

# **ANALYTICAL METHODS FOR PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS**

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**ANALYTICAL METHODS  
FOR  
PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS**

Prepared by:

Washington State Department of Ecology  
Toxics Cleanup Program  
And  
The Ecology Environmental Laboratory

Publication No. ECY 97-602  
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## PREFACE LETTER

### ANALYTICAL METHODS FOR PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS

This document contains analytical methods for analyzing "Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons" (TPH) for compliance with the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Cleanup Regulation (chapter 173-340 WAC). The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) adopted changes to the MTCA Cleanup Regulation on February 12, 2001. These changes became effective on August 15, 2001. Some of the analytical methods provided in this document may also be used for analyzing TPH in Oregon (check with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for specific requirements).

The MTCA Cleanup Regulation sets forth the procedures and requirements for conducting remedial investigations, establishing cleanup standards, and selecting cleanup actions for the cleanup of hazardous waste sites. Part VII of the regulation describes how to establish cleanup levels for hazardous substances. MTCA provides three approaches for establishing TPH cleanup levels: Method A (ARARs and Tables), Method B (Universal method), and Method C (Conditional method). Each of these approaches require specific analytical testing methods based on soil and/or groundwater contamination and the hazardous substance found on the site.

Under Method A, the "total" approach may be used to collect and analyze the presence, location, and concentration of TPH. This "total" approach includes two analytical methods: NWTPH-Gx for gasoline range organics (GRO) and NWTPH-Dx for diesel range organics (DRO) and heavy oils. See Table 830-1 in WAC 173-340-900.

Under Method B and Method C, the "fractionated" approach must be used to collect and analyze the presence, location, and concentration of TPH, except as provided in WAC 173-340-700(8)(b)(ii)(D). This "fractionated" approach includes two analytical methods: one for "volatile" aliphatic and aromatic petroleum hydrocarbons (VPH) for gasoline range organics (GRO), and another for "extractable" aliphatic and aromatic petroleum hydrocarbons (EPH) for diesel range organics (DRO) and heavy fuel oils. See Table 830-1 in WAC 173-340-900. Ecology is in the process of accrediting laboratories for the VPH and EPH analytical methods. Pending the evaluation of information from the laboratory accreditation process, Ecology will be updating this document.

In conjunction with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Ecology is establishing a laboratory accreditation process. The accreditation of Washington laboratories will provide some assurance of the technical proficiency and competence of a laboratory to assess conformance to a set of prescribed standards. The laboratory accreditation will be a formal recognition that a testing laboratory is competent to carry out tests specifically related to TPH analytical testing methods.

Ecology is currently revising and expanding the TPH guidance document, “Guidance for Remediation of Petroleum Contaminated Soils,” Pub. No. 91-30. The revised document will provide updated and expanded guidance regarding the conduction of remedial investigations, the establishment of cleanup levels, and the selection of cleanup actions for petroleum contaminated sites.

Questions about analytical methods for petroleum hydrocarbons or the laboratory accreditation process should be directed to Charles San Juan at the Department of Ecology (360-407-7191); e-mail: [csan461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:csan461@ecy.wa.gov). Access to a variety of technical guidance documents is also available at the Toxics Cleanup Program’s Internet address: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/cleanup.html>.

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\* The chromatograms are not available in the “electronic” version. They are included in the printed publication.



## TOTAL PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS (TPH)

The following compilation of analytical methods may be used in Oregon and Washington for Underground Storage Tank cleanups and other cleanups of TPH (check with applicable state rules). Each of these Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH) Methods has its own niche in the overall analytical scheme. The methods are:

**NWTPH-HCID**.....Hydrocarbon Identification

**NWTPH-Gx**..... Volatile Petroleum Products (Extended)

**NWTPH-Dx**..... Semi-volatile Petroleum Products (Extended)

**NWTPH-HCID** is a qualitative and semi-quantitative screen to determine the presence and type of petroleum products that may exist in water or soil. This method should be used if the type of petroleum contamination is unknown. It should be performed on contaminated soil or water that is representative of the contamination at the site. The results of this method will determine what fully quantitative method/methods, if any, are to be used in determining compliance with the matrix criteria. Should the value of the analysis for gasoline, diesel or heavy oils (or any other identified petroleum product) exceed the reporting limits, then the specific analytical method for that product must be employed.

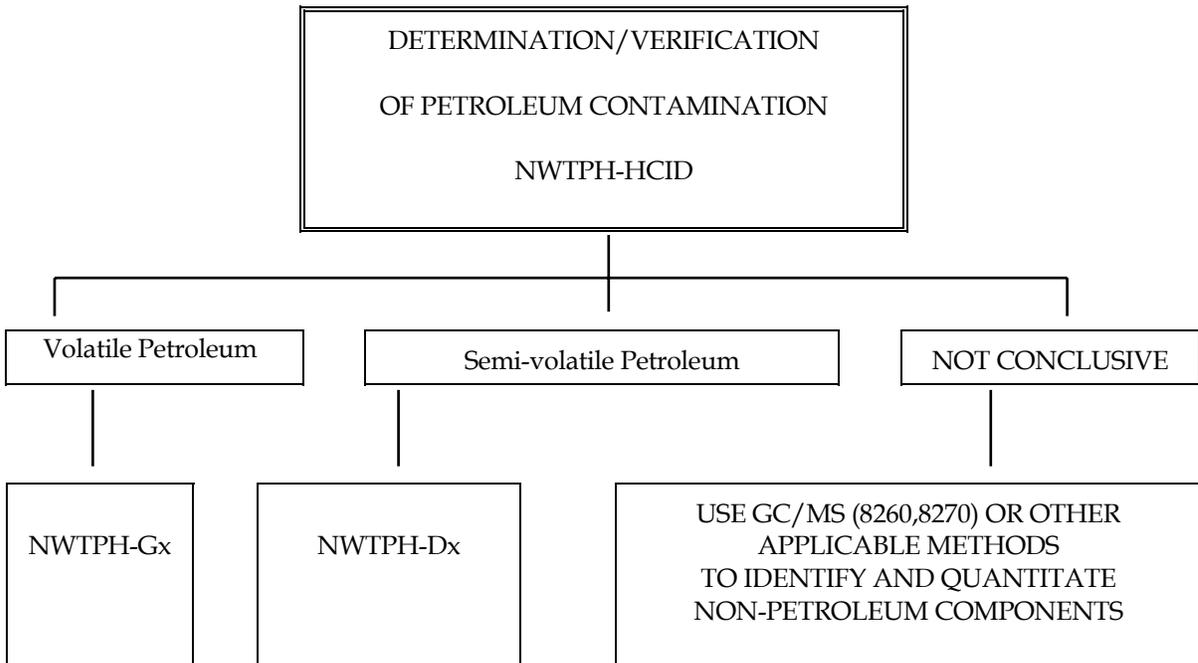
**NWTPH-Gx** is the qualitative and quantitative method (extended) for volatile (“gasoline”) petroleum products in soil and water. Petroleum products applicable for this method include aviation and automotive gasolines, mineral spirits, stoddard solvent and naphtha.

**NWTPH-Dx** is the qualitative and quantitative method (extended) for semi-volatile (“diesel”) petroleum products in soil and water. Petroleum products applicable for this include jet fuels, kerosene, diesel oils, hydraulic fluids, mineral oils, lubricating oils and fuel oils.

**NOTE: These “NWTPH” methods result in single TPH values that can be used when compliance with a single cleanup level is desired. When TPH “fractions” are needed, then the VPH and EPH methods must be used.**

## ANALYTICAL DECISION TREE FOR NWTPH

The following flow chart depicts the laboratory analytical scheme to be used when analyzing samples for single TPH levels. The first step is the qualitative determination of the existence and nature of petroleum contamination and this should be used when the site contamination is unknown. It is required that this first step will be performed on a representative sample from the area that is suspected to be the most contaminated at the site. For those samples containing analytes which, due to their retention times, ratios to each other or their non-hydrocarbon pattern (e.g., creosote), do not suggest petroleum hydrocarbons, then GC/MS methods should be employed to ascertain the components. At those sites where the petroleum contaminants are known or have been identified using the NWTPH-HCID method, the specific product method is to be used.





## NWTPH-HCID

### Hydrocarbon Identification Method for Soil and Water

#### Summary

This method is a qualitative and semi-quantitative procedure. It is used for groundwater or surface water, and soil/sediment from sites where the petroleum products are unknown and/or when multiple types of petroleum products are suspected to be present. This method is used to identify petroleum products containing components from C7 to C30 range, as well as heavy oils, with specific product confirmation by pattern matching ("fingerprinting") employing capillary gas chromatography with flame ionization detection (GC/FID). EPA method 3510 has been adapted as the extraction procedure for the water portion of this method.

While this method is intended to be primarily qualitative, it can be used to eliminate the need for further analyses for those samples which demonstrate TPH levels significantly below the regulatory limits. If the sample contains toluene to dodecane (gasoline range), dodecane through tetradecane (diesel range) and/or an unresolved chromatographic envelope greater than tetradecane (e.g. motor oils) above the reporting limits of this method, then the final quantitation must be performed by methods specific for these mixtures. Since the water extraction procedure in this method is identical to that found in the water portion of NWTPH-Dx (semi-volatile petroleum products, i.e. from kerosene through heavy fuel oils), these products may be quantitated using this extract.

Because of the possible loss of volatile compounds in the extraction and concentrations steps, gasoline, mineral spirits and other volatile petroleum products that exceed the reporting limits of this method must be quantitated using the NWTPH-Gx method.

The reporting limits for water are 0.25 mg/L for gasoline, 0.63 mg/L for #2 diesel and motor oils. The reporting limits for soil/sediment are 20 mg/Kg for gasoline, 50 mg/Kg for #2 diesel, and 100 mg/Kg for motor oil, all reported on a dry weight basis. These values for soil/sediment assumes 100% solids and will be higher depending on the actual moisture content.

The method relies heavily upon the experience of the analyst for the identification of the specific petroleum product(s) that may be present. Therefore, this method must be run by, or under the direct supervision of, analysts experienced in the use of GC and in the interpretation of gas chromatograms of both fresh and weathered petroleum products.

