

Summary
TNI Chemistry Expert Committee Meeting
Tuesday, August 4, 2026; 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM CT
Wednesday, August 5, 2026; 1:30 PM - 5:00 PM CT

The meeting was called to order at both sessions by Nicole Carins, the Chemistry Expert Committee Chair. The meeting was held in concert with the Environmental Measurements Symposium in Houston, Texas for August 3-7, 2026.

The roster of the Chemistry Expert Committee was presented and those present were introduced. The agenda for the meeting was also presented and is provided in the attached PowerPoint.



Chemistry-Presentati
on Houston August 2026

Committee Member Attendance

Joseph Manzella, OCSD (Lab)
Nicole Cairns, NYS DOH (Lab) - Chair
Durant Maske, Southern Companies (Lab)
Stephanie Rippeon, A2LA (AB)
Donaciano Cantu, Red River Scientific (other)
Anand Mudambi, Retired US EPA
Denice Johnson, NEORSD (Lab) – Vice-Chair
Ryan Lerch, Oklahoma (AB)
Kyle GroganI, Nelson Research (Lab)
Michelle Wade, Wade Consulting (Other)

Numerous Associate committee members were also in attendance.

The Chemistry Expert Committee is responsible for development and maintenance of standards that improve and ensure the technical quality of environmental chemical testing data. Specifically, the committee is responsible for EL V1M4, Quality Systems for Chemical Testing. The previously posted Draft Standard for EL V1 M4 ~~for was~~ presented for public comment. Numerous comments were received, some of which have been deemed persuasive, requiring the expert committee to prepare a revised DS. A primary focus of this public meeting, in addition to providing general information regarding the committee, was to review the changes proposed by the committee in preparation of this revised standard.

The recent activities of the committee were then presented and reviewed. In addition to development of the revised Draft Standard, attention to any SIRs received (there are no SIRs for which the committee has not yet responded, however one has been just recently received and will be responded to shortly), assistance as requested from other committees, and administrative matters represent the committee's major activities.

Nicole also reviewed the goals of the committee which are to continue developing the revised DS, responding to all comments received, addressing any and all SIRs, and development of implementation guidance upon approval of the revised DS.

The meeting continued with the presentation of changes being implemented within Sections 5 and 6. As discussion continued and comments were received one issue was the definition or meaning of "significant". It was felt that examples or further explanation should be provided in a guidance document as an annex to the DS. Another point was made to the committee regarding 5.2.d) iii where validation data generated by an accredited lab should be compared to other similar method data, but nothing is said as to a failure to show acceptable agreement.

The SIR recently received (SIR #529) was presented and reviewed. The SIR asks if, within a batch of samples, some of said samples require an additional processing step (i.e., filtration, cleanup, etc.) are additional MB and LCS samples required? After active debate and discussion by the committee and the attendees of the session, it was the consensus that the standard does not address this issue and no "straight forward" response was yet available to provide for SIR 529. The options offered and considered included doing multiple MB and LCS, doing only one MB and LCS, or only one MB and LCS under the most stringent criteria or process. It was also considered that the issue was more of a "how to" which is not the purpose of the standard and that the issue should be addressed as a part of the laboratory's quality management practices. The matter, with consideration of the inputs received, was tabled and will continue to be addressed by the committee.

The first session of the Chemistry Expert Committee meeting was adjourned after this discussion and reconvened on Wednesday at 1:30 PM CT. Nicole summarized the materials from the first session for those unable to attend.

The remainder of the public meeting was dedicated to the review of comments received from the original posting of the DS. The Chair noted

that there were a large number of comments and that the committee has already spent considerable committee time going through the comments to determine if each was either editorial, persuasive, or non-persuasive. To date the committee has reviewed all comments prior to §7.0, Demonstration of Capabilities.

Nicole briefly reviewed some of the general changes made in other sections of the DS and noted that the Tuesday session had specifically addressed §5 and 6. She noted that for those not in attendance on Tuesday that the previous discussion was available from the web portal for the symposium.

Review of the comments, the committee's response to comments, and the subsequent changes (or suggested changes) to the current language of the DS commenced. Each comment was presented individually, and comments/suggestions were received with substantive remarks noted in comments on the revised DS presented below. The status of this review and consideration of these discussions as to their persuasive or non-persuasive designation are presented on the attached copy of the Response to Comments (R2C) document. The committee will continue to work through all comments.



STD-ELV1M4-Rev.3.0_
Revised DS_post Hour

Nicole concluded the meeting with an invitation to all interested parties to join committee calls held on the first Wednesday of the month at 2:00 PM ET.