

Summary
TNI Proficiency Testing Expert Committee Meeting
Tuesday August 4, 2026; 9:00 AM ET

The Proficiency Testing Expert Committee (PTEC) met during the Environmental Measurements Symposium in Houston, TX in a joint session with the Proficiency Testing Program Executive Committee (PTP EC). After welcoming and thanking all attendees for their participation, the session began.

Attendance (Members and Associates)

Thekkekalathil Chandrasekhar (Chandra), FLDEP (Lab)
Amy Pollard, Geogia Pacific (Lab)
Carol Gebhart, ALS Global (lab)-Chair
Hei Man Barrio, Los Angeles County Sanitation District (lab)
Patrick Selig, ANAB (AB)
Brian Stringer, ERA (Other)
Danielle Pearman, Phenova (Other)
Taryn Hurley, OK DEQ (AB)
Tim Miller, Phenova (Associate)
Susan Jackson, PTP EC Chair (Associate)

The PTEC, as an expert committee, develops and maintains consensus standards for proficiency testing activities that support TNI programs under the auspices of the PTP EC and the oversight of Consensus Standard Development Program Executive Committee (CSDP EC)

Carol Gebhart of ALS Global, Chair of the expert committee, led the presentation. After introductions of the committee members present and those unable to attend, the 2026 activities of the PTEC since the previous public meeting in Boston were reviewed as were the plans for the remainder of 2026 and 2027. The Chair

mentioned that there are vacancies on the PTEC and invited interested parties to submit an application through the TNI website.

While attending to its normal tasks (SIR responses, support of other committees, administrative matters), the major accomplishments of the committee were the completion and posting of the Revised Draft Standard for EL V4, General requirements for accreditors of Proficiency Test Providers (the revised standard was posted on 7/31/2026 and is now open for public comment). The PTEC also continued development of a Draft Standard for EL V3, General Requirements for Proficiency Test Providers. It is anticipated that EL V3 will be complete and will be posted along with the justification summary in August/September.

The Chair noted no SIRs remain unresolved nor have any new SIR been received.

The PTEC is also responsible for EL V1M1 (Proficiency Testing) and EL V2M2 (AB requirements relative to proficiency testing). Review and consideration for necessary modifications to these two modules will begin in 2026 and carry forward into 2027.

Both EL V3 and EL V4 are essentially a re-write of the previous versions as the committee moved to harmonization of these modules with ISO/IEC 17011 and ISO/IEC 17043, respectively.

During the Houston meeting, the Revised DS for EL V4 was reviewed in detail and public comments were solicited. Said comments will be included in the Response to Comments document (R2C) to be developed at the close of the comment period.

Relevant comments to be considered by the PTEC include but are necessarily limited to the following:

1. Consideration of 1 PT sample per year under certain conditions
2. Changes included an inclusion of number of participants in the PTPA report which will require more debate and resolution.

Other comments received during the Houston meeting were also noted and recorded by the Chair for potential consideration.

The most recent version of EL V3 under development by the committee was also presented and comments were solicited.

Relevant comments to be considered by the PTEC include but are necessarily limited to the following:

1. Fields of Proficiency Testing definition requires revision (it was noted that to resolve the issue presented was a complex issue and that change at this time may not be in the best interest of other volumes and modules of the Standard).
2. An explanatory note to the Fields of Proficiency Testing may be sufficient at this time.
3. Definition of Proficiency Testing Reporting Limit needs clarification.
4. A definition for PT Closing and Opening Dates should not be necessary as what is presented is not a definition but rather the current language could simply be in the body of the document.
5. §5.4.3.2 and §5.4.3.3 dealing with Supplemental PT opening and closing dates may also need adjustment depending on resolution of the above question.

Other comments received during the Houston meeting regarding EL V3 were also noted and recorded by the Chair for potential consideration.

The meeting of the PTP EC followed at 10:30 AM after the morning break.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 AM. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the PTEC will be held at 11:00 AM ET on September 4, 2026.