## Equipment and Reagents

Gas Chromatograph, w/wo autosampler  
Capillary split/splitless injector  
Flame ionization detector  
Suggested Capillary Column:  
J&W DB-1 or DB-5, 30 M x 0.25 mm or 0.32 mm with 0.25 um film thickness capillary column or equivalent  
Chromatography Data System  
VOA Vial: 40 mL glass vial with Teflon coated cap septum, Eagle Picher or equivalent  
Syringe: Hamilton #701, 10 uL or equivalent  
Ultrasonic Bath  
Glass Wool: Pyrex or equivalent  
Centrifuge tubes: 5 or 15 mL, calibrated in 0.1 mL increments  
Analytical Balance: accurate to at least 0.0001 g  
Volumetric Flasks: 10 mL, ground glass with ground glass stopper  
Separatory funnels: 500 mL, Teflon stopcocks  
Kuderna-Danish (KD) Flasks: 250 mL or equivalent  
Snyder Columns: 3-ball, 24/40 ground glass joint  
Concentrator Tubes: 10 mL  
Methylene Chloride: Burdick and Jackson Brand or equivalent  
N-Evap Concentrator or equivalent

## Standards

Retention Time Standards. Prepare a composite standard, using methylene chloride as the solvent, consisting of toluene, dodecane and tetracosane at 25 ug/mL each. Additional compounds may be added at the discretion of the analyst. The use of this standard is to establish the retention time windows for the quantitation of gasoline #2 diesel and motor oils.

Reference Standards. Prepare individual petroleum product reference standards (i.e. gasoline, mineral spirits, kerosene and #2 diesel oil), using methylene chloride as the solvent, at approximately 50 ug/mL. Prepare a non-synthetic motor oil (pennzoil SAE 30 or equivalent) reference standard at 200 ug/mL. The preparation of reference standards for other types of petroleum products is recommended. The use of these reference standards is to insure the accurate identification of petroleum product contamination by chromatographic pattern matching ("fingerprinting") and establish retention time windows for those petroleum products not determined with the individual compound retention time standard.

Gasoline Stock Standard. A stock standard is prepared by placing approximately 9 mL of methylene chloride in a 10 mL volumetric flask. Tare the flask/methylene chloride and add about five drops of non-oxygenated regular unleaded gasoline, assuring that the liquid falls directly into the methylene chloride without contacting the neck of the flask. Reweigh the flask and dilute to volume with methylene chloride, stopper and mix by inverting the flask several times. It is important that the analyst minimize the amount of time that the flask is left unstoppered, to reduce

the loss of gasoline through volatilization. The use of a commercially prepared gasoline standards is acceptable if it is certified as non-oxygenated gasoline or if the gasoline concentration has been adjusted to reflect the contribution of the oxygenate. Calculate the gasoline concentration as follows:

$$\text{Stock, ug / mL} = \frac{(\text{final wt, mg}) - (\text{tare wt, mg})}{10 \text{ mL}} \times \frac{1000 \text{ ug}}{\text{mg}}$$

**Note:** The use of oxygenated regular unleaded gasoline for the gasoline stock standard is allowed if the weight (mass) of the gasoline used is adjusted for the weight (mass) contribution of the oxygenate to the gasoline. This will necessitate the analysis of the gasoline for the specific oxygenate(s) present to determine the concentration. The analysis for the oxygenates will be conducted by either of the methods published in the Federal Register - Appendix B and C - Testing Procedures - Vol. 57, No. 24, Wednesday, February 5, 1992, Notices. Alternate methods for the analysis of gasoline oxygenates must be approved by the Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality and/or Washington's Department of Ecology prior to use.

Diesel Stock Standard. A stock standard is prepared by adding about five drops of #2 diesel oil stock to tared 10 mL volumetric flask. Reweigh the flask and bring it to volume with methylene chloride, stopper and mix by inverting the flask several times. Calculate the concentration of this standard in the same manner as the gasoline stock standard. The use of a commercially prepared #2 diesel standard is an acceptable alternative to the above procedure.

Motor Oil Stock Standard. A stock standard is prepared by adding about ten drops of a non-synthetic SAE 30 weight motor oil (Pennzoil or equivalent) to a tared 10 mL volumetric flask. Reweigh the flask, bring it to volume with methylene chloride, stopper and mix by inverting the flask several times. Calculate the concentration of this standard in the same manner as the gasoline stock standard. The use of commercially prepared motor oil standards is an acceptable alternative to the above procedure.

**Note:** The Diesel and Motor Oil Stock Standards required in this method are identical to those required for NWTPH-Dx (extended diesel method including all semi-volatile petroleum products eluting after gasoline, e.g. kerosene, diesels, mineral oils, lubricating oils, heavy fuel oils, etc.).

Surrogate Stock Standard. Suggested surrogates for use in this method are bromofluorobenzene and pentacosane. The use of different or additional surrogates is optional. Prepare the surrogate stock standard by weighing 50 mg of each surrogate compound into a 10 mL volumetric flask, then bring to volume with methylene chloride for a final concentration of 5000 ug/mL for each surrogate compound. The use of a commercially prepared surrogate solution(s) is an acceptable alternative to the above procedure.

Composite Calibration Working Standard. Using serial dilutions of the stock standards, prepare a mixture for water analyses that contains 10 ug/mL of gasoline, 25 ug/mL of #2 diesel oil and the

surrogate standard. For soil/sediment analyses this standard should be prepared to contain 20 ug/mL of gasoline, 50 ug/mL of #2 diesel and the surrogate standard. Add the appropriate volumes, using the equations listed below, and adjusting for the concentration change created by any serial dilutions, of gasoline stock standard, #2 diesel stock standard and the surrogate stock standard to a 10 mL volumetric flask, then dilute to volume with methylene chloride. Stopper and mix by inverting the flask several times. The surrogate standard should be added to a level sufficient to produce a surrogate concentration of between 5 and 50 ug/mL.

$$\text{Volume Gasoline Stock, } \mu\text{L} = \frac{20 \text{ (soil) / 10 (water) } \mu\text{g / mL} \times 10 \text{ mL}}{\text{Gasoline Stock Conc, } \mu\text{g / mL}} \times \frac{1000 \mu\text{L}}{\text{mL}}$$

$$\text{Volume Diesel Stock, } \mu\text{L} = \frac{50 \text{ (soil) / 25 (water) } \mu\text{g / mL} \times 10 \text{ mL}}{\text{Diesel Stock Conc, } \mu\text{g / mL}} \times \frac{1000 \mu\text{L}}{\text{mL}}$$

This mixture corresponds to 0.25 mg/L gasoline and 0.63 mg/L #2 diesel oil for water and 20 mg/Kg gasoline and 50 mg/Kg diesel in soil following the extraction and analytical procedures of this method.

The motor oil calibration working standard should be made at a concentration of 250 ug/mL for water and 100 ug/mL for soil following the procedure outlined above. This will correspond to a reporting value of 0.63 mg/L for water and 100 mg/kg for soil. If, in the opinion of the analyst, the GC sensitivity to 100 ug/mL of motor oil is insufficient, the analyst is allowed to increase the concentration of this standard and to concentrate a portion of the extract to achieve the reporting limit for soil.

Surrogate Working Standard. Prepare a surrogate working (spiking) standard, using the procedure outlined above, that will yield between 5 ug and 50 ug/mL of the surrogate compounds in the 10 mL sample extract produced in this method.

**Note:** All samples must be collected in glass jars with Teflon lined lids (Eagle Picher or equivalent) and held at 4 degrees C until extracted. A volume of 400 mL is the minimum sample size to achieve the reporting limits as stated, however, larger volumes are allowed as long as the solvent/sample ratio is maintained. Samples must be extracted within 7 days (for water) or 14 days (for soil/sediment) of the date of collection. The preservation of water samples in the field, to a pH of less than 2 with 1+1 HCL, is recommended.

## Extraction Procedures

### Water Samples

Mark the water meniscus on the sample jar for later volume determination. Pour the sample into a 500 mL separatory funnel, add the surrogate solution (to achieve the desired concentration in a 10 mL extract). Add 30 mL of methylene chloride to the sample jar, cap and shake the jar vigorously

for a few seconds to wash off any hydrocarbons adhering to the side of the jar. Add this solvent to the separatory funnel, stopper and shake vigorously, venting frequently, for one minute. Allow the two phases to separate, then drain the solvent into a 250 mL K-D flask fitted with a 10 mL concentrator tube. Repeat the extraction twice more using 30 mL of methylene chloride, each time, adding the solvent to the K-D.

Attach a 3-ball Snyder column to the K-D and concentrate the sample extract to 5 - 10 mL on a stream bath. Remove the K-D apparatus and allow it to cool prior to disassembly. During disassembly, rinse the Snyder/K-D joint and K-D/concentrator joint with approximately 1 mL of methylene chloride and add these rinsings to the extract. Adjust the volume of the extract to 10 mL. For those samples which exceed 10 mL, place the concentrator tube into an N-Evap and, under a gentle stream of nitrogen, reduce the volume to 10 mL. Transfer 1 mL of the extract (to be used for the gasoline or gasoline/diesel determination) to an autosampler vial fitted with a screw top and a Teflon coated septum. Concentrate the remainder of the extract (to be used for heavy oils determination) to 0.9 mL, transfer it to a 2 mL autosampler vial equipped with a screw top and a Teflon coated septum. Store both vials in a refrigerator until analysis.

Each extraction set must include one method blank (organic-free water of similar volume to the samples) per 20 samples. The method blank is to receive the surrogate solution and to be extracted and analyzed in the same manner as the samples.

EPA method 3520, Continuous Liquid-Liquid Extraction, may be substituted as an alternate extraction procedure to that outlined above.

### Soil Samples

Weigh approximately 10 grams of soil into a 40 mL VOA vial and record the weight to the nearest 0.001 grams. Add 5 grams of anhydrous sodium sulfate, surrogate working solution and 10 mL of methylene chloride to the VOA vial. Cap the vial and place it (no more than 5 at a time) in a sonic bath for 5 minutes. Shake the vials well and return them to the sonic bath for 5 more minutes. A minimum of one method blank per extraction set or 20 samples, whichever is more frequent, must be prepared along with the samples. One sample duplicate must also be extracted for samples set from one to ten samples and two duplicates for sets from eleven to twenty samples.

