

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Monthly Teleconference: 202-991-0477/7939251# July 18, 2018; 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. EST

MEETING SUMMARY

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board (ELAB or Board) teleconference meeting was held on July 18, 2018. The agenda for this meeting is provided as Attachment A, a list of meeting participants is provided as Attachment B, and action items are included as Attachment C. The official certification of the minutes by the Chair or Vice-Chair and the Designated Federal Officer is included as Attachment D.

ROLL CALL/ INTRODUCTION

Dr. Michael Delaney, Chair of ELAB, welcomed the members and guests to the meeting. He took roll of the members present and attending by teleconference. Dr. Tom O'Farrell confirmed the participation list.

APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR MINUTES

Dr. Delaney asked whether any members had comments about the Board's June 2018 meeting minutes – one change was made to change Dan Hautman's name to the correct spelling. Ms. Sharon Mertens moved to approve the minutes, and Dr. Mahesh Pujari seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the June meeting minutes.

OPENING REMARKS AND UPDATES FROM THE DFO

Dr. O'Farrell, the Designated Federal Official (DFO) for ELAB, welcomed everyone to today's meeting. The Agency appreciates ELAB members' time and diligent work in preparing for this meeting. As far as the recruiting effort, we have put six names forward to be on the Board by October. That process takes several months. The ELAB website update is complete and you will notice that letters are put into topic threads starting with the first letter. You don't have to zig zag across years to find subsequent letters for one topic. There is also a separate list of all the letters to EPA and from EPA from most recent to oldest. If you can't find a particular letter or have any more issues with the website let Dr. O'Farrell know. He will be attending the NEMC meeting in New Orleans and will be working with Mike and Jerry Parr to set up the ELAB meeting there. Dr. O'Farrell will look into what happens when ELAB can't meet a quorum for a meeting.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE FACE TO FACE MEETING

Dr. Delaney said the August 6 ELAB meeting in New Orleans will start at 1:30 p.m. Central Time. He would like everyone to send in their slides for the presentation by July 23 to Thomas C. A suggestion box will be at the August 6 meeting for the public to add new topics for ELAB to work on. Dallas Wait will chair the August 6 meeting.

TASK GROUP UPDATES ON CURRENT TOPICS

The Board possesses broad expertise and works on a variety of topics identified by ELAB members, the Agency or the environmental laboratory community. The Board addresses these topics through temporary Task Groups. The Task Group leaders or their representatives provided a report of current topics/activities.

Cyanide Methodology

There have been no updates on Cyanide Methodology since the ELAB April meeting. We are still waiting on a response from EPA on the submitted letter regarding the drinking water guidance document.

Selected Ion Monitoring (SIM)

ELAB sent a letter to EPA and we just recently received a response from EPA on July 17. EPA's letter thanked us for our letter and had comments on things they would like ELAB to change. EPA would like ELAB to address substantial changes for Ion Ratios and add a section on Isotope Dilution. One other comment suggested clarifying some wording in the section on method flexibility. Dr. Delaney will reconvene the task group on SIM and would like comments from ELAB.

User-Generated Library Acceptance Criteria

Dr. Buckley had a draft letter ready to go back in February and the letter was distributed to EPA for comments. ELAB has worked through the comments on the draft letter and have addressed the concerns of EPA. In the second paragraph we have listed the people we have received comments from. The question was asked "are there names worth keeping, or should they be taken out?" The board feels that it didn't add much value keeping their names and thinks they should be taken out. The deadline to get comments to Dr. Buckley is July 27. We will discuss and vote on the approval of the letter at the August meeting. Dr. Delaney will send the Letter to Richard Burrows and Francois Chauvin to look at.

Addressing Emerging Contaminants

This topic is tabled until further information from EPA.

Acrolein and Acrylonitrile

ELAB provided evidence to EPA on the effect of changing pH on acrolein and acrylonitrile retention in wastewater samples and they responded that more data is needed to evaluate the issue thoroughly. Adrian Hanley thinks that this is a very specific issue and would like Dr. Delaney and Dr. Pujari to work with him directly - strongly suggesting that it not be under

ELAB's purview. Dr. Pujari will talk to Adrian Hanley about this issue and provide an update at the August face-to-face meeting.

PCB Congener Method

No updates since the May ELAB Meeting with Adrian Hanley.

Drinking Water Program Adoption of Recent Approved Methods

Ms. Deb Waller has an audit going on this week and hasn't had time to finish the draft. She will provide the draft letter of the "Drinking Water Program Adoption of Recent Approved Methods" at the August ELAB meeting.

Inactive Topics

1. Whole Effluent Toxicity PT Standards

Dr. Leibovitz and Dr. Delaney were contacted by TNI to find out what's going on with this topic. It was brought up last year at the August meeting and ELAB was working with TNI and Adrian Hanley on this, and then communication stopped. TNI has asked what the next steps are and how to get back on track with this topic. Dr. Delaney will get in touch with EPA and Greg Savitske of EPA to find out the next steps to take.

2. Drinking Water Certification Officer's Training Course

Dan Hautman is planning on having a response letter to ELAB before the August meeting.

3. In-Line/On-Line Monitoring

No current updates on this topic. Mike Delaney will talk to Philadelphia Water about talking to ELAB about this topic at a future ELAB meeting.

4. Interagency Data Quality Task Force/Data Quality Objective

Dr. Delaney suggested ELAB ask EPA to set up a workshop to explain how important labs are to engineering company projects. DOD does similar workshops and it would be a good idea to link the importance of labs to engineering groups.

NEW TOPICS/ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Dr. Delaney has drafted a letter to be sent to the Docket for the new proposed rule, "Transparency in Regulatory Science". We have time during our August meeting to approve and then send the draft letter to EPA before the comment period closes on August 16. If you have comments on this please send them to the Board by July 27. And if you have any objections to sending the letter, please let the group know that also.

