California accreditation. ELAP staff presented an overview of the program plans, followed by an open forum for laboratory representatives to share comments, but ELAP did not respond to those comments. Several commercial laboratories expressed concerns over the California Fields of Accreditation not matching those of TNI. California indicated their goal is to become recognized by January 2027. A recording of this session can be found here: [ELAP Listening Session February 2026](#). Aaren, Ilona, and Jerry met with ELAP staff on March 3 to discuss the process.

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January 2027 may be an optimistic goal. We don’t want to rush through this process of becoming an AB.

Meet with CA. This timetable was discussed and it is ambitious. A new AB can be interim.

There should be a list of items that have to be done before applying.

The plan is to get application in, hopefully between July and August; September for funding side.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### 1.0 Approval of February Minutes

### 2.0 California Update, pulled to 10.0 in the Agenda.

### 3.0 TNI Presentation at EMS 2026

Based on continuing issues with method approval from EPA and others, and recent effort by the Environmental Monitoring Coalition, Jerry Parr submitted the abstract below with Judy Morgan as a co-author. The abstract was reviewed and endorsed by the Advocacy committee.

#### **Reinventing the EPA Method Approval Process to Strengthen Public Trust in Environmental Laboratory Data**

For over fifty (50) years, some EPA program offices have believed if they write, validate, and approve the “perfect” method data quality will be assured. This belief has been shown to be wrong numerous times. By the time EPA goes through this process, the technology has changed. No matter how much detail is in the method, there is always room for interpretation and mistakes by laboratories that do not have the expertise. Furthermore, just like a good recipe, a method cannot guarantee the result will be good. In *Daubert vs Merrill Dow*, the US Supreme Court set forth five (5) foundational principles relating to data admissibility:

- Whether a theory or technique can be (and has been) tested;
- Whether it has been subjected to peer review and publication;
- Whether there is a highly known or potential rate of error;
- Whether there are standards controlling the technique’s operation; and
- Whether the technique has been accepted within the scientific community.

While the current EPA process addresses some of these principles, it does not get to the key issue of professional standards. However, the laboratory accreditation standard developed by the NELAC Institute (TNI) does. The TNI Standard is based on ISO/IEC 17025, but contains additional specificity relating to issues such as data integrity, proficiency testing, method validation and verification, instrument calibration, and much, much more.

EPA does have a key role in ensuring a validated test method exists for regulatory purposes. However, laboratories should be able to modify this approved method, or develop and validate completely new methods, without EPA’s approval as long as they are accredited to the TNI Standard. This new approach will require changes to the current regulations in 40 CFR Parts 136 and 141, and may require laboratory assessors to be trained on how to evaluate new/modified methods.

### 4.0 [Reserved]

## 5.0 CONSENSUS STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (CSDP)

### 5.1 CSDP Executive Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                                                                                                                      | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| 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. | 2/11: Continue to provide monitoring and oversight of standards development by expert committees.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Ensure consistency and uniformity between Volumes and Modules of the Standard                                                                                                                        | 2/11: Reviewing DS from expert committees to ensure consistency and lack of conflict.<br><br>3/11: prepared/submitted comments on Draft Standards.                                                                                                                                                      |
| Provide technical and administrative assistance, guidance documents, checklists, and other tools to facilitate the implementation of all Standards.                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Provide opportunities for stakeholder involvement throughout the development process and assist Expert Committees in dissemination of pertinent information and responses to comments.               | 2/11: Advised committee chairs that standards naming convention (previously approved) was undergoing further potential revision                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Continue the Standards revision process, including assuring a 'big picture' review prior to any Module becoming final                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Administrative Activities                                                                                                                                                                            | 2/11: Reviewed expert committees' election of 2026 leadership roles. Review and approved 3 <sup>rd</sup> term request(s).<br><br>3/11 preparing for election of Vice Chair. A number of requests for term extensions on expert committees reviewed and approved. New expert committee members approved. |

### 5.2 Asbestos Expert Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Status                                                                                                                                     |
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| Continue to develop and maintain consensus standards for asbestos testing that are practical, implementable, and meet the needs of the environmental testing community while providing data of known and documented quality. | 2/11: EL V1M3 waits implementation by Abs. Removed any special requirements for Technical Specialist and will advise QMS expert committee. |

Pursue adoption and implementation of Module 3 in NELAP.

Serve as a technical resource regarding TNI members and other interested parties.

Develop technical assistance, guidance documents, checklists, and other tools as needed to facilitate the implementation of the new Standard including providing a webinar/webcast on the changes for the previous version.

2/11: Continuing to develop Implementation Guidance for SRM equivalency.

3/11 Continues to develop strategies for unavailable SRM required by EL V1M3. Guidance document anticipated

Develop questions and training to assist the credentials efforts.

Respond to SIRs as necessary.

Administrative Activities

2/11 Leadership roles remain unchanged. Committee balanced with one new associate.