Determine the moisture content of the samples, for use in the final calculations, by the following procedure. Immediately after weighing the sample for extraction, weigh 5-10 grams of the sample into a tared crucible. Dry the sample/crucible overnight at 105 degrees C. Reweigh the sample/crucible after allowing it to cool to room temperature. Calculate the % solids as follows:  
[(grams of dry sample/grams of wet sample) x 100].

If the extract contains significant moisture, elute the solvent phase through an anhydrous sodium sulfate micro-column. Place a portion of the extract in a 2 mL autosampler vial (screw cap, Teflon coated septum), taking care to minimize the volume of headspace, and store the vial in a refrigerator until analyzed. Concentration of the extract, when necessary, will be conducted using an N-Evap

with a gentle stream of nitrogen. This concentrate should be stored in the same manner as noted above.

**Note:** Anhydrous sodium sulfate micro-columns are prepared by plugging a 5 3/4" length disposable Pasteur pipette (pre-rinsed with methylene chloride) with glass wool (precleaned with methylene chloride) and adding approximately 3 cm of anhydrous sodium sulfate (previously muffled at 430 degrees C overnight in a shallow pan and stored in a glass jar with a Teflon lid liner).

For samples containing petroleum products other than gasoline, diesel, or motor oil, the analyst must either prepare calibration standards of them by the methods listed above or analyze the sample by the fully quantitative method, e.g. NWTPH-Gx. Other calibration standards produced for use in this method must be at an equivalent concentration to the previously established standards, e.g. mineral spirits at the gasoline concentration, kerosene at the diesel concentration.

As more information becomes available on new extraction techniques, the Washington State Dept. of Ecology's Manchester Laboratory and Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality will publish descriptions of acceptable alternate extraction methods.

#### **Suggested GC Parameters**

Sample injection Volume = 2 uL

Injector Temperature = 290°C

Detector Temperature = 300°C

Hydrogen Flow = 25-35 mL/min

Air Flow = 300-400 mL/min

Make-up Gas Flow = 30 mL/min

GC Temperature Program = Initial temperature of 50°C and hold for 2 minutes; ramp the temperature 10°C/min to 320°C and hold for 5 minutes.

#### **Product Identification**

Petroleum products are to be identified by pattern matching with reference product chromatograms generated the same day as the sample analysis. The term "gasoline range" or "diesel range" hydrocarbons, or derivations of them, should only be used when the analyst is unable to identify the petroleum product present. When these terms are used, it is to indicate the presence of compounds eluting from toluene to dodecane, for the former term, and from dodecane through tetracosane, for the latter term. Motor oils, hydraulic fluids and similar petroleum products which present an unresolved chromatographic envelope of compounds, originating or extending beyond tetracosane, may be reported using the collective term, lube oil, unless specific identification is possible. Heavy fuel oils, e.g. fuel oil #6 or Bunker C, which contain a diesel range component as well as a lube oil (and higher) range may be reported using the collective term, heavy fuel oil, unless specific identification is possible. These products should not, however, be confused with mixtures of #2 diesel and motor oils.

**Note:** The actual identification of the grade or type of lube oil and heavy fuel oil may require equipment and techniques beyond the scope of this method.

### **Analysis Procedure**

The analysis is accomplished by injecting 2 uL of the 10 mL extract, either manually or by autosampler, into the GC using the splitless injection mode. The results from this injection are, for quantitation purposes, compared directly against the single point calibration standard for the product(s) identified. The injection of 2 uL of the concentrated extract (1 mL equivalent) is used primarily for heavy oil determination, because of the reduced sensitivity of the FID to late eluting motor oil-like products. It may be used for the determination of #2 diesel oil and other diesel range petroleum products but it may not be used for the determination of gasoline or gasoline range petroleum products because of the potential for loss of the more volatile components during the concentration step.

### **Calculations**

Gasoline. The area of the components, toluene to dodecane of the calibration standard, is integrated to the baseline as a group. The samples and method blanks are integrated in the same manner and the group areas are compared. If the sample area exceeds the calibration standard area, proceed with method NWTPH-Gx for accurate quantitation using a fresh aliquot of the sample. If the sample area does not exceed the calibration standard area, then report the gasoline concentration as less than 0.25 mg/L for water or 20 mg/kg for soil. This soil value for gasoline, and the subsequent petroleum products, assumes 100% solids and will be higher depending on the actual moisture content.

Other volatile petroleum products, identified as being present (e.g. mineral spirits), must be compared to the appropriate standard produced at the same concentration as gasoline. The requirement for further analyses is determined following the criteria for gasoline as noted above.

**Note:** For samples containing only #2 diesel oil, kerosene, etc., the portion of these products, that elute within the retention time range of gasoline, should not be identified and/or quantitated as gasoline or gasoline range petroleum.

Diesel. The area of the components, dodecane through tetracosane of the calibration standard, is integrated to the baseline as a group. This integration must include the unresolved envelope of compounds as well as the discrete component peaks. The sample is integrated in the same manner and the group areas are compared. If the sample area exceeds the calibration standard area, then proceed to method NWTPH-Dx. If the sample does not exceed the calibration standards area, then report the #2 diesel concentration as less than 0.63 mg/L for water or 50 mg/Kg for soil.

Other semi-volatile petroleum products, identified as being present (e.g. kerosene), must be compared to the appropriate standard produced at the same concentration as #2 diesel. The requirement for further analyses is determined following the criteria for #2 diesel as noted above.

Lube Oil. For those samples which consist primarily of only an unresolved chromatographic envelope of components eluting after tetracosane, compare their area to the area of the motor oil standard by integrating the unresolved envelope to baseline. If the sample exceeds the standard area, then proceed to method NWTPH-Dx. If the sample area is less than the standard, then report the lube oil concentration as less than 0.63 mg/L for water or 100 mg/Kg for soil. Samples identified as containing heavy fuel oil must be quantitated to the same value as lube oil by utilizing a heavy fuel oil standard and following the procedure outlined for lube oil.

**Note:** The analyst is expected to adjust the retention time windows used for quantitation of petroleum products, other than gasoline, #2 diesel, or motor oil/lube oils, to incorporate the majority of the chromatographable components associated with those identified products.

If, in the judgement of the analyst, the area of an identified petroleum product other than gasoline, diesel, and motor oil would exceed the reporting limit, the analyst is allowed to report a "greater than" value for that product without performing the quantitative analysis. The analyst must then proceed to the appropriate fully quantitative analytical procedure, e.g. NWTPH-Dx, for the identified petroleum product.

### **Quality Assurance**

The addition of an appropriate extraction surrogate to samples and method blank(s) is required. The surrogate recovery for all samples and blanks should be between 50% and 150% and must be reported with the petroleum results unless the quantity of the petroleum product(s) preclude its determination. The laboratory should analyze one sample from each site in duplicate for sample sets of 10 or less and two samples in duplicate for sets of 11 to 20 samples (i.e. 10% QA). If either of the duplicate results are positive, the sample is to be considered positive. Since this method precludes the preparation of analytical duplicates, the laboratory should recommend that the project manager collect and submit field duplicates for analysis. The laboratory must analyze method blanks prepared identically to the samples. Organic free water must be used in the preparation of water method blank. No "sample" is necessary for use with soil/sediment method blanks.

Author - Bob Carrell, Manchester Environmental Laboratory, Dept. of Ecology, State of Washington. Reviewed and edited by Steve Robb, Toxics Cleanup Program, Department of Ecology, State of Washington. This method is based on Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality TPH methods and Washington's Department of Ecology WTPH methods.

## NWTPH-Gx Chromatograms

Gasoline  
Weathered Gasoline  
Naptha  
Mineral Spirits #1  
Mineral Spirits #2  
Mineral Spirits #3

## NWTPH-Dx Chromatograms

#2 Diesel  
#2 Diesel/Motor Oil  
#2 Fuel Oil  
Kerosene (Deodorized)  
Jet A Fuel  
Bunker C #1  
Bunker C #2  
Motor Oil 30 Wt.  
Mineral Oil (USP)  
Hydraulic Fluid  
Transformer Oil  
Gas Oil

See Appendix 6

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## NWTPH-Gx

### Volatile Petroleum Products Method for Soil and Water

#### Summary

The NWTPH-Gx method is intended to replace the Oregon's TPH-G and Washington's WTPH-G methods and to present a more comprehensive approach to volatile petroleum product analyses. NWTPH-Gx adapts Oregon's TPH, Washington's WTPH and EPA SW846 Methods 5030 and/or 8020 and covers the quantitative and qualitative analyses of volatile petroleum products, e.g. gasolines, naphtha, mineral spirits, stoddard solvent, and other volatile petroleum products in soil and water. Soil samples are extracted with methanol and analyzed by gas chromatograph with a flame ionization detector (GC/FID). The methanol extracts may be injected directly into the GC or they may be diluted with organic free reagent water and introduced by a purge/trap concentrator. Water samples are introduced directly to the purge/trap concentrator. This method specifies the criteria for the identification and quantitation of volatile petroleum products. When the type of petroleum product is unknown, regular unleaded gasoline will initially be used as the default petroleum standard. The use of GC/PID, GC/MS or GC/AED (Atomic Emission Detector) for the analysis of gasoline may be substituted for GC/FID as long as all other method parameters are met.

The reporting limits for soil are 5 mg/kg by the purge/trap procedure and 20 mg/kg for direct injection. All soil results are reported on a dry weight basis. Since this value assumes 100% solids, the analyst may wish to adjust the amount of soil extracted and/or purge a larger quantity of extract to achieve the reporting limits. For water, the reporting limits are 0.25 mg/L.

The method is applicable for the identification, by pattern matching ("fingerprinting") and quantitation of volatile petroleum products, i.e. those petroleum products for which the majority of the components elute within the gasoline range.

**Note:** Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene and Xylenes (BTEX) may be determined simultaneously with gasoline if the requirements of EPA Method 8021 or EPA Method 8260 are met (i.e. the use of a PID (Photoionization Detector) for method 8020 or a MS (Mass Spectrometry) for method 8260 and the QA/QC associated with these methods).

This method must be performed by, or under the direct supervision of, analysts experienced in the use of GC and in the interpretation of gas chromatographs of both fresh and weathered volatile petroleum products.

