

Radiochemistry Expert Committee (REC) Meeting Summary

March 22, 2023

1. Roll Call and Minutes:

Terry Romanko, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1pm Eastern on March 22, 2023 by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 9 voting members present. Associate members in attendance: Mark McNeal, Abby Africa, Bob Shannon, and Joe Pardue.

2. Updates

Topics for this Year

- Technical Specialist – QMS is still working on this and we don't have any requests.
- Work on SIRs as they come in.
- Reporting Uncertainty is on PTPEC Action Items. We will wait to hear from them when they can get started on this.
- FoPT Tables for non-DW matrices
- Evaluate training needs and assist as needed.

Technology Workgroup

- Jim volunteered to do this. No one has contacted him about this yet.

3. Training Needs

Chrystal noted that she thinks this is important. There is a lot of benefit for labs. Many labs do radiochemistry work, so a basic class so people understand the data they are getting would be helpful. She has a list of questions and topics people have asked for internally within her company – sample volume, count time, how TDS affect the analysis, why are negative values reported, how does matrix affect sample results, etc. She thinks there are a lot of questions out there.

Terry noted that training previously done gets into the detail on the method and TNI standard. Is this a request to reach the more general audience – project managers, chemists without radiochemistry background, etc ...

Amanda thought she remembered a class taught to discuss the differences between chemistry and radiochemistry. The terms change. Perhaps this could be part of this training.

Bob noted that this type of information has been provided in the past, but it was not packaged as being described today. The Small Laboratory Handbook may have information that would be helpful. This should be available in the Radiochemistry file, but Ilona should be able to provide the last version. He likes the concept of putting something together for the General lab population.

Terry said Eurofins has an ask the expert program and he may have some things that would be appropriate for this too.

It seems doable to put a training like this together. Joe Pardue agrees this would be a very helpful training.

Action Item:

He would like to start collecting a list of the types of questions people ask.

Terry asked who would be willing to start pulling this together and the Committee can help with this effort during meeting times. Volunteers: Chrystal, Terry, Amanda, Abby. Others may get tagged for specific topics.

4. Options for Other FoPT Table Matrices

A request is needed from an AB to get the PTPEC to consider developing limits for other Radiochemistry matrices. Carl Kircher has expressed interest in helping with this and to be the sponsor.

ERA puts out non-DW PT samples. Brian said acceptance limits on FoPT tables for other matrices would be a big help.

The two most common would be soil and non-potable water. These could be the first two to target. There was general agreement.

The Committee would like to do something similar to what they did with the DW limits. Bob Shannon said they used MQOs. He not sure where to get this for the other matrices. He suggested approaching Lem Walker. Another option would be to check-in with stakeholders – maybe look at how to develop the MQOs. Perhaps the DoD people might be helpful too. Joe Pardue will forward some fo the limits DoD uses.

This process will be lengthy ... so the Committee agrees work should move forward on this topic. Bob thinks it may not take as long this next time since the procedure has already been approved by the PTPEC. Ilona has a copy of this SOP she can share with Terry.

5. New Business

None.

6. Action Items

A summary of action items can be found in Attachment B.

7. Next Meeting and Close

The next meeting will be April 26, 2023 at 1pm Eastern.

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

Terry adjourned the meeting at 1:48pm Eastern.

**Attachment A
Participants
Radiochemistry Expert Committee**

Members	Affiliation		Contact InAffirmativemation
Terry Romanko Chair (2024) Present	TestAmerica Laboratories, Inc.	Lab	Terry.romanko@testamericainc.com
Sherry Faye (2025) Present	Wadsworth Center, NY State DOH Albany, NY	Lab	sherry.faye@health.ny.gov
Velinda Herbert (2024) Present	National Analytical Environmental Laboratory	Lab	Herbert.velinda@epa.gov
Brian Miller (2024) Present	ERA	Other	bmiller@eraqc.com
Stan Stevens (2026) Present	Perma-Fix Environmental Services	Other	stanws@aol.com
Amanda Fehr (2026) Present	GEL	Lab	amanda.fehr@gel.com
Jim Chambers (2026) Present	Fluor-BWXT Portsmouth LLC	Other	jim.chambers@ports.pppo.gov
Patrick Garrity (2026*) Absent	Kentucky	AB	patrick.garrity@ky.gov
Greg Raspanti (2025) Absent	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	AB	Greg.Raspanti@dep.nj.gov
Chrystal Sheaff (2024*) Present	Energy Laboratories, Inc.	Lab	csheaff@energylab.com
Mary Beth Gustafson (2024*) Present	Virginia	AB	mary.gustafson@dgs.virginia.gov
Ilona Taunton (Program Administrator) Recording	The NELAC Institute	n/a	Ilona.taunton@nelac-institute.org

Attachment B**Action Items – REC**

	Action Item	Who	Target Completion	Completed
90	Send note about method codes and concerns to the PT Expert Committee. Is there a way to limit the codes a lab can use to report PT data?	Bob	TBD	
116	Place comments into Comments Response Form/Table to prepare for final voting on comments. (SOP-2-100-Rev3.4-CSDP-StandardsDevelopment-ResponsetoCommentsForm)	Terry	9/20/22	
117	Send SIR 441 Response to LASEC.	Terry	10/25/22	X
118	Prepare SIR Review notification to the LASEC to confirm SIRs were reviewed in preparation for the Standard update.	Terry	TBD	
119	Establish a list of questions for the Radiochemistry training.	All	Ongoing	
120	Terry Contact Lem Walker clean water MQOs. Joe Pardue will provide Terry with DoD limits.	Terry Joe Pardue	April 2022	

Attachment C – Back Burner / Reminders

	Item	Meeting Reference	Comments
5	Affirmativem subcommittee of experts in MS and other atom counting techniques to see that these techniques are adequately addressed in the radiochemistry module.	9/24/14	
6	From Action Item # 75: Prepare copy of Standard annotated with summary document language.		This is a project Carolyn was working on, but the committee decided it may duplicate the Small Lab Handbook. This project has been put on Hold.