

**Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Expert Committee Meeting  
May 21, 2025 1:00 pm Eastern**

**1. Welcome and Announcements**

Paul Junio will serve as the scribe for the meeting in Lynn's absence and will prepare meeting minutes based on the transcription.

**2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

Teresa Norberg-King called the meeting to order at 13:03 Eastern. Teresa offered the proposed agenda (which was approved by consent) followed by a request for the approval of the April minutes. Paul Junio pointed out minor corrections, which were accepted, and the minutes were approved (on a motion by Stephen and a second by Darrin) unanimously.

**3. FoPT Subcommittee**

The discussion then shifted to the participation of committee members in the WET FOPT subcommittee, with Craig Huff providing updates on volunteers and the need for a quorum for formal approval.

**Review of Failure Rates and Proposed Modifications to FOPT Table**

Craig Huff discussed the modifications made to the failure rates in the FOPT table for WET testing, responding to requests from the previous meeting. He highlighted the introduction of a plus or minus 10% default rule, which could potentially lower failure rates for certain tests, but not in a way that would allow 'bad data' to pass. Teresa Norberg-King inquired about the representation of data points, and Paul Junio sought clarification on the implications of the standard deviation in relation to the proposed rule. Stephen commented that laboratories are trying to determine why they are out of range, and if the specs are too tight, is it really an issue of being 'out'?

Craig Huff presented proposed changes to the chemistry FOPT tables and confirmed that the language remains consistent with previous meetings. He updated the committee on the DMR-QA study, noting that the draft letter is undergoing a longer approval process this year, with a tentative opening date of June 6th and a closing date of August 29th. Craig Huff will send the proposed language changes for the current FOPT table to Paul Junio for distribution to the meeting attendees (attached with these minutes).

**4. Definitions**

**Discussion on Definitions and Standardization in WET Program**

Teresa Norberg-King highlighted the DMR-QA study's implications for standardizing water and test conditions, emphasizing the need for comparable data among PT providers. She provided insights into the definitions of bioassay and assay, explaining that an assay encompasses all testing types, while a bioassay is specific to tests with known

concentrations. Darrin Greenstein indicated he would wait for the definitions before commenting further.

Teresa Norberg-King will forward citations regarding the definitions of bioassay and assay to the committee before the next meeting.

#### Discussion on Technical Specialist Terminology and State Regulations

Teresa Norberg-King raised concerns about the terminology for technical specialists, prompting Paul Junio to elaborate on the transition from "technical manager" to "technical specialist." Paul noted that this change aims to alleviate confusion regarding managerial responsibilities and to accommodate varying state regulations. He emphasized the necessity of state buy-in for any new definitions to be effective.

Stephen Clark questioned the rationale behind states not being able to enforce their own accreditation standards when they have more stringent requirements than TNI. Paul Junio clarified that states like Wisconsin (used as an example to not impugn any TNI AB by name) may be forced to accept technical managers from states with less stringent requirements, which could lead to frustration. He acknowledged the complexity of harmonizing educational requirements across states while maintaining TNI recognition.

Caitie VanSciver expressed concerns about the accreditation process through recognition, indicating that if standards are not equivalent to state requirements, more personnel reviews may be necessary. Stephen Clark mentioned that other states review files and conduct assessments to justify their fees. Michael Chanov pointed out that many states, particularly on the East Coast, have less stringent requirements, often only requiring a certificate and payment for secondary accreditation.

Teresa Norberg-King provided an update on the DMR-QA standardization efforts, indicating that a draft white paper will be available shortly. She noted that comments on Module 7, which was posted on February 26, are due by May 27, and while initial feedback was sparse, more detailed comments are now being received. Stephen Clark confirmed the deadline for comments and emphasized the importance of compiling them effectively.

#### **5. White Paper**

Teresa Norberg-King will draft a white paper on standardizing the DMR-QA and will aim to have it ready for discussion next month.

#### **6. Draft Module Discussion**

The submitted comments will need to be gathered and categorized so that they can be addressed. A suggestion was made to see if the announcement of the Standard being up for comment could stay on the front page of the TNI website for the entire length of the comment period (it had rotated off due to other news). Paul took that comment to William

and Jerry and they agreed that it was a good idea. William will look to implement such a change.

#### 7. Adjourn and Next Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 14:08 Eastern. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 18 at 1PM Eastern.

