

**Microbiology Expert Committee (MEC)
Meeting Summary**

November 8, 2022

1. Roll Call:

Cody, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30pm Eastern on November 8, 2022, by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 8 voting members present. Associates present: Brian Mercer, David Lo, Paul Junio, Stacey Chmura, Carl Kircher (present until 2pm Eastern), Kathy Mitchell, Alma McCammonds, and Sviatlana Haubner.

The October meeting minutes were distributed for review. A motion was made by Robin to approve the October 11, 2022 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Maria and there was no further discussion. Vote – For – 7 Against – 0 Abstain – 1 (Amy). The motion passed.

2. Continue work on DRAFT Standard Comments

The Committee is still working through comments 1, 4 and 11.

Cody sent a request with some optional language by email. She asked for input on Option A and Option B. 8 responses were all in favor of Option A.

Option A:

1.7.3.1.d.iii

The laboratory shall monitor the quality of the water for metals (Cd, Cr, Cu, Ni, Pb, and Zn) annually. When these tests are not performed internally, subcontracted work must meet the requirements of VIM2 Section 4.5.5.

Option B:

1.7.3.1.d.iii

The laboratory shall monitor the quality of the water for cadmium, chromium, copper, nickel, lead, zinc and silica every 12 months. Individual results for cadmium, chromium, copper, nickel, lead and zinc shall be <0.05 mg/L. Total results of cadmium, chromium, copper, nickel, lead and zinc shall be <0.10 mg/L. Silica shall be <0.1 mg/L. Laboratories performing these tests, internally or externally, shall be accredited for each analyte. Subcontracted work must meet the requirements of VIM2 Section 4.5.5.

Cody recommended that the Committee go ahead and vote on placing Option A language (sent November 8, 2022) in the Standard.

Amy was on the phone with Dwayne and they don't think 1.7.3.1.d.ii is addressed. It doesn't address whether accreditation is needed. It does not address the SIR. PA thinks the new language requires that the lab that might be subbed to has to be certified.

The concern is that if it is not stated that the lab does not have to be accredited, then by default they will need to be accredited. It was said that the Standard needs to be clear that the lab does not have to be accredited for ABs to consistently not to require the labs to be accredited. Language was looked at stating that the lab does not need to be accredited.

When looking at d.iii, the Committee used that same logic: if it does not say that the lab does not have to be accredited, then by default they will need to be accredited

Cody will send language out by email so the Committee can continue working on this.

Proposed Revised DS language:

1.7.3.1.d.ii

The laboratory shall monitor the quality of the water for disinfectant residual, conductivity, total organic carbon, and heterotrophic bacteria plate count monthly (when in use), when maintenance is performed on the water treatment system, or at startup after a period of disuse longer than one month. When these tests are not performed internally, subcontracted work must meet the requirements of V1M2 Section 4.5.5.

1.7.3.1.d.iii

The laboratory shall monitor the quality of the water for metals (Cd, Cr, Cu, Ni, Pb, and Zn) annually. When these tests are not performed internally, subcontracted work must meet the requirements of V1M2 Section 4.5.5.

The current DS language is:

1.7.3.1.d.ii

The laboratory shall monitor the quality of the water for disinfectant residual, conductivity, total organic carbon, and heterotrophic bacteria plate count monthly (when in use), when maintenance is performed on the water treatment system, or at startup after a period of disuse longer than one month. Analysis may be performed by another certified laboratory.

1.7.3.1.d.iii

The laboratory shall monitor the quality of the water for metals (Cd, Cr, Cu, Ni, Pb, and Zn) and the Bacteriological Water Quality Test (to determine presence of toxic agents or growth promoting substances) annually. An exception to performing the Bacteriological Water Quality Test shall be given to laboratories that can supply documentation to show that their water source meets the criteria, as specified by the method, for High Quality (Type I) or Medium Quality (Type II) reagent water. Analysis may be performed by another certified laboratory.

