

**Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Expert Committee Meeting
March 20, 2024 1:00 pm Eastern**

1. Welcome and Announcements

Teresa welcomed everyone to the meeting. Without a quorum, the agenda (see Attachment 2 below) was declared to be approved. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1, below. The minutes of February 21, 2024, will be held until the April meeting.

2. Vote on Member Application for Christina Henderson

There was no quorum present at the beginning of the meeting, but one more person joined during the review of the module, although after discussion of creating the questions, a different person had left the meeting early. Teresa requested an email vote on Christina's membership. Darrin moved and Stephen seconded that her application be accepted, and as of Friday, March 22, six of ten members had voted in favor of Christina stepping into voting member status. Congratulations, Christina.

John Overbey has completed his second term as a voting member, so the WET committee could accept one additional lab stakeholder as voting member. Any active associate is invited to apply.

3. Revising the Module

Review resumed at §7.0. The following changes were made, with Stephen editing on-screen as Teresa moderated the discussion.

§7.1.d – “manuals” was changed to SOPs, as the labs do not work directly from the method manuals.

§7.1.1 through 7.1.4 were renumbered with the “old” 7.1.1 becoming 7.1.4 (revised earlier) and “old” 7.1.2 deleted, with the “new” 7.1.3 requiring that variability be evaluated. There is some concern about whether the laboratory “must” record the control performance and statistical endpoints and also investigate precision, or if “should” is more appropriate. Stephen agreed to investigate further. The subsection “x” is deleted. Additional minor editorial changes were made for clarification.

Review will resume at the “new” section 7.1.4, at the April meeting.

4. Creating Questions for Method Validation Digital Badge

The committee received a request from TNI's Executive Director, Jerry Parr, about this in January 2024, and after a bit of discussion, the leadership agreed to provide useful questions in three months.

Teresa invited Lynn to explain the origin of this request, which is from TNI's soon-to-be-launched Credentials Initiative, where the first offering will be 12 digital badges covering various aspects of a lab's quality system. To attain a badge, one needs to complete two TNI courses (relevant to the badge, obviously) and pass a 25-minute online exam consisting of 30 questions. For two of the badges, Quality Control Specialist and Method Validation Specialist, each of the modules 3-7 of the 2016 Standard has specialized requirements for these two areas, so there will actually be five sub-specialties for those two badges, with additional time and questions on the exam. Exam questions for the particulars in the aquatic toxicity (WET), asbestos, chemistry, microbiology, and radiochemistry modules will be added to the more general questions from the Quality Systems module to create the full exams for these two badges – 30 questions on the general Quality System module (a half-hour) and 15 for the sub-specialty (additional time). For the exam-takers,

a random sampling taken from at least twice the number of exam questions will be presented to each candidate, so that we need to provide at least 30 questions total. FYI, the total number of questions for all badge exams is about 1,000, all of which are being vetted by experienced individuals who are not expected to seek this credential (trainers and consultants, primarily).

WET has already provided questions for the QC Specialist badge, but we now need to create 30 questions for the Method Validation Specialist badge, which covers sections 4, 5, and 6 of the 2016 Standard's module V1M7 (Method Selection, Method Validation and Demonstration of Capability). Teresa briefly discussed whether to ask for volunteers but then determined instead to ask each member to create four (4) questions from those three sections of the 2016 TNI Standard V1M7 by April 3, so that we can discuss them at the April 17 WET meeting.

A separate email request is being sent to all WET members (voting and associate).

5. New Business

There was no new business. Teresa declared the meeting adjourned.

6. Next Meeting

The next teleconference meeting will be on **Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 1 pm Eastern.** A Microsoft Teams link for screen-sharing or just a telephone option will be provided with the agenda and any needed documents, in advance of the meeting.