### 5.3 Chemistry Expert Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| Continue to develop and maintain consensus standards for chemical testing that are practical, implementable, and meet the needs of the environmental testing community while providing data of known and documented quality. | 2/11: EL V1M4 published for public comment and comment period has closed. 505 comments received (many editorial and/or duplicative) and committee processing comments. Persuasive comments have been determined, and a revised DS will be forthcoming. |
| Finalize EL V1M4 and pursue adoption and implementation.                                                                                                                                                                     | 3/11: Committee continues to review comments and draft revised language to address persuasive comments. Reworking document to comply with SOP 2-103                                                                                                    |
| Provide technical assistance in implementation of the Standard including providing a webinar/webcast on the changes for the previous version.                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Serve as a technical resource regarding chemical testing to TNI members and other interested parties.                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Support the Credentialing effort.                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Develop technical assistance, guidance documents, checklists, training, and other tools as needed to facilitate the implantation of the new Standard.                                                                        | 2/11: Guidance documents anticipated but not yet defined                                                                                                                                                                                               |

|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| Respond to any SIRs as necessary. | 2/11: Awaiting resolution from LASEC/AC on 2 outstanding SIRs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Administrative Activities         | <p>2/11: New committee leadership (Nicole Cairns) in place and 3 new associates added, 5 members rotating off the committee. Election of new members scheduled for March meeting from 13 candidates. Balance will be maintained.</p> <p>3/11: New members elected and approved by CSDP EC. Committee census at 15 members with balance and lack of dominance. Associate members confirmed. 3 New Associates joined the committee.</p> |

#### 5.4 Field Activities Expert Committee

| 2025 Objectives                                                                                                                                                                    | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| Complete revisions to Volume 2.                                                                                                                                                    | <p>2/11: Committee is expecting to finalize the Draft Standard for Committee vote. The Summary of Changes will then be completed, and the Standard will be posted for comment late February/early March.</p> <p>3/11: Additional comments are being resolved. The Committee will be meeting later this month to review the additional updates for vote.</p> |
| Assist NEFAP in planning for Sampling Conclave.                                                                                                                                    | 2/11: The Sampling conclave will be June 2026. See NEFAP EC for additional information.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Discuss addition of media-specific field sampling modules to Volume 1.                                                                                                             | 2/11: The committee believes this is not needed given the new Annex in Volume 1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Respond to SIRs as necessary.                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Work with the NELAP EC to develop tools to facilitate the implementation of the new Volume 1 Standard including providing webinar/webcast on the changes for the previous version. | 2/11: Work will continue on the Accreditation Process Guidance Document after the Volume 2 Standard is posted.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Administrative Activities                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

## 5.5 Laboratory Accreditation Body (LAB) Expert Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| <p>Finalize Standard V2M1, Revision 2.</p> <p>– Discuss and rule on any comments Persuasive or Non-persuasive</p> <p>– If controversies identified, publish Revision 3 and receive/review comments again.</p> <p>Review and update Technical Review Checklist as needed based on changes to standard and the evaluation process.</p> <p>Work with the NELAP AC to revise the evaluation process.</p> <p>Provide technical assistance in developing tools to facilitate the implementation of the Standard including providing a webinar/webcast training on the new Standard.</p> <p>Respond to SIRs, as necessary.</p> | <p>2/11: Workgroups are continuing to help finalize language:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DRAFT language for Assessor Qualifications is just about complete.</li> <li>- ISO/IEC language being removed from the Standard has been gathered. The Committee needs to review this proposal.</li> <li>- Comments from Conferences are being reviewed for any additional changes to the DRAFT Standard.</li> <li>- The Summary of Changes needs to be completed prior to posting the Revised DRAFT Standard (Rev 2).</li> </ul> <p>3/11: The Committee continued its review of changes to the Standard. The Committee is getting support to change Matrix – Technology – Analyte to Matrix – Method – Analyte.</p> <p>2/11: The Committee is confirming that responses are still consistent with changes made to the Standard and should be voting on this document in February/March.</p> <p>3/11: The Response to Comments document has been updated and is being reviewed by Committee members for voting this month. Letters will be sent to commenters after the table is approved.</p> <p>2/11: Work will begin in March.</p> |

Administrative Activities

2/11: Membership will be finalized in February. Extensions for third terms are being requested to complete the DRAFT Standard.

3/11: Extensions for additional terms have been voted on and are being sent to the CSDP EC for approval (Aaren Alger, Michael Perry, and Socorro Baldonado).

The Vice Chair (Amy Steurwald) was added to the CSDP EC meeting notification to provide coverage for the Chair when she cannot attend.

## 5.6 Microbiology Expert Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| <p>Complete Volume 1 Module 5 Draft Standard.</p> <p>Respond to SIRs s necessary.</p> <p>Revise Implementation Guidance (IG) regarding Incubator Equilibrium checks and Temperature Distribution if needed.</p> <p>Serve as a technical resource regarding microbiological testing to TNI members and other interested parties.</p> <p>Provide technical assistance in developing tools to facilitate the implementation of the Standard including providing a webinar/webcast on the changes for the previous version</p> <p>Develop questions and training to assist with the credential's efforts.</p> | <p>1/14: Committee met and discussed comments on the draft Standard. The committee was unable to finalize all comments in time to present a new Draft in Boston.</p> <p>2/11: No additional meeting held in January due to timing of Forum in Boston.</p> <p>2/11: Committee is nearing completion of review of all comments. Required course(s) for Module 2 Annex C still be provided. Expect Draft by April '26.</p> <p>3/11: Committee is nearing completion of review of all comments. Required course(s) for Module 2 Annex C still to be provided. Expect Draft by April '26.</p> |
| <p>Administrative Activities</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>1/14: Hunter Adams and Elixia Snyder will be rotating off of the committee, leaving 3 openings. Only laboratory stakeholders applied for the openings. In order to maintain balance, only 2 openings will be filled. Cody Danielson was re-elected Chair. Robin Cook is stepping down as</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

Vice Chair to facilitate an eventual successor to Cody. An election is in process for her replacement.