## Equipment and Reagents

### Gas Chromatograph

Purge/Trap Liquid Concentrator - Tekmar or Equivalent - Autosampler (Optional)

Flame Ionization (FID) or Photo Ionization/Flame Ionization Detectors (PID/FID)

Suggested Capillary Column: Restex RTX-502.2, 60M x 0.53 mm x 3.0 um film thickness or equivalent

### Chromatography Data System

Gas tight syringes, various volumes, Hamilton brand or equivalent

Volumetric flasks: 10 mL, ground glass joint with stopper

Methanol: Burdick and Jackson Purge/Trap grade or equivalent

Petroleum Product Standards: Available from commercial sources

Refer to methods 5030 and/or 8020 for the remaining equipment and reagent requirement

## Sample Containers/Holding Times

All soil samples for NWTPH-Gx analyses must be collected in soil VOA bottles with Teflon coated septum lined tops. They should be filled to the top to minimize headspace above the soil and stored at 4 degrees C until analyzed. The maximum holding time (the time from the date of collection to the date of analysis) for gasoline and any other volatile petroleum product is 14 days.

All water samples for NWTPH-Gx analyses must be collected in glass VOA vials with Teflon coated septum lined screw tops. They must be filled so that there is no air space (headspace) above the water. Samples should be preserved with 1+1 HCl to a pH <2 and refrigerated at 4 degrees C until analyzed. The maximum holding time (the time from the date of collection to the date of analysis) is 7 days for unpreserved samples and 14 days for preserved samples. The results of any samples which exceed these limits must be qualified as an estimated value.

## Standards

Stock Standards. A stock standard is prepared by placing approximately 9 mL of methanol in a 10 mL volumetric flask. Allow the flask to stand, unstoppered, until the methanol wetted surfaces have dried (about ten minutes), then tare the methanol/flask. Add about 5 drops of the petroleum product to the flask while assuring that the liquid falls directly into the methanol without contacting the neck of the flask. Weigh the flask again and dilute to volume with methanol, stopper and mix by inverting the flask several times. The use of commercially prepared standards is acceptable to the above procedure. Commercially prepared gasoline standards must be certified as non-oxygenated gasoline or the gasoline concentration has been adjusted to reflect the contribution of the oxygenate. Calculate the concentration as follows:

$$\text{Gasoline Stock Standard, ug / mL} = \frac{(\text{final wt, mg}) - (\text{tare wt, mg})}{10 \text{ mL}} \times \frac{1000 \text{ ug}}{\text{mg}}$$

The standard for gasoline will be regular unleaded gasoline and this standard is to be used as the default petroleum product for reporting purposes.

**Note:** The use of oxygenated regular unleaded gasoline for this standard is allowed if the weight (mass) of the gasoline used is adjusted for the weight contribution of the oxygenate to the gasoline. This will necessitate the analysis of the gasoline for the specific oxygenate(s) present to determine their concentration. This analysis must be conducted by either of the methods published in the Federal Register - Appendix B and C - Testing procedures - Vol. 57, No. 24, Wednesday, February 5, 1992, Notices. Alternate methods for the analysis of gasoline oxygenates must be approved by the Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality and/or Washington's Department of Ecology prior to use.

### Stock Surrogate Standard

**Note:** The suggested surrogates are 1,4-difluorobenzene and bromofluorobenzene. The use of additional surrogates is optional. Selected surrogate compounds should be non-polar, purgeable from water and must not coelute with any significant component of gasoline.

Make up a stock standard by accurately weighing the surrogate compound(s) into a 10 mL volumetric flask. Utilize the same procedure as the stock gasoline standard preparation if neat material is used or by adding the appropriate volumes of dilute surrogate if solutions are used. Bring it to volume with methanol. The use of commercially prepared surrogate solutions is an acceptable alternative to the above procedure.

Working Surrogate Spike. Add the appropriate volume of stock surrogate standard to methanol in a partially filled 10 mL volumetric flask and dilute to volume with methanol. The final concentration of the working surrogate solution is left to the discretion of the analyst, however, this solution should produce between 5 ng and 50 ng of surrogate introduced to the GC.

Secondary Dilution Standard. Using serial dilutions of the stock standard, prepare a 50 ug/mL standard by adding the appropriate volumes, as calculated below, to a 10 mL volumetric flask. The appropriate volume of the stock surrogate standard may also be added to this volumetric flask. Dilute to volume with methanol to yield a final working standard concentration of 50 ug/mL for the standard. Surrogate compound(s) may be added automatically during the sampling process by an autosampler. Gasoline is the default petroleum product for reporting purposes.

$$\text{Stock Std (Gasoline), } \mu\text{L} = \frac{50 \text{ ug / mL} \times 10 \text{ mL}}{\text{Stock Std Conc, ug / mL}} \times \frac{1000 \text{ } \mu\text{L}}{\text{mL}}$$

Store all standards in a refrigerator until needed. Allow them to come to room temperature prior to use.

## Calibration Standard

The aqueous purge standards are each prepared by adding 5 uL, 10 uL, 20 uL and 50 uL and 100 uL of the secondary dilution standard per 5 mL of organic free water. The five point calibration standard quantities in the purged water are then 250 ng, 500 ng, 1000 ng, 2500 ng and 5000 ng for the volatile petroleum products. At the discretion of the analyst, the concentration of the surrogate can increase with increasing standard concentration or remain at a fixed value for all calibration standards and samples. Extending the calibration range, either up or down, is allowed as long as the standards remain within the linear range of the instrument and a minimum of a five point calibration is produced. In order to be acceptable, the calibration curve must have a linear correlation coefficient of at least 0.990 and none of the standards may vary from their true (known) value by more than plus/minus 15%.

The use of an autosampler may be substituted for this manual method of standards and sample introduction.

Direction Injection. Prepare calibration standards from the stock gasoline standard and surrogate standards at concentrations of 10 ug/mL, 25 ug/mL, 50 ug/mL, 100 ug/mL and 250 ug/mL for gasoline by adding the appropriate volumes to volumetric flasks and diluting to volume with methanol. Increasing the calibration range with higher standards is acceptable as long as the linear range of the instrument is not exceeded.

## Purge/Trap and GC Parameters

Follow the procedure outlined in Method 8021 for the set up of the purge and trap operating parameters and for the GC. Adjust the hydrogen/air flow rates to optimize the FID sensitivity.

## Soil Extraction Procedure

Weigh approximately 5 grams of soil into a 40 mL VOA vial and record the weight to 0.001 grams. Add 50 uL of the surrogate working standard and 10 mL of methanol. Quickly cap the vial and shake for 1 minute or use an ultrasonic bath for 2 minutes shaking well after 1 minute. Allow the soil methanol mixture to separate, centrifuging if necessary to clarify the methanol extract. For storage, transfer a portion of the extract into a 2 mL glass autosampler vial, with a Teflon-lined cap, minimizing the headspace and store in a freezer for no longer than one week prior to analysis. Along with the samples, prepare at least one method blank and one sample duplicate per ten samples.

Determine the moisture content of the sample, for use in the final calculations, by the following method. Immediately after weighing the sample for extraction, weigh 5-10 grams of the sample into a tared crucible. Dry the sample/crucible overnight at 105 degrees C. Reweigh the sample/crucible after allowing it to cool to room temperature. Calculate the % solids as follows:  
[(grams of dry sample/grams of wet sample) x 100].

## Analysis Procedure

Prior to the analysis of any samples or method blanks, prepare and analyze a mid-range calibration check standard to insure that the instrument is functioning correctly and that the calibration is valid. This standard should be produced daily using the secondary gasoline standard. The value obtained for this analysis must not vary from the true (known) value by more than plus/minus 20%. If the value falls outside this range then a second mid-range calibration standard should be produced and the analysis repeated. If the reanalysis of the fresh standard fails to meet the acceptance criteria, then the instrument must be recalibrated prior to the analysis of any samples. Once the instrument is shown to be in calibration, the analyses of samples may proceed.

After the last sample has been analyzed, a mid-range calibration check sample must be run to demonstrate that the instrument is still operating within the required parameters. Should this standard fail to meet those parameters, then all samples analyzed after the last successful calibration check must either be reanalyzed or the results obtained must be qualified as an estimated value. An increase in the frequency of mid-range calibration check standard analyses beyond the minimum required is recommended.

Significant interferences may be encountered due to the presence of other petroleum products (or non-petroleum products) eluting within the retention time range of the volatile petroleum product being analyzed. If this occurs, the analyst is allowed to adjust the retention time range used for quantitation to exclude the interferences or to subtract the area of the interfering components from the total area prior to the quantity determination. With the former method, the calibration curve must be adjusted in the same manner to reflect the change in retention time range and integration area.

For volatile petroleum products other than gasoline that have a more narrow boiling point range, e.g. mineral spirits, the retention time range used for quantitation should be adjusted to encompass the expected range of the product. Petroleum products which cannot be identified should be quantitated with the gasoline calibration curve. The term "gasoline range" hydrocarbons, or derivations of it, should not be used when reporting the petroleum values unless the analyst is unable to identify the petroleum product present.

Purge/Trap - Soil. A 100 uL aliquot of the methanol extract is transferred via a 100 uL gas tight syringe to 5 mL of organic free water in a 5 mL gas tight syringe and immediately injected into the purging vessel of the purge and trap device. For samples expected to contain concentrations of gasoline range volatiles outside the calibration linear range, or if dilution is required, a smaller aliquot of the methanol extract, or sample, should be used. The analysis then proceeds as in Method 8020. Autosampler techniques may be substituted for this manual method of sample introduction.

Purge/Trap - Water. Sample water (5 mL) is transferred to a 10 mL gas tight syringe and the working surrogate standard spike is added, via a gas tight syringe, into the 5 mL water sample. Immediately inject this water into the purge vessel of the purge/trap device. If necessary, a smaller sample aliquot may be used in order to remain within the linear calibration range of the instrument.

Larger sample volumes may be analyzed, at the discretion of the analyst, if lower quantitation limits are required. Autosampler techniques may be substituted for this manual method of sample introduction.

Direct Injection - For Soil. Allow the extract to come to room temperature, then inject, either manually or by autosampler, 2 uL of the extract into the GC using the splitless injection mode.

### Quantitation

The retention time range (window) for gasoline integration must, at a minimum, include toluene through naphthalene. For other volatile petroleum products, the retention time range for integration must be adjusted to incorporate the majority of the components of the petroleum product(s) identified as present in the samples. If specific product identification can not be made, the analyst must quantitate the samples with the calibration curve of the petroleum product that most closely resembles that of the sample.

