

**Summary of the NELAP Accreditation Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 3, 2024 1:30 pm Eastern**

1. Welcome and Introductions

Kristin welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was rescheduled due to the Labor Day holiday. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1. The agenda is included in Attachment 2. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent, and the minutes of July 1 were approved unanimously after a motion by Millie, seconded by Steve Jetter.

2. Update on Method Code Change/Correction

Paul Junio had earlier notified Council members and PT Providers about an error inadvertently created when a new method code was added, in February of this year. In creating a new code for EPA 625.1 by GC/MS/MS, the code for EPA 625.1 by SIM (code 10300035) was accidentally used (erasing the EPA 625.1 SIM code). To correct this, Paul intends 'return' 10300035 to EPA 625.1 SIM, and add 10300046 as EPA 625.1 by GC/MS/MS. Making this change would cause concern over any PT reported since 2/15/24. It is possible if not likely that laboratories were using that code to report GCMS SIM, since it had been the correct code before, so any lab that might have added that method code since 2/15/24 would need to be changed to a different code that was supposed to have been created on 2/15/24 (code 10300046).

Paul stated that LAMS shows five labs using the code 10300035, and two more dropped it, but ORELAP has seven labs and VA DCLS has one. Both of those ABs will do whatever is needed to straighten out the codes so that they match the technology used for PT samples.

Paul then offered to address any other questions that Council members might have for him. One participant inquired about the codes for methods in the 24th edition of Standard Methods (SM), and that the revision dates associated with the codes don't always match the latest date. Paul explained that the TNI method codes use the original approval date, not the most recent publication date. Chris is compiling a crosswalk of SM with TNI codes from the 2023 Method Update Rule (MUR) and will share it when completed. Cathy noted that she has invested much effort into aligning the various codes and dates, since updating the dates as editorial changes are made to the methods has led to multiple codes for what is essentially the same method (with only editorial changes), and offered to share her spreadsheet of the MUR methods that VA uses for its labs (probably incomplete, since only methods for which Virginia accredits are included) to be distributed to Council members. One example was discussed, and the consensus was that the "old" code should be retained, regardless of editorial updates or republication dates.

Kristin thanked Paul and he departed the call.

3. Review and Approval of Five-Year Review Revision of Provisional Recognition SOP 3-108

There was no discussion about the minor changes to this SOP. Millie moved and Steve Jetter seconded that it be approved. The results of the required roll call vote are shown below. The voting closed after two weeks, on September 17.

State AB	Vote		State AB	Vote
FL	Yes (changed by email after original abstention)		NY	Yes
IL	Yes		OK	Yes
KS	Yes (changed by email after original abstention)		OR	Yes
LA	(no vote received as of September 17)		PA	Yes
MN	(no vote received as of September 17)		TX	Yes
NH	Yes		UT	Yes
NJ	Yes		VA	Yes

4. New Council Participants Opportunity to Introduce Their State

Kristin invited the two new Council participants to introduce themselves and explain their state's potential plans related to NELAP and the TNI Standard.

Nevada

Jasmine Curiel is NV's relatively new program manager, as the former Michael Antoine is retiring. She explained that NV adopted the 2003 NELAC Standard long ago, and is discussing updating to the current Standard, but that it remains unclear whether they will be able to apply for NELAP recognition, as legislative approval would be needed and could be difficult to obtain. Jasmine thanked California and Oregon for their support in NV's efforts to move forward with the 2016 TNI Standard. See the website at <https://ndep.nv.gov/water/lab-certification>

West Virginia

Justin Carpenter explained that his agency (WV Department of Environmental Protection) presently certifies labs for non-potable water and solid waste testing, and is considering becoming a NELAP accreditation body for those fields of testing. The WV Department of Health and Human Resources certifies drinking water labs under its state primacy delegation from EPA. See the website at <https://dep.wv.gov/WWE/Programs/lab/Pages/default.aspx>

California

Chris Hand offered more about California's ELAP. They use the 2016 TNI Standard with two changes – only one PT/year and modified requirements for the Technical Director. They may be considering applying for NELAP recognition as a top-tier program, retaining the current program for labs doing work only in-state. He noted that OR and UT are allowed to assess California labs to provide them with NELAP recognition at present.

5. New Business

Before the call began, Steve Gibson had stated that Jody Koehler will be returning to TCEQ as of September 16.

Carl thanked everyone for their patience as Florida works to restore its computer capabilities. The situation is much improved although not completely back to normal yet.

They ask for and will share their own “lessons learned” from the incident.

ORELAP asked a question about TNI’s FoPT tables – FoPT analytes are matrix:analyte but not technology and they recently suspended a lab for using the wrong technology, and he asked how other ABs deal with this situation. It is not addressed in TNI policy. Several ABs stated that for PTs, they assess PTs by matrix:technology:analyte, and if a lab reports two methods (same technologies) and fails one of them, the PT sample is considered a “fail”. Another participant stated that “analyte class” should apply to PTs, but that is not allowed.

