

**Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Expert Committee Meeting
September 21, 2022 1:00 pm Eastern**

1. Welcome and Announcements

Rami welcomed everyone to the teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1, below. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent and is included as Attachment 2. The minutes of June 15 were then approved by unanimous consent.

David Caldwell has suspended his membership, pending a decision about his TNI participation after retirement.

2. Updates and Ongoing Activities

PTPEC Interactions and WET FoPT Subcommittee of PTPEC

Rami and Lynn met with the new Chair of PTPEC, Stacie Crandall, on September 1 and were encouraged by her determination to make progress on the long-standing issue of data comparability for PT samples. Stacie also finalized the composition of PTPEC's WET FoPT Subcommittee and has made progress in scheduling its first meeting. The Subcommittee members will be Rami, Pete, Ginger, Stacie, Carl Kircher (FL), Bennie Cockerell (SC) and Susan Jackson (SC and PTPEC Vice Chair). Susan may not remain but will assist in setting up this subcommittee (drafting the charter, etc.).

Minor Changes to WET Technical Specialist Language

The Quality Management Systems Expert Committee has asked that WET reconsider the whether it is necessary to specify that a lapse of one year in recent work history is disqualifying for the role of Technical Specialist in a WET lab.

Participants briefly discussed the issue and noted that any type of family medical leave or maternity/paternity absence would fall into this category, and most likely affecting women. The general consensus was that "we know what we know" whether there was a lapse in work history or not, so that sentence can be removed.

Further discussion revisited whether the degrees specified (biological, chemical and physical sciences or environmental engineering) should specifically include also an environmental science degree. The following is where the discussion left off.

Any technical specialist responsible for whole effluent and sediment toxicity testing (Module 7) shall be a person with at least a bachelor's degree in biological, chemical, or physical sciences, environmental sciences or in environmental engineering with a minimum of four (4) college-level courses in fields of biological or environmental sciences and at least two (2) years of experience in all parts of the analysis of toxicity testing of environmental samples representative of the analyses for which the technical specialist will be responsible. A master's or doctoral degree in one of the above disciplines may be substituted for one (1) year of experience.

Additional years of experience working in an environmental toxicity laboratory may be substituted for up to two (2) of the courses specified above. One (1) year of experience shall substitute for one (1) course. ~~Experience must be recent without lapse in related work history of greater than one (1) year.~~

In the message transmitting these minutes, committee members will be asked to state any objections to adding “environmental science” to the degree list; if no objections are received, the language above will be deemed approved.

3. Continue V1M7 Revisions -- Review and Discuss Draft Language for §6.3, Analyst DOC

Rami provided draft language for §6.3 of the draft module for review and discussion. That language was inserted into the draft revised module. The two tables worked on in the past – the listing of “tasks” that can be used for training purposes and the “similar technologies” chart illustrating common WET methods where successful completion of a chronic SRT can also demonstrate the ability to perform an acute SRT – were initially referenced in this draft language as “Attachments”. After the meeting, Lynn checked with the Consensus Standards Development Program staff, and was reminded that a Style Guide SOP 2-103 exists, which states that these two items may be included as “Notes” or simply called “Examples”, so they have been included in the appropriate section as Notes for now.

Considerable discussion transpired about how to describe the purpose of the “similar technologies” table. This term will be added to the Definitions section of the module, with an explanation in the Note that the table itself represents only an example of how the lab could document its substitutions for SRTs and new analyst DOCs, but that it is definitely not a requirement to follow the table. Language for the definition remains to be created.

At this point, time was expired. Rami asked that all committee members review and contemplate the rough draft language of §6.3 and bring all suggestions for discussion at the October meeting.

4. New Business

Stephen noted that ORELAP has greatly increased its fee structure and now has language in its regulation to allow use of third party assessors. When California withdrew from NELAP, many of its accredited labs transferred to Oregon, and CA still accepts NELAP accreditation for secondary recognition, but the fee structure now may make it less expensive to get CA ELAP accreditation only if a lab is only doing work for CA.

With a motion from Chandra, the meeting was adjourned.

5. Next Meeting

The next teleconference meeting will be **Wednesday, October 19, at 1 pm Eastern**. All members will receive a WebEx invitation for screen sharing – expect that to arrive on the morning of the meeting date, as an email from Ilona Taunton. The agenda and any needed documents will be sent in advance.