For those surrogates which elute within the retention time range used for integration, the analyst must subtract the area of the surrogate(s) from the total area to yield the appropriate area of the petroleum product.

The analyst shall use regular unleaded gasoline as the default petroleum product for reporting purposes when no petroleum products were identified in any initial screening or when the type(s) of petroleum products are unknown prior to analysis.

Sample chromatograms of various volatile petroleum products are included at the end of this method to assist the analyst in determining the appropriate integration ranges.

### Result Calculation

The area of the components is integrated, as a group, to the baseline and compared to concentrations of the standards which are integrated in the same manner.

#### For Soil

$$\text{Soil Sample Conc, mg / kg} = \frac{(A \times R) \times D}{E \times W \times S}$$

where

	A	=	group area of sample
R	=	Response factor from std curve (ng injected/area count)	
	D	=	Extract Volume, mL
	W	=	Weight of sample, grams
E	=	Volume of extract purged or injected, uL	
S	=	Decimal percent solids of sample	

### For Water

$$\text{Water Sample Conc, ug / L} = \frac{(A \times R)}{V}$$

where

$$R = \frac{A}{V}$$

A = group area of sample  
R = Response factor from std curve (ng purged/area count)  
V = Volume of sample purged, mL

The recovery of the surrogate should be between 50% and 150% and must be reported with the results. Report any surrogate recoveries that can not be calculated due to a high level of gasoline contamination.

Author: Bob Carrell, Manchester Environmental Laboratory, Dept. of Ecology, State of Washington. Reviewed and edited by Steve Robb, Toxics Cleanup Program, Department of Ecology, State of Washington. This method is based on Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality TPH-G and Washington's Department of Ecology WTPH-G methods.

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## Semi-Volatile Petroleum Products Method for Soil and Water

### Summary

The NWTPH-Dx method is intended to replace the Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality TPH-D and Washington's Department of Ecology WTPH-D methods and to present a more comprehensive approach to semi-volatile petroleum product analyses. NWTPH-Dx adapts Oregon's TPH, Washington's WTPH and EPA SW-846 Methods 3510, 3540/3550 and 8000 and covers the quantitative and qualitative analysis of semi-volatile petroleum products, i.e. jet fuels through heavy fuel oils, in soil and water. The method involves extracting the samples with methylene chloride and injecting a portion of the extract into a gas chromatograph (GC) equipped with a flame ionization detector (FID). This method specifies criteria for the identification and quantitation of semi-volatile petroleum products. A clean-up procedure, which may be used to aid in the removal of non-petroleum based organic interferences, i.e. biogenic interferences, has been included. When the type of petroleum product is unknown, #2 diesel will initially be used as the default petroleum standard.

The reporting limits are 25 mg/kg (soil) and 0.25 mg/L (water) for the petroleum products in the elution range of jet fuels through #2 diesel. For petroleum products eluting after #2 diesel oil, e.g. motor oils, hydraulic fluids, and heavy fuel oils, the reporting limits are 100 mg/kg (soil) and 0.50 mg/L (water). All soil results are reported on a dry weight basis. Since this value assumes 100% solids and therefore will be higher depending on the actual moisture content, the analyst is permitted to concentrate the extract to obtain these reporting limits. When doubt exists as to which reporting limit is applicable for the petroleum product present, the analyst should use the lower value.

The method is applicable for the identification, by pattern matching ("fingerprinting"), and quantitation of semi-volatile petroleum products. These include kerosenes, jet fuels, diesel oils, fuel oils, lubricating oils, hydraulic fluids, mineral oils and insulating oils, e.g. transformer oils. In general, those petroleum products which do not contain a substantial volatile fraction, i.e. the majority of the components eluting outside of the gasoline range, should be analyzed by this method.

**Note:** The use of GC/MS (Mass Spectrometry) or GC/AED (Atomic Emission Detector) may be substituted for GC/FID as long as all other method parameters are met.

This method is to be used by, or under the direct supervision of, analysts experienced in the use of GC and in the interpretation of gas chromatograms of both fresh and weathered petroleum products.

## Equipment and Reagents

Gas Chromatograph, w/wo Autosampler

Flame Ionization Detector

Capillary Split/Splitless Injector

Suggested Column:

J & W Scientific: DB-1 or DB-5, 30 M x 0.25 mm or 0.32 mm I.D. with 0.25 um film thickness capillary column or equivalent

Chromatographic Data System: Capable of group integrations

Analytical Balance, accurate to a least 0.0001 grams

Volumetric Flasks, 10 mL, ground glass stoppered

N-Evap Concentrator or equivalent

Centrifuge tubes, 10 or 15 mL, glass, calibrated in 0.1 mL increments

Centrifuge tubes, 10 or 15 mL, glass, disposable

Kaderna-Danish (K-D) Flasks, 250 mL

Concentrator Tubes, 10 mL

Snyder Columns, 3-ball, 300 mm length

Sodium Sulfate, anhydrous

Methylene Chloride, Burdick and Jackson brand, gas chromatography/pesticide residue grade or equivalent

Sulfuric acid, concentrated

Silica gel, 100/200 mesh, Baker Analyzed Reagent grade or equivalent - Before use, activate for at least 16 hours at 130 degrees C in a shallow tray

Petroleum Product Standards: Available from commercial sources

**Note:** All samples shall be collected in Eagle Picher, or equivalent, glass jars and held at 4 degrees C until extracted. The holding time, from the date of collection to extraction, is 14 days for soil and preserved water. For unpreserved water, the holding the holding time is 7 days. Preservation is accomplished by adjusting the pH of the water sample to approximately 2 with the addition of 1+1 HCl.

## Suggested GC Parameters

Sample Extract Injection Volume = 2 uL

Injector Temperature = 290 degrees C

Detector Temperature = 300 degrees C

Hydrogen Flow = 25-35 cc/min

Air Flow = 300-400 cc/min

Helium Make-up Gas Flow = 30 cc/min

Helium Carrier Gas Head Pressure = 15 psi

GC Temperature Program:

Initial temperature = 50 degrees C, hold 2 minutes

Temperature Ramp Rate = 20 degrees C per minute

Final Temperature = 320 degrees C, hold for 10 minutes

## Standards

Reference/Stock Standards. Prepare individual petroleum product reference/stock standards, e.g. kerosene, #2 diesel oil, transformer oil (mineral oil based) and Bunker-C fuel oil.

Add 5 to 10 drops of the pure petroleum product to a zero tared 10 mL flask. Record the weight and bring the flask to volume with methylene chloride, stopper and mix by inverting the flask several times. Calculate the concentration of these standards using the equation shown below. The use of commercially prepared standards is an acceptable alternative to the above procedure. Analysts may not use artificial standards, e.g. diesel range organics mixtures, etc., for quantitation purposes in place of authentic petroleum products.

These standards are to be used to produce calibration working standards which should be used to insure the proper identification of petroleum products by chromatographic pattern matching ("fingerprinting") as well as accurate quantitation.

$$\text{Stock Conc, ug / mL} = \frac{(\text{final wt, mg}) - (\text{tare wt, mg})}{10 \text{ mL}} \times \frac{1000 \text{ ug}}{\text{mg}}$$

Calibration Working Standards. Using the stock standards, prepare calibration working standards for the identified petroleum product(s) to be quantitated. Add the appropriate volume(s), using the equation shown below and adjusting for the concentration change created by any serial dilutions, to a 10 mL volumetric flask(s). Dilute to volume with methylene chloride. Calibration standards must, at a minimum, (1) provide a five point calibration curve, (2) include a sufficiently low standard to provide the necessary reporting limits, and (3) define the linear working range of the instrument.

In order to be acceptable, the calibration curve must have a linear correlation coefficient of at least 0.990 and none of the standards may vary from their true (known) value by more than plus/minus 15%. #2 diesel oil is the default petroleum product for reporting purposes.

Stock Surrogate Standard. Prepare the stock surrogate standard by weighing 50 mg of the surrogate compound(s) into a 10 mL volumetric flask. Bring the flask to volume with methylene chloride for a final concentration of 5000 ug/mL for the surrogate compound. The use of commercially prepared surrogate solutions is an acceptable alternative to the above procedure.

**Note:** The suggested surrogates are 2-fluorobiphenyl, o, or p-terphenyl or pentacosane. The use of other surrogates is optional. Selected surrogate compounds must be non-polar, unaffected by the cleanup procedure, i.e. the concentrated sulfuric acid/silica gel treatment, and lacking in significant interferences in most standard petroleum products.

Working Surrogate Spike. Using serial dilutions of the stock standard, prepare a surrogate working standard. Add the appropriate volume of the stock surrogate standard, using the equation listed

below, and adjusting for any serial dilutions, to a 10 mL volumetric flask and dilute to volume with methylene chloride. Stopper and mix by inverting the flask several times. The surrogate working standard should be added to a level sufficient to produce a surrogate concentration between 5 and 50 ug/mL.

$$\text{Volume Stock, } \mu\text{L} = \frac{(\text{Cal Std Conc, } \mu\text{g / mL}) \times 10 \text{ mL}}{\text{Stock Conc, } \mu\text{g / mL}} \times \frac{1000 \mu\text{L}}{\text{mL}}$$

Store all standards in a refrigerator until needed. Allow them to come to room temperature prior to use.

## Sample Extraction

### Soil Matrix

Weigh approximately 20 grams of soil, recording the weight to the nearest 0.01 grams, and approximately 20 grams of anhydrous sodium sulfate into a 150 mL beaker. Mix completely with a spatula. The mixture should have a grainy texture. If it forms a large clump, add more anhydrous sodium sulfate and grind to grainy texture. Add the appropriate volume of working surrogate standard, 50 mL of methylene chloride and sonicate for 3 minutes utilizing the horn sonicator and power settings in SW-846 Method 3550. Allow the mixture to settle then collect the extract in a 250 mL Kuderna-Danish (KD) flask to which is connected a 10 mL concentrator tube.

Repeat the extraction twice more and add these extracts to the KD. Attach a 3 ball Snyder column and concentrate the extract on a steam bath to a volume of 5-10 mL. Allow the K-D to cool to room temperature. Disassemble the K-D, rinsing the Snyder/K-D and K-D/concentrator tube joints with 1-2 mL of methylene chloride. Add these rinsings to the extract. If necessary, place the concentrator tube in an N-Evap and reduce the volume to 10 mL under a gentle stream of nitrogen. At this point, proceed to the sample cleanup procedure if applicable or transfer a portion of the extract to a 2 mL autosampler vial fitted with a screw top and a Teflon lined septum. Store the extract in a refrigerator until analyzed. If the extract is highly colored or forms a precipitate, a dilution may be necessary to stay within the calibration range. The use of the EPA method 3540 (soxhlet) in place of Method 3550 is optional.

