

**Laboratory Accreditation System Executive Committee**  
**SIR Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**  
**March 22, 2024 1:30 pm Eastern**

1) Welcome and Introductions

Maria welcomed everyone to the meeting. This Subcommittee did not have enough attendees to hold the planned meeting in February, and the March meeting was rescheduled from March 21 to March 22. The agenda was approved by unanimous content, and attendance is recorded in Attachment A. The minutes of the November 30, 2023, meeting were approved by unanimous vote after a motion by Stacie, seconded by Harold.

2) SIR 423

Participants questioned the use of the word “prove”, as that is not used in the Standard and would be better if replaced with “ensure” or “verify”, and asked that the response be returned to Microbiology for rephrasing. The group also discussed the distinction between “media performance checks” and “positive and negative controls”, which seems not to be distinguished in the response, but determined not to ask for a revision for that issue.

3) SIR 425

Participants had the same issue with the word “prove”, and also noted that the response does not answer the question asked. The website requests, and the submitter provided, a question with a “yes or no” response, but the response does not actually answer the question asked, as it does not address sterility checks at all. Additionally, as the media could be tested in a different corporate lab, the group asked that reference to testing “by the manufacturer” be omitted, as it is our understanding that sterility checks must be performed in the lab using the media but that performance checks may be performed elsewhere. This response will be returned for rephrasing to address both issues.

4) SIR 471

Participants asked that the first paragraph be rearranged so that the second sentence, which directly answers the question, be first, and what is now the first sentence, explaining, be second. They also recommended that the second paragraph be deleted, as the 2003 Standard is no longer in use, but that, if Microbiology wishes to keep that sentence, a link to the SIR or a quotation of the question and answer should be provided, as there is no simple way to locate a SIR on the TNI website. We believe the appropriate reference is SIR 97 rather than 92.

Also, the second part of the submitter’s question is not addressed. If that question is considered not appropriate for a SIR, a note should be added that an interpretation does not provide “how to” information. The response will be returned to Microbiology for revision.

5) SIR 475

This SIR response must be rephrased, as one section of the Standard does not and cannot “supersede” any other section – all requirements must be met independently. While the PT Provider is required to grade the PT analysis as acceptable or not, it is up to the AB to determine whether a result is unacceptable (as determined by the PTP) or if it is invalid (and thus not counted at all) due to not meeting timelines or some other factor. This SIR will be returned to the PT Committee.

6) SIR 477

This SIR response was considered acceptable, and approved for presentation to the full LASEC with a recommendation that it be posted to the Accreditation Council’s SIR voting website. Stacie moved and Bill seconded that this SIR be passed forward to LASEC for approval to be posted to the Accreditation Council’s voting site.

<b>Voter</b>	<b>Motion to Approve Response and Forward to LASEC for Final Approval</b>
Maria	Yes
Aaren	Absent
Debbie	Yes
Stacie	Yes
Bill	Yes
Silky	Absent
Harold	Yes
<b>Super-Majority Approval Met?</b>	<b>5 of 7 in favor – 71% Motion approved</b>

7) New Business

Stacie noted that she will be resigning from LASEC at the end of April, due to her retirement. Maria asked if she would remain as an Associate member and continue to participate in the SIR Subcommittee, and Stacie agreed.

There was no other new business.

8) Next Meeting

The next scheduled SIR Subcommittee meeting will be on **Thursday, April 18, 2024, at 1:30 pm Eastern**. If there are no SIRs to review, members will be notified in advance of the meeting date; otherwise the SIRs will be sent with the agenda.

## Attachment A

### PARTICIPANTS – SIR SUBCOMMITTEE OF LASEC

	NAME	EMAIL	LASEC Term end date	INTEREST	AFFILIATION	S/H CATEGORY	PRESENT
1	Maria Friedman, Chair	<a href="mailto:gamfriedman@gmail.com">gamfriedman@gmail.com</a>	1/26 (2nd term)	SIRs	CA ELAP	Non-NELAP AB	Yes
2	Aaren Alger	<a href="mailto:Aaren.s.alger@gmail.com">Aaren.s.alger@gmail.com</a>	1/26 (2nd term)	SIRs	Alger Consult- ing & Training	Other	No
3	Debbie Bond, Vice Chair	<a href="mailto:DBOND@southernco.com">DBOND@southernco.com</a>	Associate	SIRs	Alabama Power	Lab	Yes
4	Stacie Crandall	<a href="mailto:scrandall@hrsd.com">scrandall@hrsd.com</a>	Associate	SIRs	Hampton Roads Sanitary District	Lab	Yes
5	Bill Hall	<a href="mailto:George.W.Hall@des.nh.gov">George.W.Hall@des.nh.gov</a>	1/25 (second term)	SIRs	NH ELAP	NELAP AB	Yes
6	Silky Labie	<a href="mailto:elcatllc@centurylink.net">elcatllc@centurylink.net</a>	1/25 (second term)	SIRs	ELCAT	Other	No
7	Harold Longbaugh	<a href="mailto:harold.longbaugh@houston.tx.gov">harold.longbaugh@houston.tx.gov</a>	1/25 (3rd term)	SIRs	Houston Lab	Lab	Yes
	Program Admin. Lynn Bradley	<a href="mailto:Lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org">Lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org</a>					Yes