Attachment 1

WET Expert Committee Membership

Member	Affiliation	Email	Category	Term Expiration	Present
Beth Biller	VA DCLS	Beth.biller@dgs.virginia.gov	AB	Jan. 2026 (1)	No
Thekkekalathil "Chandra" Chandrasekhar	FL DEP	Thekkekalathil.Chandrasekhar@dep.state.fl.us	Lab	Jan. 2027 (2)	No
Stephen Clark (Vice Chair)	Pacific EcoRisk	slclark@pacificecorisk.com	Lab	Jan. 2027 (2)	Yes
Darrin Greenstein	Southern CA Coastal Water Research Proj.	Darring@sccwrp.org	Other	Jan. 2026 (1)	Yes
Teresa Norberg-King (Chair)	USEPA (retired)	Norbe010@d.umn.edu	Other (Affiliate)	Jan. 2027	Yes
Katie Payne	Enthalpy Analytical	katie.payne@enthalpy.com	Lab	Jan. 2027 (1)	No
Caitie Van Sciver	NJ DEP	Caitie.VanSciver@dep.nj.gov	AB	Jan. 2027 (2)	Yes
Lyndsay Thomas	Coastal Bioanalysts, Inc.	lyndsay@coastalbio.com	Lab	Jan. 2026 (1)	Yes
Gretchen Welfinger	NY ELAP	gretchen.welfinger@health.ny.gov	AB	Jan. 2027 (1)	Yes
Elizabeth West	Retired	eawest1111@gmail.com	Other	Jan. 2027 (1)	No
Associate Members					
Steve Boggs	CA ELAP	steve.boggs@waterboards.ca.gov	AB (assoc.)		No
Sarah Brown	Cove Environmental	sarah@covesciences.com	Lab (assoc.)		No
Ginger Briggs	Bio-Analytical Laboratories	bal@bioanalyticallabs.com	Lab (assoc.)		No
Antoine Chamsi	East Bay Muni- cipal Utility Dist.	antoine.chamsi@ebmud.com	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
MaryAnn Concepcion	SF Water	Mconcepcion@sfwater.org	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Laura Connolly	SF Water	leconnolly@sfwater.org	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Helen Conrad	North Water Dist. Lab. Svcs.	helen.conrad@nwds.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Amy Hackman	PA Dept. Environ. Prot.	ahackman@pa.gov	AB (assoc.)		No
Christina Henderson	Bio-Aquatic Testing, Inc.	chenderson@bio-aquatic.com	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes

Paul Junio	Pace Laboratories	paul.junio@pacelabs.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Arianna Krueger	Coastal Bioanalysts, Inc.	arianna@coastalbio.com	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
Cody Medley	Pace National	cody.medley@pacelabs.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Kathi Mitchell	RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc.	Kathleen.Mitchell@rmbel.info	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Marlene Moore	Advanced Systems	mmoore@advancedsys.com	Other (assoc.)		No
Rami Naddy	TRE Env. Strat. LLC	naddyrb.tre@gmail.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
John Overbey	Eurofins Arkansas	joverbey@et.eurofinsus.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Michele Potter	NJ Dept. of Environ Protect.	Michele.Potter@dep.nj.gov	AB (assoc.)		No
Christina Pottios	Los Angeles Cty. Sanitation Districts	cpottios@lacs.org	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Jessica Redifer	EA Eng., Sci. &Tech.	jredifer@eaest.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Mary Ann Rempel-Hester	EcoAnalysts, Inc.	mrempel@ecoanalysts.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Greg Savitske	US EPA OECA	Savitske.gregory@epa.gov	Other (Assoc.)		No
Alex Tite	EnviroScience	atite@enviroscienceinc.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Elizabeth Turner	Eurofins	elizabeth.turner@et.eurofinsus.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Lem Walker	USEPA OW/OST	Walker.lemuel@epa.gov	Other (Assoc.)		No
Craig Watts	Hydrosphere Research	cwatts@hydrosphere.net	Lab (Assoc.)		No

Program Administrator: Lynn Bradley, lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org

Attachment 2 – Agenda, March 20, 2024

- 1:00 Welcome and Roll Call
- 1:05 Approval of Agenda
- 1:10 Approval of Minutes
- 1:15 Vote on New Member Application (see Christina Henderson's application for voting membership, below)
- 1:20 Resume Review and Revision of Draft V1M7 (latest draft of module attached)
- 2:00 Creating Questions for Method Validation Digital Badge (see attached KSA document §2.9, Handbook and WETexamQ file of "suggested" questions to be replaced)
- 2:25 New Business, if any
- 2:30 Adjourn