Determine the moisture content of the samples by the following method. Immediately after weighing the sample for extraction, weigh approximately 10 grams of the sample into a tared crucible and record the weight. Dry the sample/crucible overnight at 105 degrees C. Reweigh the sample/crucible after allowing it to cool to room temperature and record the weight. Calculate the % solids as follows: [(grams of dry sample/grams of wet sample) x 100].

Along with each sample set, run at least one duplicate sample per set of 10 or fewer samples (10%) and, for each extraction day, at least one method blank (5%). Spiking of surrogates, extraction and

analyses of the QC samples will be conducted identically to the regular samples with the exception that no soil is added to the method blank.

### Water Matrix

Allow the sample to come to room temperature and mark the meniscus for later use in volume determination. Pour the sample into a separatory funnel and adjust the pH to approximately 2 with 1+1 HCl and add the appropriate volume of surrogate working solution. Add 30 mL of methylene chloride to the sample jar and rotate the jar at a sufficient angle to wash the walls. Pour the solvent into the separatory funnel, stopper, and shake it vigorously for one minute, venting frequently. After the two phases have separated, drain the solvent into a 250 mL K-D flask to which is attached a 10 mL concentrator tube.

**Note:** Due to possible loss of analytes from the water to the sample jar walls, the entire sample must be consumed in the extraction and no aliquots may be used. Since the reporting limits are calculated on a 400 mL sample volume, sample jar size should be appropriate for this volume. For larger sample volume extractions, the analyst must increase the quantity of solvent used to maintain the original solvent/sample ratio.

Repeat the extraction twice more and add these extracts to the K-D. Attach a 3-ball Snyder column to the K-D and concentrate the extract on a steam bath to 5-10 mL. Allow the K-D to cool to room temperature and disassemble it, rinsing the Snyder/K-D and K-D/ concentrator joints with 1-2 mL of methylene chloride. Add these rinsings to the extract. Place the concentrator tube into an N-Evap and reduce the volume to 2 mL under a gentle stream of nitrogen. Transfer the extract to a 2 mL autosampler vial fitted with a screw top and a Teflon lined septum. Store the extract in a refrigerator until analyzed.

Along with each sample set, run at least one duplicate sample per set of 10 or fewer samples (10%) and, for each extraction day, at least one method blank (5%). Spiking of surrogates, extraction and analyses of the QC samples will be conducted identically to the regular samples with the exception that organic free water will be used for the method blank.

As more information becomes available on new extraction techniques, Washington State Dept. of Ecology's Manchester Laboratory and/or Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality will publish descriptions of acceptable alternative extraction methods.

Sample Cleanup. In those cases where samples contain a significant amount of naturally occurring non-petroleum organics, e.g. leaf litter, bark, etc., which may contribute biogenic interferences, the following cleanup technique may be employed to assist in their reduction or elimination.

Transfer the 10 mL sample extract to a 10 to 15 mL centrifuge tube, add 1 mL of concentrated sulfuric acid to the extract and stopper the tube. Mix thoroughly for 1 minute by either shaking the tube or with the use of a vortex-genie adjusted to the highest setting.

**Caution:** Since sulfuric acid produces a highly exothermic reaction with water and other polar materials, extreme care should be exercised with its use.

Allow the two phases to separate. Centrifugation can be used to facilitate this process. Using a disposable glass pipet, transfer the methylene chloride (top) phase to another centrifuge tube and add approximately 0.4 grams (roughly equivalent to 1 mL of volume) of silica gel to the tube, stopper and mix as before. Allow the silica gel to settle or centrifuge. Repeat the sulfuric acid/silica gel treatment once more. Transfer a portion of the extract to a 2 mL autosampler vial equipped with a Teflon-lined cap and store the extract in a refrigerator until analyzed. A smaller aliquot of the extract may be used for this cleanup procedure as long as the ratio of extract to acid/silica gel is maintained.

It has been noted that some petroleum products, i.e. heavy fuel oils such as #6 fuel oil or Bunker-C, may experience a concentration loss of between 10 and 20 percent when subjected to this cleanup technique. This loss appears to be primarily associated with the removal of petroleum compounds which contain sulfur. To account for this loss when analyzing samples that have been subjected to the cleanup procedure in preparation for heavy fuel oil determination, the analyst must use standards which have undergone the cleanup technique to calibrate the GC.

**Note:** The use of EPA method 3611 (Alumina column cleanup) may be substituted for the above cleanup technique if it is demonstrated to provide equivalent results.

Analysis Procedure. Prior to the analysis of any samples or method blanks, the analyst must prepare and analyze a mid-range calibration check standard to insure that the instrument is functioning correctly and that the calibration is still valid. The value obtained for this analysis must not vary from the true (known) value by more than plus/minus 15%. If the value falls outside this range then a second mid-range calibration check standard should be analyzed. If the analysis of the second check standard fails to meet the acceptance criteria, then the instrument must be recalibrated prior to the analysis of any samples. Once the instrument has been shown to be in calibration, the analyses of samples may proceed.

The analyst shall use #2 diesel as the default petroleum product for reporting purposes when no petroleum products were identified in any initial screening or when the type(s) of petroleum products are unknown prior to analysis.

After the last sample has been analyzed, a mid-range calibration check sample must be run to demonstrate that the instrument is still operating within the required parameters. Should this standard fail to meet those parameters, then all samples analyzed after the last successful calibration check standard must be reanalyzed. An increase in the frequency of mid-range calibration check standard analyses beyond the minimum required is recommended.

### **Qualitative Analysis - Identification**

If NWTPH-HCID has not been previously performed on the samples and/or the type of petroleum present is unknown, the analyst should pre-screen the samples to determine the petroleum product.

The observed petroleum product shall be determined by pattern matching with the standard(s) analyzed the same day. Chromatograms used for this "fingerprinting" should be normalized to approximately 90% of full scale for the largest component of the particular petroleum product observed.

When reporting the results, the terms such as "diesel range" or "motor oil range", or derivations of them, should only be used when the analyst is unable to identify the petroleum product(s) present.

Motor oils, hydraulic fluids and similar petroleum products which consist primarily of an unresolved chromatographic envelope of compounds originating at, or extending beyond tetracosane, may be reported using the collective term "lube oil" unless specific identification is possible. Heavy fuel oils, e.g. #6 fuel oil or Bunker-C, which contain a diesel range component as well as a lube oil range, may be reported using the collective term "heavy fuel oil" unless specific identification is possible. Heavy fuel oils should not, however, be confused with mixtures of #2 diesel and lube oils.

**Note:** The actual identification of the grade or type of lube oil and/or heavy fuel oil may require equipment and techniques beyond the scope of this method.

### **Quantitative Analysis - Integration**

The retention time range (window) for integration must be adjusted to incorporate the majority of the components of petroleum product(s) identified as present in the samples. If specific product identification can not be made, the analyst must quantitate the samples with the calibration curve for the petroleum product that most closely resembles that of the sample. In all cases, the selected retention time range (windows) used for quantitation must, at a minimum, include any unresolved envelope of compounds as well as all discrete component peaks with an area greater than or equal to 10% of the largest peak. These components must be integrated to the baseline as a group.

For those surrogates which elute within the retention time range used for integration of a petroleum product, the analyst must subtract the area of the surrogate from the total area to yield the appropriate area of the petroleum product. In this case, the analyst may wish to generate separate calibrations for the petroleum standards and the surrogate(s) to facilitate integration and quantitation.

At the discretion of the analyst, the range of components included in the integration may be adjusted in order to minimize the potential contribution of any co-eluting fractions arising from the presence of multiple petroleum products. Any change in the integration range must be reflected in a concomitant change to the calibration standards integration.

Sample chromatograms of various petroleum products are included at the end of this method to assist the analyst in determining the appropriate integration ranges.

## Result Calculation

### For Soil

$$\text{Soil Sample Conc, mg / kg} = \frac{(A \times R) \times V \times \text{Dilution Factor}}{E \times W \times S}$$

where

	A	=	Area Count from Sample
R	=	Response Factor (ng injected/area count)	
	V	=	Extract Volume (mL)
	W	=	Weight of Sample (g)
	E	=	Volume injected, (uL)
S	=	Decimal percent solids of sample	

### For Water

$$\text{Water Sample Conc, mg / L} = \frac{(A \times R) \times V}{E \times S}$$

where

	A	=	Area Count from Sample
R	=	Response Factor (ng injected/area count)	
	V	=	Extract Volume (mL)
	S	=	Volume of Sample (mL)
	E	=	Volume Injected (uL)

The recovery of the surrogate should be between 50% and 150% and must be reported with the results. If the recovery of the surrogate is not able to be obtained due to a high levels of petroleum contamination, then this fact needs to be reported.

Author: Bob Carrell, Manchester Environmental Laboratory, Dept. of Ecology, State of Washington. Reviewed and edited by Steve Robb, Toxics Cleanup Program, Department of Ecology, State of Washington. This method is based on Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality TPH-D and Washington's Department of Ecology WTPH-D methods.

**METHOD FOR THE DETERMINATION  
OF  
VOLATILE PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS  
(VPH) FRACTIONS**

**Washington State Department of Ecology**

**June 1997**

**METHOD FOR THE DETERMINATION OF  
VOLATILE PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS (VPH)**

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APPENDIX 1 - Single Laboratory Accuracy, Precision, and Method Detection Limits

APPENDIX 2 - Suggested VPH Data Reporting Format

## DISCLAIMER

Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute endorsement by the Washington State Department of Ecology. Equipment and materials cited in this method may be replaced by similar products, as long as adequate data exists or has been produced documenting equivalent or superior performance.

