

# **Radiochemistry Expert Committee (REC)**

## **Meeting Summary**

**April 26, 2023**

### 1. Roll Call and Minutes:

Terry Romanko, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1pm Eastern on April 26, 2023 by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 8 voting members present. Associate members in attendance: Mark McNeal, Abby Africa, and Bob Shannon.

### 2. Updates

#### Technology Workgroup

Jim has not heard anything regarding the startup of this group. Paul Junio is leading this group.

### 3. Training Needs

Chrystal, Amanda, Terry and Abby agreed to work on this. Terry shared a confidential version of the Small Laboratory Handbook by email for the Committee to review.

The Committee would like to provide something more basic for the lay person. Someone with environmental experience, but no radiochemistry experience.

Terry responds to email questions and he realized he answers the same questions. He keeps a folder with the responses so he can modify and reuse them. Corporate deleted his emails and unfortunately can't get them restored.

The Committee needs a list of intro topics. Terry is asking people to send in questions.

Chrystal noted that a last day extended training at the conference only gives a minimal number of people that will participate in them. Abby agrees. They would like to do the presentation at the winter conference during regular meeting time? Could become a webcast? They will need to get the information out. Ilona noted that Jerry Thao is doing a great job with the TNI's linked in page and we can take advantage of this too.

Terry thinks questions can be broken down into 3 categories: Methods, Instrumentation, Data and Calculations (includes QA and Data Review). There was general agreement.

Terry asked if people had looked at the Small Laboratory Handbook. He thinks there may be information in it that could be helpful. This Handbook has a section for each of the modules.

The Workgroup now needs to start compiling the training material. Terry asked people to forward anything they think could be helpful.

#### 4. Options for Other FoPT Table Matrices

Terry distributed the current version of PTPEC's SOP 4-101. This SOP includes the procedure for establishing Radiochemistry DW limits on the FoPT table. Bob summarized the history and described the procedure to establish the limits as outlined in the SOP.

Establishing the limits based on MQOs means the PTs now test for the level of data quality needed by EPA.

Terry noted there is not a lot of information for soils. Bob said quality is the most important thing. He recommended looking at solid reference materials from providers. Check to see how labs are doing and consider what it means. Bob also suggested getting EPA involved to establish MQOs for clean water.

Jim is working on limits for filters.

Bob also suggested reaching out to labs to find out what their limits are, what they believe they can do, etc. This could be helpful. Ilona shared that the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee is working on establishing limits for PFAS and they started by surveying labs – What does QC look like? Do they currently run any PTs? Etc ... This gave the Committee lots of information to start with.

Bob noted a lab can say this is what my method can do and then a lab is evaluated accordingly. That would allow a lab to establish their own MQOs and state what their lab is capable of doing. This is a side bar. It was asked how to verify the information. They would submit their MQOs and their PT data.

PTs need to be reasonably achievable, but labs need to work towards it too.

Terry asked Committee members to look for contacts that might be able to help with MQOs. Send them to Terry. Abby will send some Region 6 contacts.

What about a multi-lab validation study?

The Committee needs to consider preparing a letter to reach out to labs for information to help with soils.

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 May 24, 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 2:13pm Eastern.

**Attachment A**  
**Participants**  
**Radiochemistry Expert Committee**

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

**Attachment B****Action Items – REC**

	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Target Completion</b>	<b>Completed</b>
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-Response to Comments Form)	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

	<b>Item</b>	<b>Meeting Reference</b>	<b>Comments</b>
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.