#### Attachment 1 WET Expert Committee Membership

Member	Affiliation	Email	Category	Term Expires	Present ?
Beth Biller	VA DCLS	<a href="mailto:Beth.biller@dgs.virginia.gov">Beth.biller@dgs.virginia.gov</a>	AB	Jan. 2026 (1)	Yes
Thekkekalathil "Chandra" Chandrasekhar	FL DEP	<a href="mailto:Thekkekalathil.Chandrasekhar@dep.state.fl.us">Thekkekalathil.Chandrasekhar@dep.state.fl.us</a>	Lab	Jan. 2027 (2)	Yes
Stephen Clark (Vice Chair)	Pacific EcoRisk	<a href="mailto:slclark@pacificecorisk.com">slclark@pacificecorisk.com</a>	Lab	Jan. 2027 (2)	Yes
Darrin Greenstein	Southern CA Coastal Water Research Proj.	<a href="mailto:Darring@sccwrp.org">Darring@sccwrp.org</a>	Other	Jan. 2026 (1)	Yes
Christina Henderson	Bio-Aquatic Testing, Inc.	<a href="mailto:chenderson@bio-aquatic.com">chenderson@bio-aquatic.com</a>	Lab	Jan. 2026 (1)	No
Teresa Norberg-King (Chair)	USEPA (retired)	<a href="mailto:Norbe010@d.umn.edu">Norbe010@d.umn.edu</a>	Other (Affiliate)	Jan. 2027	Yes
Katie Payne	Enthalpy Analytical	<a href="mailto:katie.payne@enthalpy.com">katie.payne@enthalpy.com</a>	Lab	Jan. 2027 (1)	No
Caitie Van Sciver	NJ DEP	<a href="mailto:Caitie.VanSciver@dep.nj.gov">Caitie.VanSciver@dep.nj.gov</a>	AB	Jan. 2027 (2)	Yes
Lyndsay Thomas	Coastal Bioanalysts, Inc.	<a href="mailto:lyndsay@coastalbio.com">lyndsay@coastalbio.com</a>	Lab	Jan. 2026 (1)	Yes
Gretchen Welfinger	NY ELAP	<a href="mailto:gretchen.welfinger@health.ny.gov">gretchen.welfinger@health.ny.gov</a>	AB	Jan. 2027 (1)	Yes
Elizabeth West	Retired	<a href="mailto:eawest1111@gmail.com">eawest1111@gmail.com</a>	Other	Jan. 2027 (1)	Yes
<b>Associate Members</b>					
Carlita Barton	LA County Sanitation Dist.	<a href="mailto:cbarton@lacsdsd.org">cbarton@lacsdsd.org</a>	Lab (assoc.)		No
Steve Boggs	CA ELAP	<a href="mailto:steve.boggs@waterboards.ca.gov">steve.boggs@waterboards.ca.gov</a>	AB (assoc.)		No
Sarah Brown	Cove Environmental	<a href="mailto:sarah@covesciences.com">sarah@covesciences.com</a>	Lab (assoc.)		No
Skyler Brown	ERA Lab	<a href="mailto:Sbrown@eralab.com">Sbrown@eralab.com</a>	Lab (assoc.)		No
Ginger Briggs	Bio-Analytical Laboratories	<a href="mailto:bal@bioanalyticallabs.com">bal@bioanalyticallabs.com</a>	Lab (assoc.)		No

