

**Microbiology Expert Committee (MEC)  
Meeting Summary**

**June 9, 2020**

1. Roll Call:

Kasey, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30pm Eastern on June 9, 2020 by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 7 members present. Associate: Laura Higgins, Robin Cook, Carl Kircher, Chris Fuller, and Tiffany Carey.

The May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes will be reviewed and voted on by email or during the July 2020 meeting.

Kasey asked that Committee members let her know if they have taken the recorded Committee training. She will be following up by email. The link was attached with the agenda.

Kasey reviewed the agenda for the meeting and no changes were made.

2. SIR 371

There is a problem in our response to LASEC. We thought we told them to delete it as an SIR, but they took our guidance response and sent it out for vote as a final SIR. Kasey will follow-up on this.

3. Summary of Suggested Changes to the Standard

Cody updated the table and fixed the formatting. Kasey shared the table in its DRAFT Final form for review (Attachment D).

The comment column will not go out, so decide which comments should be added to the justification column. Comments were added to the justification column as appropriate.

Line 1 – OK

Line 2 - OK

A motion was made by Cody for a vote of confidence to finalize the summary. The motion was seconded by Hunter and unanimously approved.

Kasey encouraged everyone to consider if they have any more suggestions. Please email both she and Cody if anything else comes up.

Next steps: Remove comment section and numbering.

The Committee can look at doing the Public webinar in July or August. Perhaps during our regularly scheduled call time? Or end of August after the Virtual Conference is complete? Ilona will check with Bob for any timing limitations due to the ANSI response.

We may not be able to use Webex for the August meeting because it may be in use for the Virtual Conference. Ilona will know late July what the conference schedule will be for use of Webex.

Kasey will send the updated table to everyone after she puts it in order, numbers it and removes the comment column.

Public meeting – need to ask people to send comments in writing. We will use a PPT format for the webinar. She will email the DRAFT presentation to the committee for comment.

#### 4. Action Items

See Attachments B and C for updates to action items.

#### 5. New Business

None.

#### 6. Next Meeting and Close

The next meeting will be held by teleconference on July 14, 2020 at 1:30pm Eastern. A Webex invite will be distributed earlier that day.

A summary of action items and backburner/reminder items can be found in Attachment B and C.

Kasey adjourned the meeting at 2:33 pm Eastern. (Motion: Cody. Second: Michael C. Unanimous.)

**Attachment A**

**Participants  
Microbiology Expert Committee (MEC)**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Balance</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Kasey Raley (Chair) (2023) <b>Present</b>	Eurofins Eaton Analytical, Inc.	Lab	KaseyRaley@eurofinsUS.com
Michael Carpinona (2022*) <b>Present</b>	NJ DEP	AB	Michael.Carpinona@dep.nj.gov
Cody Danielson (Vice-Chair). (2022*) <b>Present</b>	Oklahoma	AB	Cody.Danielson@deq.ok.gov
Jessica Hoch (2022) <b>Absent</b>	TCEQ	Other	Jessica.Hoch@Tceq.Texas.Gov
Lily Giles (2022*) <b>Absent</b>	Louisiana	AB	Lily.Giles@LA.GOV
Mary Robinson (2022*) <b>Absent</b>	Indiana	AB	mrobinson@isdh.IN.gov
Michael Blades (2021*) <b>Absent</b>	ERA	Other	mblades@eraqc.com
Jody Frymire (2022*) <b>Present</b>	IDEXX	Other	Jody-Frymire@idexx.com
Vanessa Soto Contreras (2023) <b>Absent</b>	Florida DOH	AB	Vanessa.SotoContreras@flhealth.gov
Elisa Snyder (2023*) <b>Present</b>	City of Austin – Austin Water Division	Lab	elisa.snyder@austintexas.gov
Hunter Adams (2023*) <b>Present</b>	City of Wichita Falls – Water Purification	Lab	hunter.adams@wichitafallstx.gov
Enoma Omoregie (2021*) <b>Absent</b>	NYCDEP	Other	eomoregie@health.nyc.gov
Christabel Monteiro (2021*) <b>Present</b>	ESC	Lab	cmonteiro@esclabsciences.com
Patrick Roundhill (2023*) <b>Absent</b>	New Leaf Management, LLC	Lab	patrickroundhill@gmail.com
Ilona Taunton (Program Administrator) <b>Present</b>	The NELAC Institute	n/a	Ilona.taunton@nelac-institute.org

**Attachment B  
Action Items – MEC**

	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Expected Completion</b>	<b>Actual Completion</b>
1	Review Method codes and send comments to Robin for Dan Hickman.	Deb	TBD	6/9/20: Waiting for EPA. Move to backburner.
19	Provide EPA interpretation on temperature readings to Ilona. She will have it posted on the website.	Robin	1/31/14	6/9/20: No need to post anymore this Action item should be canceled.
74	Send questions for ABs regarding method codes to Robin.	ALL	3/15/18	Complete. Met with ABs in New Orleans.
76	Provide an update on what has been done with the method codes and database after Jennifer's review and internal EPA meetings.	Jennifer	4/10/18	6/9/20: Ask Jennifer for a follow-up.
78	Forward link to PDFs on DW website with rule, method and analyte information.	Jennifer	3/31/18	6/9/20: Complete
81	<i>Addition: Forward response to SIR 331 to Lynn Bradley.</i>	<i>Robin</i>	<i>11/13/18</i>	6/9/20: Complete
83	Send out resumes for all applicants to the committee.	Robin	12/10/18	Send before 1/8/19. 6/9/20: Complete
84	Send out copy of Charter.	Robin/Ilona	12/10/18	6/9/20: Complete
87	Contact Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey about Technical Manager requirements.	Robin	5/14/19	6/9/20: Complete
92	Complete Standard Change Form and send to Committee for review at next meeting.	Kasey	10/4/19	10/8/19: Still in progress.  6/9/20: Complete

