

**Proficiency Testing Expert Committee
Meeting Summary
October 7, 2026**

The Committee met via teleconference on Wednesday, October 7 2026 at 11:00 AM ET. The call was recorded with Microsoft Teams for the sole purpose of preparing meeting minutes and will be deleted after their production. Chair, Carol Gebhart, led the meeting.

Roll Call

Thekkekalathil Chandrasekhar (Chandra), FLDEP (Lab)	Present
Ron Houck, PA DEP (AB)	Absent
Amy Pollard, Georgia Pacific (Lab)	Present
Ryan Pangelinan, State of Oregon (AB)	Absent
Rachel Ellis, NJ DEP (AB)	Present
Carol Gebhart, ALS Group USA (lab)-Chair	Present
Amy DeMarco, NYSDOH (Other)	Absent
Heiman Barrio, Los Angeles County Sanitation District (lab)	Present
Nick Slawson, A2LA (Other)-Vice-Chair	Absent
Marina Aziz, NYSDOH (AB)	Absent
Patrick Selig, ANAB (AB)	Absent
Brian Stringer, ERA (Other)	Present
Danielle Pearman, Phenova (Other)	Present
Taryn Hurley, OK DEQ (AB)	Present
Robert Wyeth, Program Administrator	Present

A quorum was present and the meeting proceeded.

Associate Committee Members Tim Miller and Jennifer McClaren were also present.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda is presented as Attachment 1 and was approved by unanimous consent of attendees.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes from September 4 and September 17 Ad-Hoc meetings of the committee were presented for review and approval. After minor editorial corrections, the 9/4 minutes were unanimously approved following a motion by Danielle and a second by Chandra. The 9/17 minutes after minor editorial corrections and a motion by Taryn and a second by Chandra were unanimously approved. Both sets of minutes will be sent to William for posting.

Meeting Date and Time, Frequency

The decision was made to change the regular meeting schedule to the 1st Wednesday of each month at 11:00 AM ET. The Ad-Hoc meetings (solely for work directly related to the revision of the applicable modules and associated materials) will be scheduled on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:00 AM ET. Both meetings will continue to utilize Microsoft Teams. When the new

schedule is confirmed as to improving participation, William will be requested to post the new schedule on the TNI website.

Status of EL V4

The revised EL V4 was approved by the committee and posted on the website with the justification document. The period for public comment closed on September 29, 2026. Prior to closing of the comment period, three comments were received. Comments and the committee's response will be included in the R2C. The committee reviewed these comments and found two as editorial and one as possibly persuasive. Based on the somewhat vague language in SOP 2-100, the decision was made to confirm with the CSDP EC prior to the final determination of the status of the final comment. After discussion with the CSDP EC and review §8.4.1, the comment was deemed editorial. The Revised DS will be finalized and full committee approval sought during the 10/15/2026 meeting. Posting for an additional round of public comment will occur in October.

Discussion with the CSDP EC also confirmed that notations of TNI volumes and/or modules must include the appropriate dates.

Summary of change document EL V3

Carol requested assistance from the committee to recall why some changes were made to parts of the document that occurred prior to her joining the committee. Issues were finalized during the meeting. Carol will compete the R2C for the 10/15 meeting.

Continuing Review of EL V3

Carol presented the "final" DS for EL V3 for review. Following a request to approve the document, and at the request of participants, the document will be distributed to committee members and final review and a ballot to approve will be scheduled for the 10/15/26 meeting (previously scheduled as an Ad-Hoc meeting).

New/Old Business

A request has been presented for committee members to consider changes to the PT program as to how labs are held to the 2/3 passing performance due to impact on laboratory reputation and increased risk of incorrect handling of the PT samples to promote successful results. At this time, it is just a request to consider improvements, but a possible option for labs to communicate root cause of failures to ABs within a time period to hold/delay automatic suspension was presented. Other ideas were encouraged for discussion when Committee review returns to ELV2 and ELV1.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 PM ET. The next regularly scheduled conference call will be Thursday, October 15, 2026 at 11:00 AM ET.

Attachment 1

TNI Proficiency Testing Expert Committee Agenda

9/04/2026

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM EST

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of June 5, 2026, June 26, 2026, July 10, 2026 meetings and Houston Summary
4. Meeting date, time and frequency
5. Status of EL V4
6. Summary of Change Document EL V3
7. Continuing review of EL V3
8. New/Old Business