# METHOD FOR THE DETERMINATION OF VOLATILE PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS

## 1.0 SCOPE AND APPLICATION

- 1.1 This method is designed to measure the collective concentrations of volatile aliphatic and aromatic petroleum hydrocarbons in water and soil. **The carbon ranges used through out this document are given in equivalent carbon (EC) numbers which are related to the boiling point of a chemical normalized to the boiling point of the n-alkanes, and its retention time in a boiling point gas chromatographic (GC) column.** Volatile aliphatic hydrocarbons are collectively quantitated within four ranges: C5 through C6, >C6 through C8, >C8 through C10 and > C10 through C12. Volatile aromatic hydrocarbons are collectively quantitated within the C8 through C10, >C10 through C12 and >C12 through C13 ranges. These aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbon ranges correspond to a boiling point range between approximately 36°C and 220°C.
- 1.2 This method is also designed to measure the individual concentrations of benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes, and methyl tert butylether (MTBE) in water and soil.
- 1.3 Petroleum products suitable for evaluation by this method include gasoline, mineral spirits, and certain petroleum naphthas. This method, in and of itself, is not suitable for the evaluation of samples contaminated with kerosene, jet fuel, heating oils, lubricating oils, or other petroleum products which contain a significant percentage of hydrocarbons larger than C10. When samples are known or suspected to contain petroleum products containing significant concentration of hydrocarbons >C10, the Extractable Petroleum Hydrocarbon (EPH) method should also be employed to fully evaluate the hydrocarbons present.
- 1.4 For reporting purposes, the practical quantitation limits (PQL), given the sample volume purged, mass and/or methanol extract volume purged are: 50.0 ug/L for water and 5.0 mg/kg for soil/sediments for the aliphatic and aromatic carbon ranges and 5.0 ug/L and 0.5 mg/kg respectively for the individually targeted compounds. The procedure for Method Detection Limits (MDL) determination in this method and the

Single Laboratory Precision, Accuracy and MDL data (generated by the State of Massachusetts) is added for informational purposes only.

- 1.5 This method is based on a purge-and-trap, gas chromatography (GC) procedure. This method should be used by, or under the supervision of, analysts experienced in the use of purge-and-trap systems and gas chromatographs. The analysts should be skilled in the interpretation of gas chromatograms and their use as a quantitative tool.
- 1.6 Like all GC procedures, this method is subject to a "false positive" bias in the reporting of targeted analytes, in that non-petroleum compounds eluting or co-eluting within a specified retention time window may be falsely identified and/or quantitated with the respective carbon ranges. Confirmatory analysis by a GC/MS, EPA Method 8260, or other suitable procedures are recommended in cases where significant concentrations of non-hydrocarbon compounds are known or suspected. If the results of these analyses lead to identification and quantitation of non-petroleum compounds, the analyst may subtract those values from the affected carbon ranges as long as the identities and quantities of subtracted compounds are provided in the analytical report.

## 2.0 SUMMARY OF METHOD

- 2.1 Samples are analyzed using purge-and-trap sample concentration. The gas chromatograph is temperature programmed to facilitate separation of organic compounds. Detection is achieved by a photo-ionization detector (PID) and flame ionization detector (FID) in series. Quantitation is based on comparing the PID and FID detector response of a sample to a standard comprised of aromatic and aliphatic hydrocarbons. The PID chromatogram is used to determine the individual concentrations of targeted analytes (BTEX/MTBE) and collective concentration of aromatic hydrocarbons within the C8 through C10, C10 through C12 and C12 through C13 ranges. The FID chromatogram is used to determine the collective concentration of aliphatic hydrocarbons within the C5 through C6, C6 through C8, C8 through C10 and C10 through C12 ranges. To avoid double counting of the aromatic contribution to the aliphatic ranges, the PID concentrations are subtracted from the FID concentrations to yield the aliphatic ranges values.
- 2.2 This method is suitable for the analysis of waters, soils, and sediments. Water samples may be analyzed directly for volatile petroleum hydrocarbons by purge-and-trap concentration and gas chromatography. Soil samples are either dispersed in methanol to dissolve the volatile organic constituents and a portion of the methanol is analyzed by purge-and-trap GC or combined with water for purging directly from a soil purge vessel (EPA method 5035).
- 2.3 This method is based on, and constitutes a significant modification of, the "Method for the Determination of Volatile Petroleum Hydrocarbons (VPH)", Public Comment Draft 1.0, developed by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and on EPA method 5035. They in turn based their method on (1) USEPA Methods

5030, 8000, 8020, and 8015, SW-846, "Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Wastes", 3rd Edition, 1986; (2) Draft "Method for Determination of Gasoline Range Organics", EPA UST Workgroup, November, 1990; and (3) "Method for Determining Gasoline Range Organics", Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, PUBL-SW-140, 1992.

### 3.0 DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 **Volatile Petroleum Hydrocarbons (VPH)** are defined as all hydrocarbon compounds eluting just prior to n-pentane through 1-methylnaphthalene. VPH is comprised of C5 through C6, >C6 through C8, >C8 through C10 and >C10 through C12 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons, as well as >C8 through C10, >C10 through C12 and >C12 through C13 Aromatic Hydrocarbons as well as benzene and toluene. VPH concentration data are reported as the aggregate concentrations of the aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbon ranges and as selected targeted analytes.
- 3.2 **Equivalent Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (E-TPH)** For samples contaminated ONLY with gasoline or other low molecular weight petroleum products, the E-TPH value is equivalent to the VPH value. For samples contaminated with BOTH light and heavy molecular weight petroleum products (e.g., gasoline and diesel fuel), the E-TPH value is a summation of the VPH value and the Extractable Petroleum Hydrocarbon (EPH) values. In order to avoid double counting of analytes due to the overlap in the carbon ranges existing between the two methods, the analyst will report the highest of the two values determined for the overlapping ranges. In those cases where both the VPH and EPH methods are employed on samples, the analyst may select to quantitate the >C10 through C12 Aliphatic and the >C10 through C12 Aromatic Hydrocarbon ranges only using the EPH method.
- 3.3 **C5 through C6 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all aliphatic hydrocarbon compounds which elute on the FID chromatogram from (and including) n-pentane through n-hexane.
- 3.4 **C6 through C8 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all aliphatic hydrocarbons which elute on the FID chromatogram after n-hexane through n-octane.
- 3.5 **C8 through C10 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all aliphatic hydrocarbon compounds which elute on the FID chromatogram after n-octane through n-decane.
- 3.6 **C10 through C12 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all aliphatic hydrocarbons which elute on the FID chromatogram after n-decane through n-dodecane.
- 3.7 **C8 through C10 Aromatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all hydrocarbon compounds which elute on the PID chromatogram after toluene through 1,2,3-trimethylbenzene.
- 3.8 **C10 through C12 Aromatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all hydrocarbons which elute on the PID chromatogram after 1,2,3- trimethylbenzene through naphthalene.

- 3.9 **C12 through C13 Aromatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all hydrocarbons which elute on the PID chromatogram after naphthalene through 1-methylnaphthalene. This is a hybrid range which is designed to acquire the methylnaphthalenes associated with petroleum products like gasoline and is only used when VPH is run without an accompanying EPH method request.
- 3.10 **Targeted VPH Analytes** are defined as benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, p,m,o-xylenes, and MTBE.
- 3.11 **Volatile Petroleum Hydrocarbon (VPH) Component Standard** is defined as a 15 component mixture of the aliphatic and aromatic compounds, plus surrogate, listed in Table 1. The compounds comprising the VPH Component Standard are used to (a) define the individual retention times and chromatographic response factors for each of the Targeted VPH Analytes, (b) define and establish the windows for the collective aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbon ranges of interest, and (c) determine average chromatographic response factors that can in turn be used to calculate the collective concentration of hydrocarbons within these ranges.
- 3.12 **Analytical Batch** is defined as a group of samples with similar matrices which are processed as a unit. For Quality Control purposes, if the number of samples in such a group is greater than 20, then each group of 20 samples or less are defined as separate analytical batches.
- 3.13 **Laboratory Duplicates** are defined as split samples taken from the same sampling container and analyzed separately with identical procedures. The analysis of laboratory duplicates give a measure of the precision associated with laboratory procedures, but not with sample collection, preservation, or storage procedures.
- 3.14 **Field Duplicates** are defined as two separate samples collected at the same time and place under identical circumstances and managed the same throughout field and laboratory procedures. Analyses of field duplicates give a measure of the precision associated with sample collection, preservation, and storage, as well as laboratory procedures.
- 3.15 **E-TPH Duplicates** are defined as two separate samples collected at the same time and location, for analysis by both EPH and VPH methods. E-TPH duplicates are taken at locations where significant concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons lighter and heavier than C9 are likely to be present (e.g., locations contaminated by releases of both gasoline and diesel fuel). The resultant EPH and VPH concentrations, adjusted to prevent double counting of overlapping hydrocarbon ranges between the methods, are then summed to determine the Equivalent TPH (E-TPH) concentration.
- 3.16 **Calibration Standards** are defined as a series of standard solutions prepared from dilutions of a stock standard solution, containing known concentrations of each analyte and surrogate compound of interest.

3.17 **Calibration Check Standard** is defined as a calibration standard used to periodically check the calibration state of an instrument. The calibration check standard is prepared from the same stock solution as calibration standards, and is generally one of the mid-level range calibration standard dilutions.

**Table 1. Volatile Petroleum Hydrocarbon (VPH) Component Standard**

Compound	Equivalent Carbon Number
n-Pentane	5.0
n-Hexane	6.0
Methyl tert butylether	N/A
Benzene	6.5
Toluene	7.6
n-Octane	8.0
Ethylbenzene	8.5
m- & p- Xylene	8.6
o-Xylene	8.8
1,2,3,-Trimethylbenzene	10.1
n-Decane	10.0
Naphthalene	11.7
n-Dodecane	12.0
1-Methylnaphthalene	13.0
2,5-Dibromotoluene (surrogate)	N/A

3.18 **Matrix Spiking Solution** is defined as a solution which is generally prepared independently from the calibration standards, containing known concentrations of method analytes.

3.19 **Laboratory Method Blank** is defined as, depending on the matrix of the samples, either reagent water or clean sand spiked with a surrogate standard. The laboratory method blank is treated identically as with samples, exposed to all glassware, solvents, reagents, and equipment. A laboratory method blank is analyzed with every batch of samples, to determine if method analytes or other interferences are present in the laboratory environment, reagents, or equipment.

3.20 **Laboratory Fortified Blank (LFB)** is defined as, depending on the matrix of the samples, either reagent water or a clean sand blank fortified with a matrix spiking solution.