	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Expected Completion</b>	<b>Actual Completion</b>
93	Prepare guidance language for SIR 301 and submit to LASEC.	Kasey	11/12/19	10/8/19: Kasey will prepare DRAFT language.  6/9/20: Complete
98	Send SIR #371 response to LASEC.	Kasey	4/30/20	6/9/20 – Follow-up with Lynn to ensure response is correct.
99	Clean-up Summary table and send to group.	Kasey/Cody	6/30/20	
100	Check with Bob Wyeth about any timing issues for Public Webinar.	Ilona	6/30/20	



Attachment D – Microbiology Recommended Changes Summary

	<b>Original Text</b>	<b>Suggested Change</b>	<b>Justification</b>
	<i>Include reference and language.</i>	<i>Don't need to work on specific language - just summarize change needed.</i>	<i>Why does this need to be changed/updated?</i>
1	<b>1.7.3.2.a.</b> - ...At a minimum, the filtration series shall include a beginning and ending blank. The filtration series may include single or multiple filtration units, which have been sterilized prior to beginning the series. <b>1.7.3.2.b</b> - ...In addition, laboratories shall insert a method blank after every ten (10) samples or sanitize filtration units by UV light (254-nm) after sample filtration.	Specify filtration series blanks for serial dilutions and multiple unit manifolds. Language should match language in new guidance document	Needs clarification- Guidance Doc written – will need to include some reference to this in the new revision
2	<b>1.7.3.1.d.ii</b> - The laboratory shall monitor the quality of the water for disinfectant residual, specific conductance...	Specific Conductance vs Conductivity	Need to update language to harmonize with other standards
3	<b>1.7.3.1 a</b> - Sterility Checks – All materials and supplies that are needed to process the sample and are required to be sterile prior to use (whether sterilized in the laboratory or purchased as sterilized) must be checked by the laboratory once per purchased or prepared lot using non-selective growth media as appropriate.	Need to specify QC checks in parent vs. sister laboratories	Need to clarify QC checks in parent vs. sister laboratories- SIR 331 - want to include some clarifying language in this section
4	<b>1.7.3.6.c</b> - ...Microorganisms may be single-use preparations or cultures maintained for their intended use by documented procedures that demonstrate the continued purity and viability of the organism.	Viability Checks-Possible move to 1.7.3.2 (from 1.7.3.6) and shift .2 .3 .4 and .5 down one number	Improve flow of standard information

	Original Text	Suggested Change	Justification
5	<p><b>1.7.5.2</b> - Microbiological samples from known chlorinated sources (such as wastewater effluent), unknown sources where disinfectant (e.g. chlorine) usage is suspected (such as a new client or a new source), and all potable water supplies (including source water) shall be checked for absence of disinfectant residual in the laboratory unless all of the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>"Microbiological samples from known chlorinated sources (such as wastewater effluent), unknown sources where disinfectant (e.g. chlorine) usage is suspected (such as a new client or a new source), and all potable water supplies (including source water) shall be checked for absence of disinfectant residual in the laboratory. Alternatively, the laboratory does not need to test as above if all the below exemptions are met:"</p>	<p>Exemptions section - Seeking public comment on how we can make this section better and if it needs to be updated at this time</p>
6	<p><b>1.7.3.1.ii.</b> The laboratory shall perform a sterility check on one (1) funnel per lot of pre-sterilized single use funnels using non-selective growth media. The laboratory shall perform a sterility check on one (1) funnel per batch of laboratory-sterilized funnels, using non-selective growth media.</p>	<p>1.7.3.1.ii. The laboratory shall perform a sterility check on one (1) funnel per lot of pre-sterilized single use funnels using non-selective growth media. The laboratory shall perform a sterility check on one (1) funnel/object per sterilization batch sterilized in the laboratory with nonselective growth media.</p>	<p>Clarification on filter funnel sterility checks and creating operational flexibility</p>
7	<p><b>1.7.3.3</b> Test Variability/Reproducibility - For methods that specify counts (i.e. cfu/100mL or MPN/100mL), such as membrane filter, plated media or other methods which specify a quantitative result, duplicate counts shall be performed monthly on one (1) positive sample for each month that the test is performed. If the laboratory has two (2) or more analysts, each analyst shall count typical results on the same sample. Counts shall be within ten percent (10%) difference to be acceptable. In a laboratory with only one (1) microbiology analyst, the same sample shall be counted twice by the analyst, with no more than a five percent (5%) difference between the counts.</p>		<p>Clarification needed? SIR 379</p>