



IN REPLY REFER TO:

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 1992.04

August 12, 1992

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

From: Chief, National Water Quality Laboratory

Subject: Bottles for Tritium Analyses

Author: Ann Mullin

Revision: No

It has been a policy at the National Water Quality Laboratory (NWQL) that 1-liter glass bottles with polyseal caps were required for low-level tritium samples. (Specifically, Lab Code 1043 going to the University of Miami and Lab Code 1565 going to the Reston Tritium Lab.)

Recently, there have been numerous instances of these bottles breaking in the field, in transit, and after arrival here at the NWQL.

Investigation determined that high-density polyethylene (HDPE) bottles with polyseal caps could be used for these low-level samples.

Two types of HDPE bottles were sent both to the University of Miami and the Reston Tritium Lab for QA analysis. The results showed no contamination, either type would be acceptable.

The NWQL chose the less expensive of the two to stock here in DENSUPPLY. These can be requested as 1-liter HDPE bottles with polyseal caps for tritium analysis. They are now in stock and can be ordered immediately upon distribution of this memo.

/signed/

Peter F. Rogerson

Key Words: Tritium, radchem, bottles, glass

Distribution: See above plus QWTALK