2/11: Nigel Allison was elected Vice Chair. Katie Strothman and Elizabeth Turner were elected as Voting members. One position remains open on the Committee, but it can't be filled by an Accredited Organization stakeholder due to balance concerns.

## 5.7 Proficiency Testing (PT) Expert Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| <p>Continue to develop and maintain consensus standards for proficiency testing that are practical, implementable, and meet the needs of the environmental testing community while providing data of known and documented quality.</p> | <p>2/11: EL V4 published for public comment and comment period has closed. EL V3 nears completion and posting in March is anticipated.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <p>Complete revisions to EL V1M1, EL V2M2 EL V3 and EL V4. Pursue adoption and Implementation.</p>                                                                                                                                     | <p>2/11: Numerous comments received on V4 and committee processing comments. Persuasive comments have been determined, and a revised DS will be forthcoming.</p> <p>3/11: All comments on EL V4 received have been resolved and response to comments document to be posted and commenters notified. Proceeding with revised DS. The DS for EL V3 nears completion and posting in March anticipated.</p> |
| <p>Serve as a technical resource to TNI membership and the environmental testing community regarding PT performance.</p>                                                                                                               | <p>2/11: Working with PTP EC to ensure implementability of standards as well as application of FoPT table utility</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p>Provide technical assistance in developing tools to facilitate the implementation of the Standard including providing a webinar/webcast on the changes for the previous version.</p>                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <p>Support the Credentialing effort.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <p>Respond to SIRs as necessary</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <p>Administrative Activities</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>2/11: Leadership roles remain unchanged. Committee balanced with 3 new associate members. Seeking approval for 2 individuals for 3<sup>rd</sup> term; last position on committee anticipated to be filled in March election.</p> <p>3/11: Two members requested for and approved for 3<sup>rd</sup> term. One new associate member. Associate members confirmed for 2026.</p>                        |

## 5.8 Quality Management Systems (QMS) Expert Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| <p>Complete Volume 1 Module 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Publish DRAFT</li> <li>– Review of comments</li> <li>– Publish Revised DRAFT as needed.</li> </ul>                                                   | <p>2/11: The Committee is reviewing comments from the Boston Conference to make any final changes to the DRAFT Standard. The Summary of Changes document was shared in Boston and is just about complete. The Committee is expecting vote on the DRAFT Standard in March.</p> <p>3/11: The Committee was asked to begin reviewing the Standard in detail in preparation for voting. The Committee started review of these comments.</p> |
| <p>Provide technical assistance in developing tools to facilitate the implementation of the Standard including providing a webinar/webcast on the changes for the previous version.</p> <p>Respond to any SIR as necessary.</p> | <p>2/11: The Committee is working on the Cross-Reference of the new Standard to the 2016 Standard.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p>Administrative Activities as necessary.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>2/11: The Committee’s request for Debbie Bond’s third term was approved by the CSDP EC.</p> <p>3/11: New Committee members were added: Alison Boren, Lauren Webb, Jessica Jensen, Kim Felder, and Hunter Nelson. Debbie Bond was voted in to continue as Chair and Jessica Jensen was voted as Vice-Chair.</p>                                                                                                                       |

## 5.9 Radiochemistry Expert Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Status                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| <p>Revise Module 6 as needed.</p> <p>Provide technical assistance in developing tools to facilitate the implementation of the Standard including providing a webinar/webcast on the changes for the previous version.</p> | <p>2/11: The Committee is not planning to make any content updates to Module 6.</p> <p>3/11: Radiochemistry course examples were sent to QMS for inclusion in Annex C.</p> |

Work with the “PT Expert Committee to resolve reporting uncertainty with PT results during their Standard development process.

2/11: Work in progress.

Develop and present a training class geared towards people that are not experts in the field.

2/11: The Committee is developing a 4 hour course that will be held in Houston and then recorded as a webinar.

3/11: A course description and learning objectives are being developed for the course for posting with the opening of registration for Houston.

Respond to any SIR as necessary.

Work with the PTP EC to develop Non-Potable Water PTs and/or other PT issues

Support Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee as needed with Radiochemistry FoPT limits.

Administrative Activities

2/11: Membership will be finalized in February.

3/11: New Committee members were added: Ezekiel Blain, Chad Lane, Joshua Prichard, and Hannah Vietor. The Committee has also requested that Amanda be approved for a third term.

