

DRAFT
Summary
TNI Proficiency Testing Program Executive Committee
Meeting
Tuesday, August 4; 10:30 AM

The Proficiency Testing Program Executive Committee (PTP EC) met during the Environmental Measurements Symposium held in Houston, Texas in a joint session with the Proficiency Testing Expert Committee (PTEC). Susan Jackson, Chair of the PTP EC welcomed and thanked the attendees for their participation.

Members	Affiliation
Susan Jackson (Chair)	South Carolina DES
Michella Karapondo	USEPA
Amanda Fehr	GEL
Tim Miller	Phenova
Patrick Selig	ANAB
Lisa Stafford	Eurofins
Kevin Thompson	Waters ERA

Several Associate members were also present as participants. It was also noted that 3 vacancies for voting members were available. Any interested TNI members could apply though the application process presented on the TNI website. The executive committee specifically requested any interested parties with expertise in Microbiology and WETT apply.

The PTP EC is responsible for establishing and maintaining TNI's national PT program in support of a national environmental accreditation program through development and maintenance of Fields of Proficiency Testing tables (FoPT) establishing acceptance criteria appropriate for the scope of environmental monitoring in the United States and ensuring the competence of

Proficiency Test Providers (PTP) providing (PT) samples to laboratories.

During the PTP EC meeting, Chair Susan Jackson introduced the members of the executive committee and reviewed their activities and accomplishments during the past year. The PTP EC Chair presented a PowerPoint presentation detailing said accomplishments and goals along with the PTPA reports and other relevant information. This PowerPoint presentation is available upon request and the meeting is summarized as follows.

The principal activities of the past year focused on issues and requirements for FoPT table review, updating, and/or correction. Major accomplishments included development of FoPT for PFAS compounds in drinking water and updating the Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) FoPT tables.

The PTP EC also continued with the 10-year review of the FoPT tables. To date they have completed review of the NPW and Solid and Chemical Materials (SCM) tables as well as the DW tables for Metals and Inorganics. The Chemistry FoPT subcommittee is very nearly complete with review and recommendation for acceptance criteria for organic constituents on the DW FoPT tables.

The executive committee also reviewed and presented comments for consideration by the PTEC on Draft Standard EL V4, General Requirements for PTP Accreditors. A Revised DS for EL V4, based upon having received persuasive comments, will again be presented to the PTP EC for further comments as needed. Similarly, the PTEC will in the near future present the PTP EC with a new DS for EL V3 concerning requirements for PTPs.

The committee also approved SOP 4-107 and SOP 4-109. They continue to work with the SOP and Chemistry FoPT Subcommittees to provide approval for SOP 4-101, which

specifically address the required processes for establishment acceptance criteria. This latter SOP is a complex statistical routine that is very time consuming and currently “manual”. One goal of the PTP EC is to investigate the potential use of “R/R Study” to assist in this effort. The committee sought any volunteers with experience in the use of this particular program to contact the Executive Committee Chair.

A complaint was received by the committee regarding the use of a single analytical result for multiple methods and technologies. The conclusion of the PTP EC Complaint Subcommittee was to have the PTP EC request the establishment of a Task Force to address this broad and complex issue involving all TNI stakeholders. The Board of Directors approved said formation. A Charter for the Task Force has been proposed and invitations to participants have been sent. Public participation will also be sought. It is anticipated that the Task Force will be active by December 2026/ January 2027.

The final major issue for the PTP EC in 2026 and carrying forth into 2027 is a ARA for Radiochemistry. After communications with EPA, committee members, and experts from the public sector, the original ARA was withdrawn and is being replaced by 2 separate ARAs, sponsored by the States of New Jersey and Minnesota. The result of the resolution of these ARAs will be to withdraw the Radiochemistry FoPT table and add the Radiochemistry analytes to the DW FoPT tables.

The final action item from the PTP EC meeting in Houston was the review of required PTPA reports. The PTP EC recognizes two PTPAs (A2LA and ANAB). The Chair advised that due to unforeseen circumstances the A2LA report would be delayed and presented at a later date. ANAB reported that after review of study data for DW, NPW and SCM, failure rates were acceptable

and consistent with past reports. It was suggested that failure rates have been consistent for years (reportedly by both PTPAs) and that the need for such annual analysis should be reevaluated and potentially develop a more meaningful assessment tool.

To summarize the 2027 goals, while a number are expressed in the comments above, the following were presented.

1. Finalize 10-year review of FoPT Tables
2. Complete SOP 4-101 (investigate means to simplify the process)
3. Complete 5-year review of all PT SOPs
4. Review PFAS FoPT limits as soon as sufficient data is made available
5. Participate in the PT Task Force
6. Interface as necessary with LAMS administrator
7. Address all ARAs
8. Review and collaboration with PTEC
9. Charter
10. Review and comment on any and all PT related DS

The meeting of the PTP EC adjourned at 11:45 AM. The next scheduled meeting of the committee is September 23, 2026 at 11:00 AM ET utilizing Microsoft Teams.