



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
NATIONAL EXPOSURE RESEARCH LABORATORY  
CINCINNATI, OH 45268

August 6, 1996

Shree Karmarker  
Separations Manager  
Lachat Instruments  
6645 West Mill Road  
Milwaukee, WI 53218-1239

OFFICE OF  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Mr. Karmarker:

This is in response ATP submission D96-0018 concerning the analysis of sulfate for drinking water compliance monitoring using a method modified from accepted Lachat IC method 10-510-00-1-A (Rev. Aug. 2, 95).

As method 10-510-00-10A section 9.4.6 states:

In recognition of the rapid advances occurring in chromatography, the analyst is permitted certain options, such as the use of different columns and/or eluents, to improve the separations or lower the cost of measurements. Each time such modifications to the method are made, the analyst is required to repeat the procedure in Sect. 9.2.

The intent of section 9.4.6 is that such acceptable analyst initiated modifications can and should be made without an Alternate Test Procedure (ATP) application or the creation of a new method. The use of new or improved column/eluent technology falls within the allowable options delineated in section 9.4.6.

Please contact me at 513-569-7307 if you have any additional questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James W. O'Dell, Jr.".

James W. O'Dell, Jr.  
ATP Coordinator

Alternate Test Procedures Program  
National Water Quality Assurance Programs Branch  
Ecological Exposure Research Division

cc: Dr. R. Reding  
W. A. Telliard