## 5.10 Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Expert Committee

| 2025 Objectives                                                                                                                                                                  | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Complete revision of V1M7 and publish a Draft Standard for comment.                                                                                                              | 2/11: Committee reviewed comments received at the Forum in Boston. Some changes were made in the draft on the basis of those comments.<br><br>3/11: Further progress made on comments from the Forum and in general. Chair has made some formatting changes to aid in clarity. |
| Provide technical assistance in developing tools to facilitate the implementation of the Standard including providing a webinar/webcast on the changes for the previous version. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Complete the effort to establish a path to achieve data comparability for WET PT data.                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Support as needed the QC Specialist badge for aquatic toxicity for the credentialing initiative.                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Respond to any SIR as necessary.                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

Provide venue for sharing of information and best practices of WET labs.

Administrative Activities

1/14: 2 committee members approved for second terms. No member terms expired. At least one member has retired and will serve through the completion of the Standard. New members are needed.

2/11: 2 applications have been received for new members, both in the Accredited Organization stakeholder group. Due to balance issues, only one such member could be added. This should occur in conjunction with the February meeting.

3/11: Votes to add member to committee received. Committee at 12 members (6 Laboratory, 3 AB, 3 Other).

## 6. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD ACTIVITIES PROGRAM (NEFAP)

### 6.1 NEFAP Executive Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                                                              | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| Market the new Field Activities Standard to FSMOs.                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Review and comment on V2 Draft Standard(s).                                                  | 2/11: The Committee was provided with a copy of the DRAFT Standard to provide initial comments before the Field Activities Committee vote on the DRAFT Standard.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Complete NEFAP AB re-evaluation process.                                                     | 2/11/26: PJLA is submitting updates to their application.<br>3/11: Evaluations will begin in the order the applications were received. As the evaluations are completed Ilona will be maintaining a table of updates to show when the technical checklist review is completed, the online "onsite" is scheduled, the "onsite" is completed, the witness is scheduled, the witness is completed, the report is sent to the QA Reviewer, the report is sent to the Recognition Committee and when the NEFAP EC votes to complete the recognition. The evaluation will begin with A2LA, then PJLA and then ANAB for NEFAP and A2LA and then ANAB for PTP. Since the TNI Standard Evaluations will be done alongside these evaluations the order will be A2LA (Start: 3/15), PJLA (5/1), IAS (7/1) and ANAB (9/1). |
| Continue to develop training courses and implement strategic plan as it relates to training. | 2/11: Field Sampling and Measurements: Ensuring Reliable Results held in Boston on January 15 with 7 students<br>Courses in development:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

- Internal Auditing for Field Sampling and Measurement Organizations. This course is being developed within the NEFAP EC.
  - o 2/11: Course planned for March or April.
  - o 3/11: Megan reviewed learning objectives. Course will be posted the end of this week.
- Key Concepts and Implementation of FSMO Volume 1 Standard

Continue to aggressively market the Program utilizing the strategies outlined in the strategic plan.

- Hold the fourth annual virtual Sampling Conclave

2/11: Conclave planned for June 2026 – The Committee is looking at June 16-17, 2026, with a day on PFAS sampling and a second on other topics. Anand is reaching out to EPA for possible participation on PFAS sampling and based on the feedback the Committee will finalize the Conclave details during their February meeting.

3/11: Jerry has been forwarding abstracts for possible speakers. JEA will be able to participate. Tracy is reaching out to other possible speakers.

- Hold a workshop on Sampling for PFAS

2/11: The Committee is looking at Lessons Learned from the Field and moving PFAS to the Conclave.

Update policies and procedures to reflect any changes in NEFAP.

- Address comments on SOP 5-104 that were provided to the NEFAP EC in 2020.
- Conduct 5-year review of SOP 5-107.

Work with the Field Activities to provide technical assistance in developing tools to facilitate the implementation of the Volume 1 Standard including providing a webinar/webcast on the changes for the previous version.

Evaluate need for improved consistency in NEFAP AB Scopes of Accreditation.

Administrative Activities

2/11: Committee membership will be updated in February.

3/11: The Committee added new members: Paul Bergeron and Elizabeth Turner.

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7. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAM (NELAP)

7.1 NELAP Accreditation Council

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                                                  | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sustain governance role for the program and promoting consistency in AB operations.                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Review and provide comment on V2M1 revised draft Standards.                                                                      | <p>2/11: There was discussion regarding ethics and data integrity procedures related to notification of ABs. The NELAP AC will review draft V1M2 and DRAFT V2M1 language during the February meeting and possibly provide comment.</p> <p>3/11: More time was needed to continue to review the information, so discussion will be completed during March meeting.</p>                                                                                 |
| Review and comment on other revised modules of the TNI ELS Standard (Volume 1) as the Expert Committees publish Draft Standards. | 2/11: The NELAP AC completed review of comments on the draft V1M4 Standard and submitted them to the Chemistry Committee.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Address issues of concern to NELAP ABs as they arise.                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Work with the LAB to revise the evaluation process.                                                                              | 2/11: Work will begin on this in March.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Complete current evaluations and plan for the future.                                                                            | <p>2/11: The Texas evaluation was completed and will be reviewed for vote during the February meeting. Ilona reached out to previous attendees participating in the Evaluation quarterly meetings and meetings will start again in March. She is also working on an update to the Evaluation summary that will be provided with monthly reports in March.</p> <p>3/11: The final report was reviewed and the NELAP AC voted to renew recognition.</p> |
| Continue to provide information sharing venue.                                                                                   | 2/11: Round Table discussions are still in progress.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Review Policies and Procedures for 5 year review and as needed.                                                                  | 2/11: The Mutual Recognition and Dispute Resolution SOPs are being reviewed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Administrative Activities                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

