

Please deliver to Matt Wilkening

Michael
McCrum/AKSO/AK/BLM/DOI
10/12/2010 03:25 PM

To annemarie.palmieri@alaska.gov, Wilkening.Matt@epa.gov,
David E Howell/AKSO/AK/BLM/DOI@BLM
cc WRichards@ene.com, Mlongtine@ene.com

bcc

Subject Fw: proposed change to surface soil total metals analytical
method, RDM 2010 samples

The message from Mark Longtine below describes difficulties the lab is experiencing in analyzing some of the samples collected in Sept at RDM and a proposed solution. Please review as preparation for discussion tomorrow.

Mike McCrum
Red Devil RI/FS Project Manager
222 W 7th Ave, # 13
Anchorage, AK 99513
907-271-4426 Office

----- Forwarded by Michael McCrum/AKSO/AK/BLM/DOI on 10/12/2010 03:20 PM -----



"Longtine, Mark"
<MLongtine@ene.com>
10/12/2010 02:20 PM

To <Michael_McCrum@blm.gov>
cc "Richards, William" <WRichards@ene.com>

Subject proposed change to surface soil total metals analytical
method, RDM 2010 samples

Mike,

Based on preliminary results of surface soil samples, E & E's subcontracted laboratory (ARI) is requesting to switch the analytical method for total metals in soil samples to EPA Method 6010B for all metals. Presently, the QAPP calls for a mix of EPA Methods 6020 and 6010B for the suite of TAL metals. The main difference between the methods is that Method 6010B uses ICP (inductively-coupled plasma spectrometry), whereas Method 6020 used ICP-mass spectrometry (MS), which generally results in lower detection limits and reporting limits. The reason the lab is proposing to switch over to 6010B for all metals is that many of the samples contain fairly high concentrations of some of the metal analytes, particularly antimony, arsenic, and/or mercury, which are resulting in problems for the instruments. In order to avoid the instrument problems, it would be necessary to dilute the samples by up to approximately 20x, which would result in increased detection/reporting limits. Based on the lab's initial results, there are only a few metals that are exhibiting non-detects via Method 6010B: silver (Ag), cadmium (Cd), selenium (Se), and thallium (Tl). The reporting limits for these elements via methods 6010B and 6020, and the respective human health and ecological risk screening levels for the site, are listed below.

ARI ICP(6010B) ARI ICP-MS(6020) HH SL Eco SL

Silver	ppm	0.3	0.2	11.2	4.2
Cadmium	ppm	0.2	0.2	3	0.36 (sed)
Selenium	ppm	5.0	2.0	3.4	0.52

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Phone: 907-271-5479

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Abbreviations:

HS: Host send
HR: Host receive
WS: Waiting send

PL: Polled local
PR: Polled remote
MS: Mailbox save

MP: Mailbox print
CP: Completed
FA: Fail

TU: Terminated by user
TS: Terminated by system
RP: Report
G3: Group 3
EC: Error Correct