Oklahoma has announced a management change in its lab and the AB program, but Taryn indicated that while the signature on certificates will change, no program operations are expected.

At this point, no further discussion items were raised, and the meeting was adjourned.

6. Next Meeting

The next teleconference meeting of the NELAP AC is scheduled for **Monday, October 7, 2024, at 1:30 pm Eastern**. An agenda and documents will be provided in advance.

Attachment 1

STATE	REPRESENTATIVE	PRESENT
FL	Carl Kircher T: 904-791-1574 E: carl.kircher@flhealth.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Vanessa Soto E: Vanessa.sotocontreras@flhealth.gov	No
IL	Millie Rose T: 217-557-0220 E: mildred.rose@illinois.gov	Yes
KS	Carissa Robertson Carissa.Robertson@ks.gov (785) 291-3162	Yes
	Alternate: Paul Harrison paul.harrison@ks.gov (785) 296-1656	No
	For information purposes: Amy Suggitt Amy.Suggitt@ks.gov	No
	For information purposes: Matthew Jones Matthew.jones@ks.gov	No
LA DEQ	Tramecha Rankins E: tramecha.rankins@la.gov 225-219-3247	No
	Paul Bergeron E: paul.bergeron@la.gov	No
MN	Windsor Molnar Windsor.Molnar@state.mn.us 651-201-3702	No
	Alternate: Lynn Boysen E: lynn.boysen@state.mn.us	No
	For Information only: Stephanie Drier T: 651-201-5326 E: stephanie.drier@state.mn.us	No
NH	Brian Lamarsh (603) 271-2998 F: (603) 271-5171 Brian.M.Lamarsh@des.nh.gov	No
	Alternate: Bill Hall T: (603) 271-2998 E: george.hall@des.nh.gov	No

NJ	Michele Potter T: (609) 984-3870 F: (609) 777-1774 E: michele.potter@dep.nj.gov	Yes
	Alternate : Rachel Ellis E: rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov	No
NY	Amy Steuerwald 518-473-0748 E: amy.steuerwald@health.ny.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Gretchen Welfinger Gretchen.Welfinger@health.ny.gov	Yes
	For Information only: Derek Symula derek.symula@health.ny.gov	No
OK	Taryn Hurley Taryn.hurley@deq.ok.gov (405) 702-1006	Yes
	Alternate: Ryan Lerch Ryan.Lerch@deq.ok.gov (405) 702-1020	No
OR	Steve Jetter T: 503-505-2672 E: steven.jetter@oha.oregon.gov	Yes
	Alternate: Lizbeth Garcia 971 865 0443 E: Lizbeth.garcia@dhsoha.state.or.us	No
	Included for information purposes: Ryan Pangelinan E: Ryan.pangelinan@dhsoha.state.or.us	No
PA	Annmarie Beach E: anbeach@pa.gov T: 717-346-8212	Yes
TX	Tina Trevino (512) 239-3087 Tina.Trevino@tceq.texas.gov	No
	Steve Gibson (512) 239-1316 Steve.Gibson@tceq.texas.gov	Yes
UT	Kristin Brown T: (801) 965-2540 F: (801) 965-2544 E: kristinbrown@utah.gov	Yes
VA	Cathy Westerman T: 804-648-4480 ext.391 E: cathy.westerman@dgs.virginia.gov	Yes

	Alternate: Shane Wyatt shane.wyatt@dgs.virginia.gov	No
NELAP AC PA and EC	Lynn Bradley T: 540-885-5736 E: lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org	Yes
EPA Liaison	Michella Karapondo Karapondo.michella@epa.gov	No
CA	Christine Sotelo Christine.Sotelo@waterboards.ca.gov	No
	Christopher Hand Christopher.Hand@Waterboards.ca.gov	Yes
NV	Jasmine Curiel jcuriel@ndep.nv.gov	Yes
WV	Justin Carpenter justin.d.carpenter@wv.gov	Yes
Guest	Paul Junio, TNI Executive Administrator Paul.Junio@nelac-institute.org	Yes

Attachment 2 – Agenda for September 3, 2024, Meeting

- Welcome and Roll Call
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes (July minutes attached, there was no NELAP session at conference)
- Update on Method Code Change/Correction (Paul Junio to clarify that Method Code 10300035, EPA 625.1 by SIM, changed to GC/MS/MS, will revert to 1030035 to EPA 625.1 SIM, with Code 10300046 as EPA 625.1 by GC/MS/MS)
- Review and Approval of Five-Year Review Revision of Provisional Recognition SOP 3-108 (LASEC-approved version and LASEC draft showing comments and edits, both attached)
- New Council Participants Opportunity to Introduce Their State (NV and WV)
- Open Discussion of Member State Issues (if any)
- New Business
- Adjourn