(Addition: Discussion continued by email and a motion was made:

Hunter made a motion to rule that comments 1, 4, and 11 to the DRAFT Standard are Persuasive as per the attached spreadsheet sent on November 15, 2022 and that the proposed language change can be inserted into the Revised DRAFT Standard for final consideration by the Committee. The motion was seconded by Robin and there was no further discussion.

Vote:

Hunter – For 11/15/22
Robin – For (11/15/22)
Elisa – For (11/15/22)
Amy – Against (11/15/22)
Cody – For (11/15/22)
Enoma – For (11/15/22)
Matt – For (11/16/22)
Ashley – For (11/16/22)
Jody – For (11/16/22)
Christabel – For (11/16/22)
Robert – For (11/17/22)

Total: For – 10 Against – 1 Abstain – 0

The motion passed and this will be discussed further during the December meeting.)

3. New Business

None.

4. Next Meeting and Close

The next meeting will be by teleconference on December 13, 2022 at 1:30pm Eastern.

A summary of action items and backburner/reminder items can be found in Attachment B and C.

Cody adjourned the meeting at 3:05 pm Eastern.

Attachment A

**Participants
Microbiology Expert Committee (MEC)**

Members	Affiliation	Balance	Contact Information
Cody Danielson (Chair) (2025) Present	Oklahoma	Lab	Cody.Danielson@deq.ok.gov
Matt Graves (2025*) Absent	ERA	Other	Matt_graves@waters.com
Lily Giles (2025) Absent	Louisiana	AB	Lily.Giles@LA.GOV
Amy Hackman (2025*) Absent	Indiana	AB	mrobinson@isdh.IN.gov
Robin Cook (Vice Chair) (2024*) Present	City of Daytona Beach, EML	Lab	cookr@codb.us
Ashley Larssen (2024*) Absent	KC Water	Lab	ashley.larssen@kcmo.org
Jody Frymire (2025) Present	IDEXX	Other	Jody-Frymire@idexx.com
Jessica Hoch (2025) Present	TCEQ	Other	Jessica.hoch@tceq.texas.gov
Elisa Snyder (2023*) Present	City of Austin – Austin Water Division	Lab	elisa.snyder@austintexas.gov
Hunter Adams (2023*) Present	City of Wichita Falls – Water Purification	Lab	hunter.adams@wichitafallstx.gov
Enoma Omoregie (2024) Absent	NYC DOHMH	Lab	eomoregie@health.nyc.gov
Christabel Monteiro (2024) Present	Pace National, Analytical	Lab	christabel.monteiro@pacelabs.com
Robert Royce (2025*) Absent	New Jersey	AB	Robert.royce@dep.nj.gov
Maria Friedman (2025*) Present	California	AB	qamfriedman@gmail.com
Ilona Taunton (Program Administrator) Present	The NELAC Institute	n/a	Ilona.taunton@nelac-institute.org

**Attachment B
Action Items – MEC**

	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
104	Implementation Guidance for Equilibrium.	Committee	TBD	See note in 5/11/21 minutes.
105	Discuss definition of Lot with Chair of CSDP EC.	Kasey Paul Junio	2/11/21	Started, but ongoing. 7/13/21: Remove
112	Develop Understanding Microbiology Course	Cody Committee	TBD	7/12/22: Ready for first class in VA.
113	Complete Response to Draft Comments Process	All	Ongoing	5/10/22: Voted on Comments: 2, 3, 7, 8, 9 and 10 6/14/22: Voted on Comments 5 and 6.
114	Email vote for Comments 1, 4 and 11	All	11/30/22	Complete 11/17/22

Attachment C

Backburner / Reminders – MEC

	Item	Meeting Reference	Comments
1	Update charter (if needed) every 5 years.	n/a	Ongoing
2	Review Method codes and send comments to Robin for Dan Hickman.		Moved to back-burner on 6/9/20.
3	Provide an update on what has been done with the method codes and database after Jennifer's review and internal EPA meetings.		This was moved from the Action Items table. Notes: 6/9/20: Ask Jennifer for a follow-up. 11/9/20 – Not available for a follow-up.