

Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Expert Committee Meeting
June 18, 2025 1:00 pm Eastern

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Paul Junio will serve as the scribe for the meeting in Lynn's absence and will prepare meeting minutes. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1. A quorum was present for the meeting. 7 Associate Members were present.

2. Approval of Agenda

Teresa Norberg-King called the meeting to order at 13:05 Eastern. Teresa offered the proposed agenda. Chandra asked if there could be some comments on the revisions to the WET FoPT Table. Teresa indicated that would happen under the agenda item on that topic. The agenda was then approved by consent.

3. Approval of Minutes

Teresa requested approval of the May 21 meeting minutes. Darrin pointed out that his name was misspelled at the beginning of the minutes. Following that correction the minutes were approved (on a motion by Stephen and a second by Darrin), with Christina abstaining.

4. Revisions to WET FoPT Table

Chandra presented the proposed Whole Effluent Toxicity FoPT table revision in the absence of Craig and suggested an acceptance of not less than $\pm 10\%$ for an acceptance window. Essentially, if the lower limit of a study was greater than 90%, the lower acceptance limit would be set to 90%. This would only happen if the standard deviation is very small. Similarly, if the upper limit of a study were less than 110%, then the upper acceptance limit would be set at 110%. This doesn't penalize a laboratory for doing a good job. If the committee as a whole accepts this, it should be submitted to PTPEC for approval. Stephen said he feels that the narrower limits only cause additional costs and nonconformances due to PT failures resulting in time and resources spent that are otherwise unnecessary. Teresa asked if this applied to both NOEC analytes and non-NOEC analytes. Knowing those options, the White Paper didn't address NOEC, only the providers do. Do we need this for NOEC -- that's her question. Chandra commented that they don't report NOEC for DMRQA, only the point estimates. Stephen pointed out that California requires that they report all data. Ginger said the same for Region 6. Chandra clarified that the dual reported for permits but not for PT. Teresa said that DMRQA isn't about the permit. Stephen said he wasn't sure if in California it's in the regulations to report all three or if it's just ELAP. That shouldn't deter moving forward with the presentation and why specific endpoints should or shouldn't be in DMRQA. This could drive change. Ginger added that Louisiana requires all to be reported, both NOEC and non-NOEC results. Ginger wondered what would happen with the NOEC codes -- would we run things like the permit or run them by certification?

Teresa thought this seemed to be allowing flexibility and requested a vote, requesting a motion to approve the FoPT table changes. Following a motion by Christina and a second by Chandra, the committee voted unanimously to approve the FoPT table changes.

5. Updating the White Paper

Teresa is still working on the White Paper. DMRQA will be available June 9th. We can look at revised instructions from that for the White Paper. Stephen asked if we would expect the vote on the 90 to 110% range to not apply to this study. Chandra believed that would be the case. Stephen thought it was already relevant so wouldn't that apply to this study, to which Teresa responded it wouldn't be in the DMRQA since the change hadn't been made yet. Teresa suggested we would get clarification from Craig. Chandra pointed out that Craig is retiring in six weeks.

6. Discussion on V1M7 Draft Standard Comments

Teresa asked if we should start reviewing comments or digest them first. Paul referenced the ability to put things that are guidance into an annex that is included in the standard but is not mandatory (i.e., a requirement). Darrin said he would like to review the comments carefully with the standard handy. What do we do about comments that are essentially 'removed this language'. Stephen said there would be other comments also that affect us. Teresa said we would keep the comments and their discussion on hold until the next meeting and provide the standard and offer suggestions as people are doing review between now and then. Paul will review the order of all comments so that they are properly organized and send the comments and the draft standard to all members. Darrin commented that he will be retiring at the end of the year and suggested that people could comment through the spreadsheet potentially by placing a vote or so marking your version of the spreadsheet.

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, July 16 at 1PM Eastern.

Attachment 1 WET Expert Committee Membership

Member	Affiliation	Email	Stakeholder	Term Expires	Present?
Beth Biller	VA DCLS	Beth.biller@dgs.virginia.gov	AB	Jan. 2026 (1)	Yes
Thekkekalathil "Chandra" Chandrasekhar	FL DEP	Thekkekalathil.Chandrasekhar@dep.state.fl.us	Lab	Jan. 2027 (2)	Yes
Stephen Clark (Vice Chair)	Pacific EcoRisk	sclark@pacificecorisk.com	Lab	Jan. 2027 (2)	Yes

Darrin Greenstein	Southern CA Coastal Water Research Proj.	Darring@sccwrp.org	Other	Jan. 2026 (1)	Yes
Christina Henderson	Bio-Aquatic Testing, Inc.	chenderson@bio-aquatic.com	Lab	Jan. 2026 (1)	Yes
Teresa Norberg-King (Chair)	USEPA (retired)	Norbe010@d.umn.edu	Other	Jan. 2027	Yes
Katie Payne	Enthalpy Analytical	katie.payne@enthalpy.com	Lab	Jan. 2027 (1)	No
Lyndsay Thomas	Coastal Bioanalysts, Inc.	lyndsay@coastalbio.com	Lab	Jan. 2026 (1)	No
Caitie Van Sciver	NJ DEP	Caitie.VanSciver@dep.nj.gov	AB	Jan. 2027 (2)	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

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

Scribe: Paul Junio, paul.junio@nelac-institute.org

Associate Members present were Ginger Briggs, Antoine Chamsi, Amy Hackman, Rebekah Pauly, Jessica Redifer, Cavan Smith, and Jennifer Whitaker.

Whole Effluent Toxicity Committee Meeting

Wednesday June 18, 2025 – 1PM Eastern

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Welcome and Roll Call

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes from May 21 meeting

- Revisions to WET FoPT Table (Chandra for Craig)
- Updating the White Paper (if available)
- Discussion on V1M7 Draft Standard Comments
- New Business, if any
- Adjourn

Action Items

- * Chandrasekhar Thekkekalathil will resend the spreadsheets with the raw data to the group. [*EDITOR'S NOTE – done 6/18/25*]
- * Chandrasekhar Thekkekalathil will contact Craig to inform him that the committee has approved the addition to the FOPT table and to inquire about the timeline for executive committee approval.
- * Paul Junio will reorganize the comments spreadsheet to ensure comments are grouped appropriately and send it out to the committee along with a Word copy of the standard. [*EDITOR'S NOTE – done 6/19/25*]
- * All committee members should review the Standard and the comments and be prepared to discuss the comments, if not share suggestions via email prior to the next meeting.