Attachment 1

WET Expert Committee Membership

Member	Affiliation	Email	Category	Term Expiration	Present
Dwayne Burkholder	PA DEP	dburkholde@pa.gov	AB	Jan. 2024 (1)	Yes
David Caldwell	OK DEQ	David.caldwell@deq.ok.gov	AB	Jan. 2024 (1)	NA
Thekkekalathil "Chandra" Chandrasekhar	FL DEP	Thekkekalathil.Chandrasekhar@dep.state.fl.us	Lab	Jan. 2024 (1)	Yes
Stephen Clark	Pacific EcoRisk	slclark@pacificecorisk.com	Lab	Jan. 2024 (1)	Yes
Rami Naddy (Chair)	TRE Env. Strat. LLC	naddyrb.tre@gmail.com	Lab	Jan. 2024 (3)	Yes
Teresa Norberg-King	USEPA	Norbe010@d.umn.edu	Other (Affiliate)	Jan. 2022	Yes
John Overbey	American Interplex Corp.	joverbey@americaninterplex.com	Lab	Jan. 2024 (2)	Yes
Natalie Love	GEI Consultants	nlove@geiconsultants.com	Other	Jan. 2024 (1)	No
Ila Meyer-Fritzsche	VA DCLS	ila.meyer-fritzsche@dgs.virginia.gov	AB	Jan. 2024 (1)	Yes
Katie Payne	Enthalpy Analytical	katie.payne@enthalpy.com	Lab	Jan. 2024 (1)	No
Caitie Van Sciver	NJ DEP	Caitie.VanSciver@dep.nj.gov	AB	Jan. 2024 (1)	Yes
Bruce Weckworth	HRSD	Bruce.weckworth@hrsd.com	Lab	Jan. 2024 (1)	No
Associate Members					
Yakuta Bhagat	EnviroScience	ybhagat@enviroscienceinc.com	Lab (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 Municipal Utility Dist.	antoine.chamsi@ebmud.com	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
Michael Chanov	EA Eng., Sci. &Tech.	mchanov@eaest.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
MaryAnn Concepcion	SF Water	Mconcepcion@sflower.org	Lab (Assoc.)		no
Erin Consuegra	ERA LAB	econsuegra@eralab.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No

Helen Conrad	North Water Dist. Lab. Svcs.	helen.conrad@nwdls.com	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
Pete De Lisle	Coastal Bioanalysts Inc.	pfd@coastalbio.com	Lab (assoc.)		Yes
Monica Eues	CK Associates	Monica.eues@c-ka.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Amy Hackman	PA Dept. Environ. Prot.	ahackman@pa.gov	AB (assoc.)		Yes
Christina Henderson	Bio-Aquatic Testing, Inc.	chenderson@bio-aquatic.com	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
Paul Junio	Northern Lake Service, Inc.	paul.junio@pacelabs.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
KC Lee	Environmental Enterprises	klee@eeusa.com	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Marlene Moore	Advanced Systems	mmoore@advancedsys.com	Other (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@lacsds.org	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
Mary Ann Rempel-Hester	EcoAnalysts	mrempel@ecoanalysts.com	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
Greg Savitske	US EPA OECA	Savitske.gregory@epa.gov	Other (Assoc.)		No
Laura Targgart	SF Water	ltarggart@sfwater.org	Lab (Assoc.)		no
Alex Tite	EnviroScience	atite@enviroscienceinc.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
Elizabeth West	LA DEQ LELAP	elizabeth.west@la.gov	AB (assoc.)		Yes
Program Administrator: Lynn Bradley, lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org					

Attachment 2 – Agenda

- Welcome and Roll Call
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes (July minutes attached)
- Updates and Ongoing Activities
 - PTPEC Interactions and WET FoPT Subcommittee of PTPEC
 - Minor Changes to WET Technical Specialist Language (see highlighted section and comment in attached draft from QMS Expert Committee)
- Continue V1M7 Revisions
 - Review and Discuss Draft Language for §6.3, Analyst DOC, if available
 - Alternatively, Review Language of §7.2 (see attached draft revision of V1M7)
 - Request for Volunteer(s) to Draft Strawman Revisions to §6.3 and §7.1.1-7.1.5
- New Business, if any
- Adjourn