

CONNECTICUT ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

August 4, 2006

Attendees: Phil Rusconi	Premier Laboratories
Abdel Halim El-Sayed	MDC – Microbiologist
Jeffrey Curran	Dept. of Public Health
Kim Maloney	Town of Wallingford
Dermot Jones	Dept. of Public Health
Philip Schlossberg	Dept. of Public Health
Bert Guesser	ACT
Donna Ruokonen	Northeast Laboratories
Tian-Min Xie	UCONN
Peter Frick	STL Laboratories
Terry Spalletta	Regional Water Authority

Administrative:

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:37 AM.
2. Kevin Miller and Barbara Obert have excused absences. Greg Lawrence did not attend.
3. Acceptance of June 2nd minutes. Seconded.

Old Business:

DPH Update

4. (Jeff) The DEP has received the finalized RCPs and they will be posted on the EPOC website.
5. (Jeff) Remediation standards are being revised. Some criteria for indoor air, groundwater volatilization is changing. Any GC/MS number, which is not achievable by a scan run, can be achieved by a single ion run. Any changes in RSRs will be published with a public comment period. Please make comments at this time.
6. (Jeff) A teleconference NELAC meeting is being held on August 16th from 9 – 11 AM. A phone number is available if you would like to listen in. The discussion will be geared more toward lab certification.
7. (Jeff) Has received and Inspector General's report on EPA's drinking water program. According to the executive summary, the program is vulnerable to unethical behavior. It is suggested that during routine audits, time should be devoted to record and data review. Additional training and audit time is necessary for this sort of evidentiary review. Current the department conducts a technical

- review. With the EPA's funding being cut, the ability to complete its mission has been hurt. The full report will be shared as it becomes available.
8. (Dermot) Re: EPA Outsourcing. Has been getting erroneous information on questions concerning SW-846 methods.
 9. (Abdel) Can you, as a state leader, hire out to help you out with audits?
 10. (Jeff) Yes. However, funding is not available.
 11. (Peter) Data Miner, a computer program flags data suspected of being changed.
 12. (Jeff) Fraud has many forms. Creative integration or changing times to fit criteria.
 13. (Terry) What about research that is knowingly performed not in accordance to the method?
 14. (Jeff) Research is handled differently.
 15. (Phil R) Look at the laboratories that are charging 20% of the necessary cost for an analysis. Additional overhead costs could push smaller laboratories out of business.
 16. (Donna) A shortcoming of EDI is that you cannot add comments or flag results.
 17. (Jeff) Some of the shortcomings are due to shortcomings of SDWIS.
 18. (Dermot) The Health Department would like to see a single number without seeing the whole picture. The DEP relies on the LEPs to look at the whole picture.
 19. (Abdel) There aren't any regulations on electronic data reporting. No guidance exists on integrating paper and pencil data to electronic data. Is it enough to use a LIMS system or are bench notebooks still required?
 20. (Jeff) The Health Department has the authority to require data be reported in a manner approved by the Commissioner.
 21. (Xie) State Auditors can take a report and follow the data backwards, verifying numbers with a calculator.

Connecticut Environmental Laboratory Regulation Subcommittees

22. (Jeff) Goal for today's subcommittee meetings is to create an outline.
23. Spokesman for each subcommittee printed outline they created on the blackboard and gave a summary of the group's focus. Group discussed each topic.
24. Section 2 – Registration
 - A. Who needs to Register
 - B. Exemptions
 - C. Certification Process
 1. Applying for Certification
 2. Application Procedures
 - a. Initial Application
 1. Additional Requirements for In-State Labs
 2. Out of State Labs
 - b. Recertification or Renewal
 3. Granting of Certification
 4. Conditional Permission to Operate Laboratory
 5. Denial of Certification
 6. Suspension or Revocation of Certification

7. Expiration of Certification

25. Section 3 – Personnel Requirements

1. Technical Director

The minimum education and experience will be specified.

2. Quality Assurance Manager

The minimum education and experience will be specified.

3. Technical Personnel

Additional key personnel will be identified who are critical to data quality.

Minimum education and/or experience will be specified.

26. Section 4 - Standards

27. (Jeff) Each group should start filling in the outline. Next meeting, we will work in subcommittees and provide draft copies of work accomplished for all committee members.

28. Meeting adjourned at 12:10. Next meeting is September 1st at 9:30AM at the MDC Training Center.

2006 Meeting Dates:

September 1st

October 13th

November 3rd

December 1st

Submitted by: Kim Maloney