WRAP-UP/SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Delaney and Dr. O'Farrell reviewed the action items identified during the meeting, which are included in attachment C. The next ELAB meeting is scheduled for the 6th of August at the NEMC meeting in New Orleans.

CLOSING REMARKS/ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Flournoy moved to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Mr. Loewe. The Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting. Dr. O'Farrell thanked everyone for participating and noted that the next ELAB meeting is on August 6, 2018 at the NEMC meeting.

Attachment A

ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ADVISORY BOARD (ELAB)

Face-to-Face Meeting/Teleconference: 202-991-0477 / 793-9251#

Date | time 7/18/2018 | 1:00-3:00PM EST | Meeting called by Mike Delaney

Agenda

Item	Owner
Call Meeting to Order	Delaney
Introduction of Board Members/Roll Call	Board
Approval of Minutes for Previous Meeting(s)	Delaney
Opening Remarks and Updates from DFO	O'Farrell
Preparations for Face to Face Meeting	Delaney
Updates on Current Topics	Board
A. Cyanide Methodology — Delaney	
B. Selecting Ion Monitoring — Delaney	
C. User-generated Library Acceptance Criteria — Buckley	
D. Addressing Emerging Contaminants — Mertens	
E. Acrolein and Acrylonitrile Preservation and pH — Pujari	
F. Drinking Water Program Adoption of Recent Approved Methods — Waller	
Inactive Topics awaiting feedback/input	Board
A. Whole Effluent Toxicity proficiency study standards — Leibovitz	
B. Drinking Water Certification Officer's Training Course — Mertens	
C. In-Line/On-Line Monitoring — Flournoy	
D. Interagency Data Quality Task Force/Data Quality Objective Process — Leibovitz	
New Topics/Issues for Consideration	Delaney
Wrap-Up/Summary of Action Items	O'Farrell/Delaney
Closing Remarks/Adjournment	O'Farrell/Delaney

Attachment B

PARTICIPANTS LIST

Board Members Attendance (Y/N)	Name	Affiliation
Y, and Y to August meeting	Dr. Michael (Mike) Delaney (Chair)	Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) Representing: MWRA
Y, and N to August meeting	Mr. Michael Flournoy (Vice-Chair)	Eurofins Environment Testing USA Representing: American Council of Independent Laboratories
Y, and Y to August meeting	Dr. Thomas O'Farrell (DFO)	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Representing: EPA
N, and ? to August meeting	Dr. Kim Anderson	Oregon State University Representing: Academia—Oregon State University
N, and Y to August meeting	Dr. Brian Buckley	Rutgers Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute Representing: Academia and Laboratory—Rutgers
Y, and Y to August meeting	Ms. Patricia (Patty) Carvajal	San Antonio River Authority Representing: Watershed/Restoration

Y, and Y to August meeting	Dr. Deyuan (Kitty) Kong	Chevron Energy Technology Company Representing: Chevron
Y, and N to August meeting	Mr. Jeff Loewe	NiSource, Inc. Representing: Industry— NiSource, Inc.
N, and ? to August meeting	Dr. Henry Leibovitz	Rhode Island State Health Laboratories Representing: Association of Public Health Laboratories
N, and Y to August meeting	Mr. Brad Meadows	Babcock Laboratories, Inc. Representing: Commercial Laboratory— Babcock Laboratories, Inc.
Y, and Y to August meeting	Ms. Sharon Mertens	Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District Representing: The NELAC Institute
Y, and N to August meeting	Dr. Mahesh Pujari	City of Los Angeles Representing: National Association of Clean Water Agencies
Y, and N to August meeting	Mr. Elan Rieser	Con Edison – Representing: Utility Water Act Group
Y, and Y to August meeting	Dr. A. Dallas Wait	Gradient Representing: Consumer Products Industry
N, and Y to August meeting	Ms. Debra (Deb) Waller	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

		(NJDEP) Representing: State Government—NJDEP
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PARTICIPANTS LIST (CONT)

Contractors and Guests Attendance (Y/N)	Name	Affiliation
Y	Mr. Thomas Cawiezell	Contractor at EPA
Y	Penny Shamblin	Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP
Y	Richard Burrows	TestAmerica
Y	Ms. Francois Chauvin	New York City Department of Environmental Protection

Attachment C

Action Items

Mike Delaney: will reform the work group to work on revising the Selected Ion Monitoring Minimum Criteria document.

ELAB Board: Comments on the User-Generated Library Acceptance Criteria letter should be sent to Brian Buckley by July 27.

Brian Buckley: will send the current draft of the letter to Francoise Chauvin and Richard Burrows.

Mahesh Pujari: will talk to Adrian Hanley about data needed to address pH adjustment for acrolein and acrylonitrile.

Tom O'Farrell: will ask Adrian Hanley if he would like to provide an update on the PCB congener method at the August or September ELAB meeting.

Mike Delaney: will talk to Greg Savitske (EPA, OECA) about WET issues that could possibly be discussed at a future ELAB meeting.

Tom O'Farrell: will ask Dan Hautman if he can send his response on the drinking water certification course by July 27.

Mike Delaney: will ask Philadelphia Water if they can talk to ELAB about In-Line/On-Line Monitoring at a future ELAB meeting.

Mike Delaney: will talk to Henry Leibowitz about whether to talk to EPA about a symposium on IDQTF/DQO

Attachment D

I hereby certify that this is the final version of the minutes for the Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board Meeting held on July 18, 2018.

X *Michael F. Delaney*

Dr. Michael Delaney
Chair

X *Thomas O'Farrell 8/12/18*

Dr. Thomas O'Farrell
Designated Federal Officer