## 7.2 NELAP Executive Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                             | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Supplement SIR with Implementation Guidance for non-SIR questions.                                          | 2/11: The SIR SOP will be reviewed for possible updates.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Review and provide comments on all EL Draft Standards as they are developed.                                | 2/11: The Committee prepared comments on the V1M4 <i>Summary of Suggested Changes and Justification</i> document and reviewed a portion of the V1M4 DRAFT Standard (through Section 6.3) of the comments submitted by a Committee Associate Member. The comments were sent to the Chemistry Committee.                                                                                                      |
| Prepare to assume role as Recognition Body for NGAB status (parallel to NEFAP and PTPEC recognitions)       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Develop Draft Policies and SOPs for NELAP as needed.<br>– Conduct 5-year review of POL 3-101 and SOP 3-108. | 2/11: The following SOPs are being reviewed for update:<br>- 3-103: Standards Review<br>- 3-105: SIR Management<br>- 3-106: Standard Suitability                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Sustain SIR progress and supplement SIRS with Implementation Guidance for non-SIR questions.                | 2/11: Two SIRs were posted as completed SIRs. One SIR will be reviewed by the NELAP AC during the February meeting because of a voting comment. Four SIRs were received and determined to not be SIRs.                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Work in cooperation with the NELAP Accreditation Council (AC) to assist in implementing this program.       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Administrative Activities                                                                                   | 2/11: Membership will be updated in during the February meeting.<br><br>3/11/26: Three new committee members were added to the NELAP EC. They are Taryn Hurley (AB-OK), Gretchen Wellfinger (AB-NY), and Tracy Szerszen (AB-NGAB-PJLA). With Maria Friedman's rotation off the Committee, the Committee voted in Shari Pfallmer as Chair and Patty Carvajal as Vice-Chair. Shari was the former Vice-Chair. |

## 8. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (PDP)

### 8.1 PDP Executive Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                              | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Establish and implement guidance, policies, procedures, and tools necessary to implement the program.</p> | <p>2/11: Website and Committee Applications now operational. Notice of creation of committee posted.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                              | <p>3/11: SOPs 1-100 and 1-101 were updated to include the Program into the SOP numbering system and to include it in the TNI Committees SOP.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p>Provide oversight and guidance to the Credentials and Training committees.</p>                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <p>Implement the Jack Farrell Analytical Excellence scholarship.</p>                                         | <p>2/11: Notification and application were developed and distributed for Jack Farrell Scholarship. Developing review process for applications received.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                                              | <p>3/11: A workgroup was developed to begin work on a process for selecting scholarship recipients. The workgroup met and is working on an SOP that will be reviewed next week. One scholarship application has been received. Two inquiries have been received.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <p>Establish an emerging professionals' initiative (however named).</p>                                      | <p>2/11: Received great input during the Boston conference. Recommendation to look at a leadership program that includes training and mentorship. Established for people that want to take on more responsibilities in their workplace. Based on people wanting to take a new step, but not necessarily new or young in their professional development. This could be relevant to career, next generation of TNI Committee Chairs, etc ... New to QA or TNI? Pair them up with an AB, industry person, etc. This pairing could rotate.</p> |
|                                                                                                              | <p>3/11: Examples of similar organization will be looked at during the March meeting to help with discussion.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <p>Investigate opportunities to identify funding to support the program.</p>                                 | <p>2/11: Received one vendor donation during Boston meeting.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p>Develop and implement "Quality Time with TNI."</p>                                                        | <p>2/11: Quarterly live 1 hour event. Might include Hot Topics (Tech Specialist, Standard Update Process), Meet a Member, Ask an AB, Back to Basics (MDL procedures, record keeping), etc.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p>Administrative Activities</p>                                                                             | <p>2/11: 7 applications received. Membership will be reviewed in February.</p> <p>3/11: New Committee membership has been added: Littia Mann, Michelle Wade, and Anand Mudambi. In addition, the Committee has added its first associate members.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

## 8.2 Credentials Committee

| 2026 Objectivities                                                                                                    | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Continue to support Executive Director in implementing the Credentialing Initiative for a QMS Certified Professional. | 2/11: Exam given in Boston with 3 applicants and 2 passed:<br>– Denice Johnson, NEORSD – Chemistry and WET<br>– Katalina Li, Spectrum Environmental – Asbestos                                                                                                            |
| Continue to review current exam questions for accuracy and understanding.                                             | 3/11: The committee discussed the grading procedure and agreed the technical module grading should be graded separately from the other questions. The committee also discussed offering technical module exams in Houston to the current list of certified professionals. |
| Continue to develop KSA for Technical Specialist and then develop the exam.                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Review existing training courses and see if additional courses are needed.                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Coordinate with TNI Training Committee in developing courses.                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Administrative Activities                                                                                             | 2/11: Alison Boren (Vermont) applied to be an Associate Member.                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

