



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

Martin S. Frant, Ph.D.  
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OFFICE OF  
WATER

MAR 26 2004

Dear Dr. Frant:

We are pleased to inform you that the Statistics and Analytical Support Branch (SASB), in concert with the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water's Technical Support Center (OGWDW/TSC), has determined that Thermo Orion Method AC2095 [Revision 6, June 4, 2003] for determination of orthophosphate in drinking water (ATP case No. D00-0016) is an acceptable version of EPA-approved methods listed at Title 40 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 141 for determining orthophosphate in drinking water under national primary drinking water regulations (NPDWR).

Method AC2095 determines orthophosphate by colorimetry. Orthophosphate in a sample reacts with ammonium molybdate and potassium antimonyl tartrate in an acid medium to form an antimony-phospho-molybdate complex. The complex is then reduced with ascorbic acid to form intensely colored molybdenum blue which is measured using a colorimeter. The procedure of Method AC2095 is equivalent to those used in EPA-approved methods, such as Standard Method 4500-P E [18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup> Edition]. Accordingly, Method AC2095 may be used in place of other NPDWR-approved colorimetric methods for determination of orthophosphate.

We appreciate your interest in the development of environmental monitoring methods. If you have any questions regarding review of this ATP, please contact William Telliard of SASB (202/566-1061) or Herb Brass of OGWDW/TSC (513/569-7936) at your convenience.

Sincerely,

William A. Telliard  
Director of Analytical Methods  
Engineering and Analysis Division (4303)

Herb Brass, Ph.D.  
Technical Support Center (MS-140)  
Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water

cc:

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