

**Stakeholder Advisory Committee
for *Ceriodaphnia dubia* Quality Assurance Study**

Minutes of Meeting #4

Held remotely on Wednesday, September 29, 2021 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

List of Participants:

Facilitators:

Ken Schiff and Alvina Mehinto (SCCWRP)

Stakeholder Committee members:

State Water Board - John Wheeler (SWRCB)

USEPA – Amelia Whitson (EPA Region IX)

Regional Water Quality Control Boards - Veronica Cuevas (RWQCB4)

Wastewater Agencies - Mitch Mysliwiec (Larry Walker and Assoc/CASA)

Stormwater Agencies - Jian Peng (Orange County Public Works/CASQA)

Agriculture Organizations - Sarah Lopez (Central Coast Water Quality Preservation Inc)

Private Laboratories - Jeff Miller (Aqua-Science Laboratories)

Public Laboratories - Josh Westfall (Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts)

Non-Governmental Agencies - Kaitlyn Kalua (CA Coastkeeper Alliance)

There were 43 attendees.

Agenda Item #1 – Opening Remarks and Review of the Agenda

Ken Schiff of SCCWRP called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM and welcomed the attendees. The Stakeholder Committee members provided roll-call attendance. Ken noted that there was one personnel change to the Committee with Amelia Whitson replacing the recently retired Debra Denton as USEPA representative.

Agenda Item #2 – Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Agenda Item #3 – Minutes of Stakeholder Committee Meeting #3

There were no revisions requested by the Committee. Mysliwiec motioned to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Wheeler. The minutes of the March 24 meeting were approved unanimously, with Whitson abstaining.

Agenda Item #4 - Inventory of the historical data and lab methods collected

Alvina Mehinto walked everyone through a series slides showing what types of data were successfully collected from the labs and which were not as successful. There was discussion about which of missing data types were likely collected by labs, but had not been sent to SCCWRP. Some SAC members felt availability was dependent on data type with hardness, alkalinity, and age of the animals at the start of testing possibly being available, but further brood board information and water ion concentrations being unlikely.

There was general SAC agreement that SCCWRP should follow two courses of action in collecting additional data. For data that was missing, but possibly available with additional effort,

SCCWRP should contact labs directly. Data that was unavailable regardless of effort should be collected through new testing. The SAC asked SCCWRP to wait for Expert Science Panel feedback before starting any new testing.

Agenda Item #5 - Initial evaluations of the data collected

Next, Alvina presented (a) summaries of the data compiled thus far including: test endpoints (i.e., average number of neonates/female in controls or control reproduction coefficient of variation) and water quality data by laboratory; (b) initial analysis of what parameters might account for observed variability in the reproduction endpoint. The Stakeholder Committee discussed their concerns about the level of variability in some of the water quality parameters, both within and amongst the labs.

Agenda Item #6 - Data analyses plan

Alvina described a data analysis plan that started with a broad analysis of all potential lab techniques to identify the subset of lab techniques with the greatest potential associations with control test variability. This is followed by more sophisticated analytical methods for quantifying the control response variability attributed to the most likely subset of the test techniques. While none of the stakeholders expressed concern about the approach to the data analysis plan, the Stakeholder Committee wanted to make sure the Expert Panel reviewed the data analysis plan before starting work. One recommendation from a Stakeholder Committee member was to examine the potential for compound variables during the quantitative analysis. The SAC also wanted a clarification of process asking if the data analysis plan was an amendment/change to the Workplan or if it was a standalone document. Alvina stated it would be a standalone appendix for the Workplan. There were a number of clarifying questions from the public. The SAC recommended the data analysis plan approach be presented to the Expert Science Panel.

Agenda Item #7 - Next steps and closing remarks

The next step is for SCCWRP to present the refined data analysis plan after today's feedback from the SAC to the Expert Panel, currently scheduled for October 20, 2021.

Ken adjourned the meeting at 2:50 PM.