## 8.3 Training Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                                                          | Status                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Continue Linked-In presence.                                                             |                                                                |
| Continue to work with the Credential Committee to support this effort.                   |                                                                |
| Look for opportunities to collaborate with other training providers.                     |                                                                |
| Post Webcast for how to complete training application to teach courses.                  | 2/11: Too be completed by next RFP.                            |
| Work with vendors and other trainers to develop technical course training opportunities. | 2/11: Working with Credentialing to understand courses needed. |

|                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Develop new survey for webinars.                                          | 2/11: To be reviewed during February meeting.<br>3/11: Though the Committee could not meet in February due to lack of quorum, Ilona shared the template for a course membership survey with some Committee members. The update will be reviewed by the Committee in March.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Continue to develop ideas for training courses and issue RFPs.            | 2/11: Workgroup meeting before February training meeting. 2 new course applications received and being pursued. Followed up on Scott Sider's course development. Field Internal Audit course set for April.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Review training to ensure it is not obsolete.                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Continue to update Course Catalog database as new courses are developed.  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Continue to offer and market new training courses.                        | 2/11: Basic Assessor classes will be held the weeks of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– March 23<sup>rd</sup></li><li>– June 22<sup>nd</sup></li><li>– September 21<sup>st</sup></li></ul> 3/11: Mary Johnston has scheduled two new courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Building Excellence: Integrating Initial and Ongoing Training into Laboratory Operations – May 27, 2026</li><li>– Biochemical Oxygen Demand: From Sample to Report – June 24, 2026</li></ul> |
| Continue to hold Mentor Session and Assessment Forum at every TNI meeting | 2/11: Held Assessment Forum and Mentor Session in Boston. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Mentor Session – But Why? TNI Requirements</li><li>– Assessment Forum: But Why? State Regulatory Practices</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

Administrative Activities

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## 9. PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAM (PTP)

### 9.1 PTP Executive Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Implement all policies and procedures necessary to establish, maintain, and continually improve a national PT program to support environmental accreditation programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Address comments on SOP 4-101 that were provided to the PTP EC in 2025.</li> <li>- Conduct a 5-year review of SOP 4-108</li> </ul> | <p>3/11: SOP 4-101 proposed by subcommittee for approval. SOP 4-109. PT Program Standards Review and Adoption, scheduled for review and approval at March meeting.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <p>Ensure that fields of Proficiency Testing (FoPTs) are created, maintained, and updated as appropriate to support environmental laboratory accreditation programs.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>2/11: WET FoPT revisions await implementation. Uranium (mass) to be added to Drinking Water FoPT table.</p> <p>3/11 WETT FoPT table with effective date posted to website. Analyte Request Application to include U (mass) in DW table reviewed and sent to Chemistry FoPT subcommittee for processing consistent with SOP 4-107</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <p>Develop resolution for reporting uncertainty with Radiochemistry PT results.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p>Ensure the effectiveness of the PT Provider accreditation and oversight program.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p>Complete PTP AB evaluations.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>2/11: Revised SOP 7-101 approved.</p> <p>3/11: Evaluations will begin in the order the applications were received. As the evaluations are completed she will be maintaining a table of updates to show when the technical checklist review is completed, the online "onsite" is scheduled, the "onsite" is completed, the witness is scheduled, the witness is completed, the report is sent to the QA Reviewer, the report is sent to the Recognition Committee and when the NEFAP EC votes to complete the recognition. The evaluation will begin with A2LA, then PJLA and then ANAB for NEFAP and A2LA and then ANAB for PTP. Since the TNI Standard Evaluations will be done alongside these evaluations the order will be A2LA (Start: 3/15), PJLA (5/1), IAS (7/1) and ANAB (9/1).</p> |
| <p>Complete and gather information on PT Program metrics.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p>Continue working to be inclusive of non-TNI ABs.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

Support the NELAP AC on method codes issues in LAMS as necessary.

Work with PT Expert Committee to update Volumes 3 and 4 of the TNI Laboratory Standard

Administrative Activities

2/11: EL V4 reviewed and comments submitted to PTEC. EL V3 anticipated to be received in March for Executive Committee review.

2/11: Leadership roles remain unchanged. One member has retired and resigned his position; 3 vacancies being addressed to interested associates; committee balanced with 2 new associate members.

3/11: After meeting in closed session, executive committee elected a new member. Roster remains at 14; one vacancy remains. Complaint received and considered valid by Executive committee; sent to Chemistry FoPT subcommittee for processing consistent with SOP 4-102

## 10 ADMINISTRATION

### 10.1 Advocacy Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                                                                              | Status                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Implement a plan for national accreditation and systematic outreach to data users that will explain and promote the benefits of a quality management system. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Provide an "Introduction to TNI" webcast for new members.                                                                                                    | 3/11: Jerry Parr has developed a draft to be reviewed at the April meeting.                                                                                                                                                 |
| Provide a "History of TNI and Laboratory accreditation" webinar for new members and the public.                                                              | 3/11: Existing free webinar by Jerry Parr and Marlene Moore, <i>Ensuring the Competency of Environmental Data Generation by accreditation</i> , is adequate for this goal.                                                  |
| Monitor EPA/federal activities for opportunities to share TNI's activities and promote national accreditation.                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Deliver the State of National Accreditation Report to non-NELAP state contacts and trade associations at least every two years.                              | 2/11: In progress with anticipated completion in December 2026.                                                                                                                                                             |
| Look for opportunities to add TNI Ambassadors for non-NELAP states.                                                                                          | 2/11: One new ambassador, Heather Morgan – Alabama.<br><br>3/11: The Committee had its Ambassadors Meeting. One request is to have the Committee help Ambassador's provide updates by providing material for them to share. |

Sustain

- organizing newsletter publication 2/11: Next Newsletter to be published in June 2026.
- support for Small Laboratory Advocate role

Provide outreach (e.g., presentations and papers) to promote The NELAC Institute and TNI's programs.