Antoine Chamsi	East Bay Municipal Utility Dist.	<a href="mailto:antoine.chamsi@ebmud.com">antoine.chamsi@ebmud.com</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Michael Chanov	EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc.	<a href="mailto:mchanov@eaest.com">mchanov@eaest.com</a>	Other (Assoc.)		Yes
MaryAnn Concepcion	SF Water	<a href="mailto:Mconcepcion@sfwater.org">Mconcepcion@sfwater.org</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Laura Connolly	SF Water	<a href="mailto:leconnolly@sfwater.org">leconnolly@sfwater.org</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Erin Consuegra	ERA Lab	<a href="mailto:econsuegra@eralab.com">econsuegra@eralab.com</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Helen Conrad	North Water Dist. Lab. Svcs.	<a href="mailto:helen.conrad@nwdls.com">helen.conrad@nwdls.com</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Amy Hackman	PA Dept. Environ. Prot.	<a href="mailto:ahackman@pa.gov">ahackman@pa.gov</a>	AB (assoc.)		No
Paul Junio	Pace Laboratories	<a href="mailto:paul.junio@pacelabs.com">paul.junio@pacelabs.com</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Arianna Krueger	Coastal Bioanalysts, Inc.	<a href="mailto:arianna@coastalbio.com">arianna@coastalbio.com</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Cody Medley	Pace Labs	<a href="mailto:Cody.medley@pacelabs.com">Cody.medley@pacelabs.com</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Kathi Mitchell	RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc.	<a href="mailto:Kathleen.Mitchell@rmbel.info">Kathleen.Mitchell@rmbel.info</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Marlene Moore	Advanced Systems	<a href="mailto:mmoore@advancedsys.com">mmoore@advancedsys.com</a>	Other (assoc.)		No
Rami Naddy	TRE Env. Strat. LLC	<a href="mailto:naddyrb.tre@gmail.com">naddyrb.tre@gmail.com</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
John Overbey	Eurofins Arkansas	<a href="mailto:joverbey@et.eurofinsus.com">joverbey@et.eurofinsus.com</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Rebekah Pauly	Los Angeles Cty. Sanitation Districts	<a href="mailto:rebekahpauly@lacsds.org">rebekahpauly@lacsds.org</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
Michele Potter	NJ Dept. of Environ Protect.	<a href="mailto:Michele.Potter@dep.nj.gov">Michele.Potter@dep.nj.gov</a>	AB (assoc.)		No
Christina Pottios	Los Angeles Cty. Sanitation Districts	<a href="mailto:cpottios@lacsds.org">cpottios@lacsds.org</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Jessica Redifer	EA Eng., Sci. & Tech.	<a href="mailto:jredifer@eaest.com">jredifer@eaest.com</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes
Mary Ann Rempel-Hester	EcoAnalysts, Inc.	<a href="mailto:mrempel@ecoanalysts.com">mrempel@ecoanalysts.com</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Greg Savitske	US EPA OECA	<a href="mailto:Savitske.gregory@epa.gov">Savitske.gregory@epa.gov</a>	Other (Assoc.)		No
Justin Seikel	NEORS	<a href="mailto:seikelj@neorsd.org">seikelj@neorsd.org</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		Yes

Cavan Smith	NEORS	<a href="mailto:SmithCavan@neorsd.org">SmithCavan@neorsd.org</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Alex Tite	EnviroScience	<a href="mailto:atite@enviroscienceinc.com">atite@enviroscienceinc.com</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Elizabeth Turner	Eurofins	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.turner@et.eurofinsus.com">elizabeth.turner@et.eurofinsus.com</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Craig Watts	Hydrosphere Research	<a href="mailto:cwatts@hydrosphere.net">cwatts@hydrosphere.net</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
Jennifer Whitaker	Trinity River Authority of TX	<a href="mailto:whitakerj@trinityra.org">whitakerj@trinityra.org</a>	Lab (Assoc.)		No
<b>Guest:</b> Craig Huff, Waters ERA, <a href="mailto:Craig_Huff@waters.com">Craig_Huff@waters.com</a>					
<b>Program Administrator:</b> Lynn Bradley, <a href="mailto:lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org">lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org</a>					
<b>Scribe:</b> Paul Junio, <a href="mailto:paul.junio@nelac-institute.org">paul.junio@nelac-institute.org</a>					

### **Tentative Agenda was presented as follows:**

#### Welcome and Roll Call

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes (April minutes were previously emailed from Lynn on 4/19/25; two typos have been corrected in the attached)
- **PTPEC WET FoPT Subcommittee – discussion with Craig Huff, Subcommittee Chair**
- **Definitions**
  - o **Response to QMS request (see attached "Definitions Analysis" file)**
  - o **Revisit WET Definitions ("Definitions 2023..." attached from February meeting, awaiting citations)**
- **Updating the White Paper (original attached)**
- **Update on V1M7 Draft Standard Comments**
- New Business, if any
- Adjourn

#### **Action Items**

\* Craig Huff will send a summary of the failure rates and the impact of the proposed plus or minus 10% default rule to the committee next week.

\* Craig Huff will send the proposed language changes for the current FOPT table to Paul Junio for distribution to the meeting attendees.

\* Teresa Norberg-King will forward citations regarding the definitions of bioassay and assay to the committee before the next meeting.

\* Teresa Norberg-King will draft a white paper on standardizing the DMR-QA and will aim to have it ready for discussion next month.