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United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Box 25046 M.S. 407

Denver Federal Center

Denver, Colorado 80225

NATIONAL WATER QUALITY LABORATORY TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM 1994.09

March 4, 1994

To: Assistant Chief Hydrologist for PC&TS
Regional Hydrologists
Chief, Office of Water Quality
Assistant Chief, Office of Water Quality
Deputy ACH for PC&TS for NAWQA
Area Hydrologists
District Chiefs
Regional Water-Quality Specialists
Assistant Regional Hydrologists for NAWQA
District Water-Quality Specialists
Chiefs, NAWQA Study-Units
Chief, Ocala Project Office
Chief, Yucca Mountain HIP
QA Manager, Yucca Mtn. Project
Chief, Branch of Quality Assurance
Employees, National Water Quality Laboratory

From: Peter F. Rogerson, Chief
National Water Quality Laboratory
Branch of Analytical Services

Subject: Calculation error on mercury bottom material data

Author: Glenda E. Brown (GEBROWN) (303) 467-8122

Revision: None

SCOPE

Due to a calculation error by laboratory personnel, all mercury bottom material results (Test ID 71921A) for samples analyzed from August through December 1993 have been updated. This problem affected about 100 samples. The results were originally reported as $<0.1 \mu\text{g/g}$. These values have been changed to reflect either the correct detection limit value of $<0.01 \mu\text{g/g}$ or a reported value between $0.01 \mu\text{g/g}$ and $0.1 \mu\text{g/g}$.

Please note that reports written using the $<0.1 \mu\text{g/g}$ value are still technically correct, since the only changes in the mercury results are between $0.01 \mu\text{g/g}$ and $0.1 \mu\text{g/g}$. Any result above $0.1 \mu\text{g/g}$ was not affected by this calculation error.

We apologize for any inconvenience this problem may have caused.

Supersedes: None

Key Words: Mercury, bottom materials, atomic absorption

Distribution: See above plus the continua USGS.labnews & .water quality