2/11: 2026 Presentations confirmed:

March 2026 ACIL P2 – Jerry Parr – Update on TNI (virtual)

April 2026 A2LA AnnCon - Paul Junio – Update on TNI Standards

May TCEQ Trade Fari – Jerry Parr - Update on TNI Standards

3/11: Jerry is planning an NEMC presentation with Judy. Lab's need more flexibility in modifying methods for their use. This flexibility could be granted if they are TNI accredited laboratories following their documented quality management system. This will be a plenary talk.

Develop a new White Paper on acceptance of NELAP accreditations by non-NELAP states.

Serve as the Steering Committee for TNI's Annual Meeting

2/11: 2027 Forum will be in Long Beach from January 11-14.

**2027 FORUM**  
**January 11-14, 2027**  
 Hyatt Regency Long Beach

Preliminary Schedule

| Time    | Monday: 1/11                                                                             | Tuesday: 1/12                                                                   | Wednesday: 1/13                                                   | Thursday: 1/14                                            |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 8-12 PM | <b>General Session</b><br>8:00 Welcome new Attendees<br>9:00 Annual Meeting<br>10:30 TBD | – Assessment Forum<br>– PT/PTPT EC<br>– Prof Dev<br>o Training<br>o Credentials | – QMS<br>– Micro                                                  | Credentials Exam<br>California Session<br>OCSD Field Trip |
| 12-1    | Lunch on Own (11:30-1:00)                                                                | Lunch Provided                                                                  | Lunch Provided                                                    |                                                           |
| 1-5 PM  | – Mentor Session<br>– NELAP AC & EC<br>– WET                                             | – FAC/NEFAP<br>– RadioChem<br>– QMS                                             | – Chemistry<br>– LAB<br>– NGAB/Advocacy<br>4:15 Committee Reports | TNI Staff mtg                                             |
| 5:30    | Reception                                                                                |                                                                                 | Board reception                                                   |                                                           |

Exhibit program runs from 3:00 on Monday to 3:30 pm on Tuesday.

Conduct other activities delegated to the Advocacy Committee

2/11: New tasks being considered:

- Promote use of NGABs
- Promote credentialing

Administrative Activities

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## 10.2 Policy Committee

| 2026 Objectives                                     | Status           |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Continue to develop and/or review SOPs and Policies | See Table below. |

| Policy/SOP No. | Description                                                       | Status                                                    |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| SOP 1-132      | Formation of TNI Committees and Task Forces                       | 2/11: Revised SOP provided for Board review and approval. |
| SOP 1-100      | Format Guidelines for Standard Operating Procedures (SOPS) of TNI | 3/11: Revised SOP provided for Board review and approval. |
| SOP 1-101      | Operation of TNI Committees                                       | 3/11: Revised SOP provided for Board review and approval. |
| SOP 2-100      | Standards Development                                             | 3/11: Revised SOP provided for Board review.              |
| SOP 1-130      | Maintenance of the TNI Glossary                                   | In the queue.                                             |
| SOP 1-104      | Control of TNI Documents                                          | In the queue (5-year review).                             |
| SOP 1-106      | Development and Approval of TNI Policies and SOPs                 | In the queue (5-year review).                             |

Begin Maintaining Glossary.

Conduct a 10-year review of the TNI Bylaws and Quality Management Plan.

2/11: QMP provided to the Board.

Conduct other activities delegated to the Policy Committee

2/11: Started review of Guidance Document on Consumables.

3/11: Review continued but tabled to review SOP 2-100.

Administrative Activities

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### 10.3 Environmental Measurement Symposium

The 2026 Symposium will be in Houston, TX from August 3-7, 2026.

