



January 14, 2021

To: Prospective Nuclear Forensics International Technical Working Group (ITWG) Collaborative Materials Exercise 7 (CMX-7) Participants

From: Olivia Marsden, ITWG ETG Co-Chair /Exercise Coordinator for CMX-7

Jon M. Schwantes, ITWG ETG Co-Chair

On behalf of the Nuclear Forensics International Technical Working Group (ITWG) Exercise Task Group, we would like to invite your laboratory to participate in the Seventh ITWG Collaborative Materials Exercise (CMX-7), scheduled to commence Autumn 2021.

I have enclosed a copy of the CMX-7 Participant Information Packet (PIP). In this packet you will find information on the exercise, basic information about the exercise sample materials to be distributed, instructions for signing up and participating in the exercise, and expectations of each participating laboratory.

Laboratories who would like to participate in the CMX are asked to fill out and sign:

- Registration Pack Part 1- The Self-Declaration Form. This document asks for details of your shipping point of contact (POC). Please return this **as soon as possible** and your shipping POC will then receive:
- Registration Pack Part 2- The Shipping and Handling Functional Agreement. Received upon communication of your shipping POC and sent directly to the shipping POC.

Both these documents must be completed and submitted to the exercise coordinator ETG co-chair Olivia Marsden (Olivia.Marsden@awe.co.uk) or ETG co-chair Jon Schwantes (Jon.Schwantes@pnnl.gov) no later than **31st March 2021**. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have regarding participation in the ITWG's next Collaborative Materials Exercise or if you wish to request additional time to fill out the required documents.

A new optional traditional forensics exercise format has been added to CMX-7 by the Evidence and Testimony Task Group, where the initial part of the scenario can be played out as a crime scene investigation. This provides the opportunity for a collection team to practice processing a scene, preparing

paperwork, packaging items and subsequently communicating their findings with the receiving laboratory. Please indicate if you would be interested in playing this component of the exercise in the Registration pack Part 1- Self-Declaration Form.

In attempt to keep the identity of the samples from the exercise participants, we ask that each participating laboratory identify one individual (the Shipping POC) who will NOT participate in the exercise but will act as a confidant to the Exercise Facilitator. This person will be provided detailed information about the exercise samples (quantity and identity) sufficient for shipping and receiving purposes in confidence and we ask that this information not be shared with those participating in the exercise. While participants will not be provided the level of detailed information about the exercise materials required by the shipping process, they will receive evaluations of field gamma analyses that will categorize the radioactive hazard represented by the samples, similar to the level of information they might expect from authorities during an actual investigation. To speed the process for registration and preparation for shipping exercise materials, we ask that you send us the contact information of the Shipping POC for your laboratory **as soon as possible** and preferably some time before the 31st March 2021 deadline. As soon as we receive your nomination for the Shipping POC, we will share the details of the exercise materials with that person in order to facilitate filling out the Shipping and Handling Functional Agreement form.

We look forward hearing from you soon regarding your participation in the ITWG CMX-7 exercise. As a reminder, please submit both registration forms no later than **31st March 2021** for inclusion in this exercise. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact Olivia Marsden Olivia.Marsden@awe.co.uk.

You have all been included on this email distribution based upon information collected during the last annual meeting of the ITWG and / or your previous participation in ITWG exercises or meetings. In most cases, I believe you already correctly represent the Point of Contact for your laboratory as it relates to participation in the next ITWG Exercise. If, however, this is not the case and there is a more appropriate representative for your laboratory, I would be grateful for your assistance in directing this email to them and replying to me with their contact information so I may update my records.

Sincerely,

Olivia Marsden
Exercise Task Group Co-Chair, ITWG
CMX-7 Exercise Coordinator
Olivia.Marsden@awe.co.uk

Jon M. Schwantes
Exercise Task Group Co-Chair
Jon.Schwantes@pnnl.gov

Files enclosed with this email:

1. Nuclear Forensics International Technical Working Group (ITWG) Collaborative Materials Exercise 7 (CMX-7) Participant Information Packet
2. Registration Pack for CMX-7 – Part 1, “Self-Declaration Document for Participating Laboratory”

Further file to be sent upon receipt of completed Self -Declaration Document:

3. Registration Pack for CMX-7 – Part 2, “Shipping & Receiving Functional Agreement Document for CMX-7”