

Radiochemistry Expert Committee (REC) Meeting Summary

July 24, 2024

1. Roll Call and Minutes:

Amanda Fehr, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1pm Eastern on July 24, 2024 by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 9 voting members present. Associate members in attendance: Bob Shannon, Joe Pardue, Keith McCroan, Rhonda Ridenhower and Larry Jassin.

Amanda welcomed 2 new Associate Members: Rhonda Ridenhower and Larry Jassin.

There were no changes to the agenda and it was approved by unanimous consent.

2. PT Criteria Update

Bob Shannon provided an update

Bob noted that Larry is on the call because he could be involved in this topic. They were looking for MQO for non-potable water through Lem Walker. Lem does not think it is going to happen and is not able to help. Each permit has its own criteria. This impacts action levels and the requirements for detectability.

Bob has an idea. Perhaps it is possible that down the road the participants in the PT Program could establish the requirements they want to be evaluated against. This would open the door to any PT ... not just non-potable water PTs. Doing this would require PT Providers to be on board to allow labs to establish their own criteria.

Discussion:

- They might need different concentrations and that could cause problems for a PT Provider.
- Ilona asked if he has shared this idea with any of the PT Providers.
- Larry Jassin's program allows for input on what the criteria should be. They are familiar with regulatory needs. They would not want to see someone use a very wide range. They offer a flexible approach.
- Bob explained how the DW limits are determined.
- It was asked: When you do PTs, what are you trying to accomplish? This needs to be considered when developing something like this.
- Ilona noted that they should meet to discuss this with PTPEC if they choose to move forward with this idea. .
- It was asked whether Larry would be interested in becoming a TNI PT Provider. He replied that he would need to understand what would be involved in being a TNI PT Provider. Larry is not trying to duplicate someone like ERA in DW. If there is a

- business reason - they would look at applying. Larry is focused solely on radiochemistry.
- Larry noted that PT samples would be more cost effective if people can agree on some common criteria.
 - Amanda noted that there is currently a metals PT that is permit driven. Maybe proceeding down the path being suggested would eventually lead to more common criteria.
 - Bob noted that he discussed this idea with Lem and he thought they would be on board with what is being proposed if it were put in place.
 - Need to move forward, need to talk to PT Providers and the PTPEC. Amanda can share this with the PTPEC at their next meeting. People should think about what this looks like.

3. Technical Specialist Discussion

Though ICP-MS is already a technology on Chemistry, it is a different type of technology for a radiochemist. This can be looked at in the future. It might not require as much training.

5-1-24 are the proposed changes that QMS Expert submitted as DRAFT for the Expert Committees. Credentialing focused on Quality Specialist, but their next topic will be Technical Specialists and Assessors. The Credentialing Committee thinks the Technical Specialist and Assessor technical requirements should be similar.

It was asked whether the Radiochemistry Committee will start meeting more at the Conferences. This would make it easier for Committee members to request travel and attend the conference. Amanda does expect this to happen. Face-to-face interaction is beneficial.

4. New Business

None.

5. Action Items

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

6. Next Meeting and Close

The next meeting will be August 28, 2024 at 1pm Eastern.

Amanda adjourned the meeting at 1:57 pm Eastern.

**Attachment A
Participants
Radiochemistry Expert Committee**

Members	Affiliation		Contact InAffirmativemation
Amanda Fehr – Chair (2026) Present	GEL	Lab	amanda.fehr@gel.com
Sherry Faye (2025) Present	Wadsworth Center, NY State DOH Albany, NY	Lab	sherry.faye@health.ny.gov
Abigail Africa (2027*) Present	Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality	Lab	Abigail.africa@deq.ok.gov
Laura Freeman (2027*) Present	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	AB	Laura.freeman@dep.nj.gov
Stan Stevens (2026) Present	Perma-Fix Environmental Services	Other	stanws@aol.com
Mark McNeal (2027*) Present	ACZ Laboratories, Inc.	Lab	markm@acz.com
Jim Chambers (2026) Present	Fluor-BWXT Portsmouth LLC	Other	jim.chambers@ports.pppo.gov
Chrystal Sheaff (2027) Present	Energy Laboratories, Inc.	Lab	csheaff@energylab.com
Mary Beth Gustafson (2027) Present	Virginia	AB	mary.gustafson@dgs.virginia.gov
Ilona Taunton (Program Administrator) Present	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	12/27/23: On hold until notified.
120	Terry Contact Lem Walker clean water MQOs. Joe Pardue will provide Terry with DoD limits.	Terry Joe Pardue	TBD	Needed for Non-DW FoPT limits. 4/24: Bob Shannon is now working on this.
121	Discuss whether to look at the QSM and comments submitted to determine whether some additional changes should be made to the TNI final Standard.	All	TBD	
124	Determine whether in meeting trainings should be offered as Webcasts.	All	TBD	12/27/23: Discuss at next meeting.
125	Breakout Group to work on PT criteria (FoPT) for non-potable water and to potentially address other matrices.	Robert/Bob/ Keith		
126	Discuss Bob Shannon’s proposal for participants in the PT Program to establish the requirements they want to be evaluated against. Discuss with PTPEC and PT Providers.	Amanda Bob	TBD	
127				

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	12/27/23: Technology is acknowledged in new Standard. It has been addressed.
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. 12/27/23: No need. Small Lab Handbook is sufficient.