Whole Effluent Toxicity Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 26, 2026 – 1:00 PM Eastern

Minutes

1 - Welcome and Roll Call

Teresa called the meeting to order at 1303 Eastern. Attendees are found in Attachment 1. 8 Voting Members and 4 Associate Members were present. Paul Junio was present as the PA.

2 - Approval of Agenda

A discussion regarding the EPA DMRQA occurred prior to the agenda was approved. DMRQA Study 46 has not yet been announced by USEPA. Stephen mentioned that he has been getting requests from his clients about DMRQA data. Paul provided an update that it was discussed at another TNI meeting earlier in the day by the Proficiency Testing Program Executive Committee. That committee will be recommending to the NELAP AC and TNI Board that PT Providers should release a WP Study for WET under the logic that US EPA accepts any WP Study for chemical parameters. Beth indicated that she might have an update that she can share with the Committee. Following this discussion, the Agenda was approved as presented by consent.

3 - Approval of Minutes from June 17 meeting

Following a review of the June 17 meeting minutes, Darrin made a motion to approve minutes, with Beth seconding. All committee members voted in favor, with an abstention from Carlita. The minutes will be forwarded for posting.

4 – There was discussion at the CSDP EC Meeting earlier in July about a re-organization of Volume 2. The intent of that re-organization is to more clearly indicate that Module 2 is the over-arching module that drives the rest of the modules. This plan was provided to the CSDP EC for feedback, and will be presented to the TNI Board at some point. This was discussed for information only.

A membership application was received from Hannah Pine, VA DEQ. Following a brief committee discussion, Hannah was unanimously elected by those members in attendance. Note that Hannah appears in the attendee list as an Associate for this meeting.

5 - Discussion on Houston Meeting

Paul presented a synopsis of the Houston session. Attendance began with 3 committee members and one attendee, and eventually 10 people were in attendance. After giving a brief history of how we arrived at this point, items that the committee has been stuck on were brought up for discussion with those in attendance. Those included:

- Definitions of the assorted forms of 'test'
- Definitions of the assorted forms of 'control'
- Laboratory DOCs
- Initial Analyst DOCs
- Ongoing DOCs
- Positive and Negative Controls (control charts in particular)

A possible path forward on test is that we have good working definitions of Acute Toxicity Test and Chronic Toxicity Test. It was proposed that the definition of Toxicity Test be simplified to 'either Acute or Chronic Toxicity Test' (in some form). A careful review of the Module would follow with that in mind. It will be important for all users to recognize that they may refer to these terms differently in their laboratories, but we need to write a Module that describes what the TNI requirements are, and that the individual terms might change in a given location without changing the intent of what is done.

Another comment made resulted in better wording for 7.1.1 b iv, as follows: When sample adjustments are made, appropriate additional negative controls may be required by the methods to be included when sample adjustments (for example, brine control adjustment for salinity) or solvent carriers are used in the test. [the phrase 'When sample adjustments are made,' was added based on discussion of what dual and negative controls were]. This discussion was part of a broader discussion on 'dual control', in that there isn't a definition for the term, rather it is a list of things that ARE dual controls. A simple definition based on 'changing one variable' was discussed, but agreement couldn't be reached.

5 - Discussion on V1M7 Draft Standard – Committee Comments and Draft

The committee begin its review as a whole at Section 5. The Title to Section 5 was changed to 'Method Validation and Verification' to match the formatting set by TNI. Darrin commented that we need to move away from the use of 'is' and 'are' and toward the use of 'must' so that this reads more like a requirement. Changes were made on that basis in 5.1 and 5.2. In order to make the Module less narrative in form, and because multiple requirements were included, sections 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3 were divided into multiple sections, each of which captured a requirement.

There was a brief discussion regarding the re-calculation of control limits from Section 7. The requirement is handled differently in WET laboratories (being updated at each usage)

than in Chemistry laboratories (being updated at a set schedule, such as semi-annually or annually.

6 – New Business

None

7 - Adjourn

The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 16 at 1PM Eastern. [NOTE – a conflict has arisen that will likely result in this meeting be re-scheduled for one week later]. The meeting adjourned at 1427 Eastern. The next meeting will begin at Section 6 of the draft Module.

Teresa will review the Module to confirm the uses of test / test method / toxicity test in the body.

Attachment 1 WET Expert Committee Membership

Member	Organization	Email	Stakeholder	Term Expires	Present?
Teresa Norberg-King (Chair)	Aquatic Ecotox Solutions; USEPA (retired)	Norbe010@alumni.umn.edu	Other	2027 (1)	Yes
Stephen Clark (Vice Chair)	Pacific EcoRisk	slclark@pacificecorisk.com	Lab	2027 (2)	Yes
Carlita Barton	LA County Sanitation Districts	cbarton@lacsd.org	Lab	2029 (1)	No
Beth Biller	VA DCLS	Beth.biller@dgs.virginia.gov	AB	2029 (2)	Yes
Thekkekalathil "Chandra" Chandrasekhar	FL DEP	Thekkekalathil.Chandrasekhar@dep.state.fl.us	Lab	2027 (2)	No
Darrin Greenstein	Southern CA Coastal Water Research Proj. (retired)	darrinjg@verizon.net	Other	2029 (2)	Yes
Christina Henderson	Eurofins Environment Testing Ecotoxicology	Christina.Henderson@et.eurofinsus.com	Lab	2027 (1)	Yes
Matthew Jones	KS DHE	matthew.jones@ks.gov	AB	2029 (1)	Yes
Katie Payne	Nautilus Environmental	katie.payne@nautilusenvironmental.com	Lab	2027 (2)	Yes
Lyndsay Thomas	Coastal Bioanalysts, Inc.	lyndsay@coastalbio.com	Lab	2027 (1)	No
Caitie Van Sciver	NJ DEP	Caitie.VanSciver@dep.nj.gov	AB	2027 (2)	Yes
Gretchen Welfinger	NY ELAP	gretchen.welfinger@health.ny.gov	AB	2027 (1)	No
Elizabeth West	Retired	eawest1111@gmail.com	Other	2027 (1)	No

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

Associate Members present were:

Steve Boggs, Leann Castle, Nora Lough, Hannah Pine, Jessica Redifer, Justin Seikel, and Cavan Smith.