#### 2025 Environmental Measurement Symposium Conference at a Glance (Final)

| Mon 8/3                         | Tues 8/4                            | Wed 8/5                                  | Thu 8/6                           | Fri 8/7                                            |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 8:15 Carter award<br>9:00-12:00 | 8:15 Keynote<br>9:00-12:00          | 8:15 Plenary session                     | 8:15-9:45 EPA Program Updates (3) | Credentials Exam<br>Radiochemistry Training Course |
| NEMC Air (5)<br>NEMC AI (5)     | NEMC LIMS (5)<br>NEMC Consensus (5) |                                          | 10:00 – 12:00                     |                                                    |
| NEMC Real Time (5)              | NEMC Organics (5)                   |                                          | NEMC Community (4)                |                                                    |
| TNI Micro                       | TNI NELAP AC & EC                   |                                          | NEMC Forensics (3)                |                                                    |
| TNI Assessment Forum            | TNI PTEC/PTPEC                      |                                          | NEMC MECL2 (4)                    |                                                    |
|                                 |                                     |                                          | TNI Radiochemistry                |                                                    |
|                                 |                                     |                                          | TNI QMS                           |                                                    |
| <b>Lunch on Own</b>             | <b>Lunch</b>                        | <b>Lunch on own</b><br>+5 Vendor Lunches | <b>Lunch</b>                      |                                                    |
| 1:30 – 5:00                     | 1:00 – 3:00                         | 1:30 – 5:00                              | 1:00 – 5:00                       |                                                    |
| NEMC DW (6)                     | NEMC Design (4)                     | NEMC Data (6)                            | NEMC Reliable Data (7)            |                                                    |
| NEMC O:rganics (6)              | NEMC Metals (4)                     | NEMC Management (6)                      | NEMC PFAS (7)                     |                                                    |
| NEMC PFAS (7)                   | NEMC MicroP (3)                     | NEMC PFAS (6)                            | NEMC HRMS (8)                     |                                                    |
| TNI Chemistry                   | TNI Chemistry                       | TNI PDP                                  | TNI QMS (1-4)                     |                                                    |
| LAB                             | TNI WET                             | TNI Mentor                               | TNI Field (1-4)                   |                                                    |
| Reception 5:30                  | Showcase 3:30 - 5:30                | Exhibit close 3:30                       | Committee Report 4:15-5           |                                                    |

2/11: The theme for this year’s Symposium is Strengthening Public Trust in Science. 125 abstracts (97 oral and 28 poster) have been submitted for the NEMC part of the meeting. A draft of the TNI schedule was provided to committee chairs. 30 organizations (39 tables), including 5 lunch sponsors and 3 meeting sponsors, have signed up to be exhibitors; the meeting space has room for 68 tables.

3/11: 125 abstracts (112 oral and 32 poster) have been submitted for the NEMC part of the meeting. The TNI schedule is set as shown above with 12 committee meeting, the assessment forum, and mentor session. The EPA drinking water, wastewater, and hazardous waste programs have all committed to providing an update. Registration is on track to open April 6. 34 organizations (44 tables), including 5 lunch sponsors and 4 meeting sponsors, have signed up to be exhibitors; the meeting space has room for 68 tables.

### 10.4 NGAB Evaluations

| 2025 Objectives                      | Status                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Complete NGAB re-evaluation process. | 2/11: Schedule completed in February.<br><br>3/11: See summary in NEFAP and PTP. A2LA review of application material and checklist begins 3/15/26. |

## 11. TASK FORCES AND OTHER EFFORTS

### 11.1 Consumables Task Force

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                                         | Status                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Prepare guidance document.                                                                                              | 2/11: Document provided t Policy in December 2025 |
| Upon Policy Committee approval develop implementation tools and training for laboratories use of the Guidance document. |                                                   |
| Dissolve the Task Force                                                                                                 |                                                   |

### 11.2 Feedback Task Force

| 2026 Objectives          | Status                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Conduct the survey.      | 2/11: Survey sent to over 6000 individuals on 2/3. Responses are due by 2/18/26. 53 responses have been received.<br><br>3/11: Summary will be provided to the Task Force in March. |
| Develop recommendations. |                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Dissolve the Task Force  |                                                                                                                                                                                     |

### 11.3 CSDP Task Force

| 2026 Objectives                                                                                               | Status                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Develop a replacement for ANSI to evaluate this program.                                                      | 3/11: Task Force consists of Jerry, Paul, Bob, Alfredo, and Marlene Moore. Draft of RFP in development. |
| – Develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) and send to NGABs for assistance in identifying potential contractors. |                                                                                                         |
| – Evaluate proposals.                                                                                         |                                                                                                         |
| – Issue a contract.                                                                                           |                                                                                                         |

## 12. MEMBERSHIP

- 1134 active members

### 12.1 Committee Applications

| Name               | Organization                                | Interest  | Committee               |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| Brian Hulme        | USEPA Region 2                              | Voting    | Radiochemistry          |
| Tracy Szerszen     | Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation Inc. | Voting    | NELAP EC                |
| Taryn Hurley       | Oklahoma DEQ                                | Voting    | NELAP EC                |
| Gretchen Welfinger | NYS DOH                                     | Associate | NELAP EC                |
| Taryn Hurley       | Oklahoma DEQ                                | Voting    | NELAP EC                |
| Nora Lough         | Narragansett Bay Commission                 | Associate | Whole Effluent Toxicity |
| Ezekiel Blain      | New York State Department of Health         | Voting    | Radiochemistry          |
| Cody Tennant       | Minnesota Department of Health              | Associate | Chemistry               |
| Chad Lane          | ERA, A Waters company                       | Voting    | Radiochemistry          |
| Brian Eichelberger | SPL                                         | Associate | Expert: Chemistry       |
| Claire Toon        | Waters ERA                                  | Associate | Laboratory PT           |
| Heather Morgan     | Alliance Technical Group                    | Associate | Advocacy                |

### 11.2 New and Renewed Members:

- 71 New and Renewed memberships in February, 2026

### 12.3 Expired Memberships

- Of the 36 expired memberships from January, 8 renewed after contact. Emails were sent to February expired members on March 2, 2026.
- 24 Memberships Expired in February