The LFB is treated and analyzed identically as with samples and blanks, and its purpose is to determine whether the methodology is in control and whether the laboratory is capable of making accurate and precise measurements at the required practical quantitation limits..

- 3.21 **Laboratory Fortified Matrix (LFM) Sample** is defined as an environmental sample which has been spiked with a matrix spiking solution containing known concentrations of method analytes. The LFM sample is treated and analyzed exactly as a sample, and its purpose is to determine whether the sample matrix contributes bias to the analytical results. The background concentrations of the analytes in the sample matrix must be determined through the separate analyses of a laboratory or field duplicate, and the measured values in the LFM sample corrected for background concentrations.
- 3.22 All other terms are as defined in SW-846, "Test Method for Evaluating Solid Waste", USEPA, September, 1986, and as amended.

#### 4.0 INTERFERENCES

- 4.1 Samples can become contaminated by diffusion of volatile organics through the sample container septum during shipment and storage. Trip blanks prepared from reagent water should be carried through sampling and subsequent storage and handling to serve as a check on such contamination.
- 4.2 Contamination by carryover can occur whenever high-level and low-level samples are sequentially analyzed. To reduce carryover, the sample syringe and/or purging device must be rinsed between samples with reagent water or solvent. The trap and other parts of the system are also subject to contamination, therefore, frequent bake-out and purging of the entire system may be required. A screening step is recommended to protect analytical instrumentation. Whenever an unusually concentrated sample is encountered, it must be followed by the analysis of a solvent blank to check for cross-contamination.
- 4.3 Certain organic compounds not associated with releases of petroleum products, including chlorinated solvents, ketones, and ethers, will be quantitated as Volatile Petroleum Hydrocarbons. Some samples may require additional analytical procedures to be employed, e.g. GC/MS, to document the presence and quantity of such compounds.
- 4.4 The response selectivity of a photo-ionization detector (PID) is used in this method to differentiate aromatic hydrocarbons from aliphatic hydrocarbons. All compounds eluting on the PID chromatogram after toluene are identified by the method as aromatic hydrocarbons. This will lead to an overestimation of aromatic hydrocarbons within samples, as certain aliphatic compounds will elicit a response on the PID, particularly unsaturated compounds such as alkenes. The significance and implications of this overestimation will vary from sample to sample and, where less conservative data are desired, additional actions should be considered to

minimize the detection of non-aromatic compounds, such as the use of a lower energy PID lamp or GC/MS.

## 5.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES

The toxicity and carcinogenicity of each reagent used in this method has not been precisely defined.

However, each chemical compound should be treated as a potential health hazard. From this viewpoint, exposure to these chemicals must be reduced to the lowest possible level by whatever means available. The laboratory is responsible for maintaining a current file of OSHA regulations regarding the safe handling of the chemicals specified in this method. A reference file of material safety data sheets should also be made available to all personnel involved in the chemical analysis.

## 6.0 APPARATUS AND MATERIALS

6.1 The following glassware is used in this method:

6.1.1 VOC Vials: Wide mouth 60-mL VOC vials or 40-mL VOC vials with teflon/ silicone septa for soils; 40-mL VOC vials with teflon/silicone septa for waters.

6.1.2 Volumetric flasks: 10-mL, 50-mL, 100-mL, and 1,000-mL with a ground-glass stopper.

6.1.3 Disposal pipets: Pasteur.

6.2 Analytical balance: An analytical balance capable of accurately weighing 0.0001 g must be used for weighing standards. A top-loading balance capable of weighing to the nearest 0.1 g must be used for weighing soil samples.

### 6.3 Gas Chromatography

6.3.1 Gas Chromatograph: An analytical system complete with temperature programmable gas chromatograph and purge-and-trap concentrator. The data station must be capable of storing and reintegrating chromatographic data and must be capable of determining peak areas using a forced baseline projection.

#### 6.3.2 Columns

6.3.2.1 Recommended column: 105M x 0.53 mm I.D. Restek RTX 502.2, 3.0 micron film thickness, or equivalent.

6.3.2.2 Other columns, such as a 60 M x 0.53 mm J&W DB-5, may be used. Capillary columns are required to achieve necessary resolution. The column must be capable of resolving typical gasoline components. It must also resolve ethylbenzene from m/p-xylene. Some columns may require subambient cooling to achieve these criteria.

- 6.3.3 Detectors: The method utilizes a Photo-ionization Detector (PID) in series with a Flame Ionization Detector (FID); the PID first in the series. The method is based upon the use of a 10.0 eV PID lamp, although lower energy lamps are permissible in order to minimize PID response to aliphatic compounds.
- 6.3.4 Purge-and-trap device: The purge-and-trap device consists of a sample purger, a trap, and a desorber. Several complete devices are commercially available.
- 6.3.4.1 The purging chamber must be designed to accept 5 mL samples with a water column at least 3 cm deep. Purging devices larger than 5 mL have a reduced purging efficiency and should not be used. The gaseous headspace between the water column and the top of the vessel should be at least 3 cm deep. The gaseous headspace between the water column and the trap must have a total volume of less than 15 mL. The purge gas must pass through the water column as finely divided bubbles with a diameter of less than 3 mm at the origin. Fritted glass or needle sparge cells may be used. If needle sparge cells are used, the purge gas must be introduced no more than 5 mm from the base of the water column. Alternate sample purge devices may be used, provided equivalent performance is demonstrated.
- 6.3.4.2 The trap should be at least 25 cm long and have an inside diameter of at least 0.105 inches. The trap should be packed with 400 mg of Carbo-pack B (Supelco Cat. No. 209273). Alternative trap packing materials include: Tenax GC (or equivalent); 7.6 cm Carbo-pack B and 1.3 cm Carbosieve S-III (Supelco Cat No. 2-0321); 7 cm Carbo-pack C and 1.2 cm Carbo-pack B (Supelco Cat No. 2-1064); or equal volumes of Tenax, silica gel, and charcoal as described in EPA SW-846 Method 5030. In general, Carbo-pack trap packing materials are recommended because they have less of a tendency to retain methanol, which could interfere with the elution of pentane and quench the FID flame. The trap length and packing materials may be varied as long as equivalent performance has been verified.
- 6.3.4.3 Prior to initial use, the Carbo-pack B trap should be conditioned overnight at 270°C by backflushing with an inert gas flow of at least 20 mL/min. Vent the trap effluent to a hood, not to the analytical column. Prior to daily use, the trap should be conditioned for 10 min. at 260°C with backflushing. The trap may be vented to the analytical column during daily conditioning, however, the column must be run through the temperature program prior to analysis of samples. Devices other than the traps recommended in Section 6.3.4.2 should be conditioned and desorbed according to the manufacturer's guidelines.
- 6.3.4.4 The desorber should be capable of rapidly heating the trap to 240°C for desorption.

6.4 Ultrasonic bath.

6.5 Syringes: 5-mL Luerlock glass hypodermic and 5-mL gas-tight syringe with shutoff valve.

6.6 Syringe valve: Two-way, with luer ends.

6.7 Microsyringes: 1- $\mu$ L, 5- $\mu$ L, 10- $\mu$ L, 25- $\mu$ L, 100- $\mu$ L, 250- $\mu$ L, 500- $\mu$ L, and 1,000- $\mu$ L.

6.8 Spatula: Stainless steel.

## 7.0 REAGENTS AND STANDARDS

### 7.1 Reagents

7.1.1 Reagent Water: organic free water (ASTM Type I reagent grade water).

7.1.2 Solvent: methanol; purge and trap grade or equivalent. Store away from other solvents.

7.1.3 Ottawa and/or masonry sand: free of volatile petroleum hydrocarbons.

### 7.2 Stock Standard Solution

Prepare a stock standard solution in methanol at approximately 20  $\mu$ g/ $\mu$ L, or purchase certified solutions. Preparation of stock standards and component standards should be done using volumetric glassware.

7.2.1 The stock standard solution consists of the 15 VPH component standards listed in Table 1 and a surrogate standard. Prepare the stock standard solution by accurately weighing approximately 0.2000 g of each standard component. Dissolve the component in methanol and dilute to volume in a 10-mL volumetric flask. At the discretion of the analyst, the surrogate standard may be made up as a separate solution from the VPH standards.

7.2.1.1 Place about 8 mL of methanol in a 10-mL tared ground-glass stoppered volumetric flask. Allow the flask to stand, unstoppered, for about 10 min. or until all alcohol-wetted surfaces have dried. Weigh the flask to the nearest 0.1 mg.

7.2.1.2 Using a 500- $\mu$ L syringe, immediately add 100 to 200  $\mu$ L of each VPH Component Standard to the flask; then reweigh. The liquid must fall directly into the alcohol without contacting the neck of the flask.

7.2.1.3 Dilute to volume, stopper, and then mix by inverting the flask three times. Calculate the concentration in micrograms per microliter ( $\mu$ g/ $\mu$ L) from the net gain in weight. When compound purity is assayed to be 98% or greater, the weight may be used without correction to calculate the

concentration of the stock standard, provided such purities are certified by the manufacturer or by an independent source.

7.2.1.4 Transfer the stock standard solution into a Teflon-lined screw-cap/crimp cap bottle. Store, with minimal headspace, at -10°C to -20°C and protect from light.

7.2.2 Stock standard solutions must be replaced after 6 months, or sooner if comparison with check standards indicates a problem. The use of commercially prepared certified standard solutions is an acceptable alternative to the use of neat compounds in the preparation of standards.

### 7.3 Primary Dilution Standard

Using the stock standard solution, prepare primary dilution standards in methanol, as needed. The primary dilution standard should be prepared at the concentrations shown in Table 2. These standards should be stored with minimal headspace, at -10°C to -20°, and should be checked frequently for signs of degradation or evaporation. The analyst is allowed to prepare separate surrogate and VPH analyte standards.

The primary dilution standards should be replaced at least monthly.

### 7.4 VPH Calibration Standards

Prepare VPH Calibration standards in reagent water from the primary dilution standard at a minimum of five concentration levels. One of the concentration levels must be near, but above, the method detection limit and must be at a sufficiently low level to allow the PQL reporting of at least 5.0 ug/L for water and 0.5 mg/kg for soil/sediments for the targeted analytes (BTEX and MTBE) and 50.0 ug/L and 5.0 mg/kg respectively for the aliphatic and aromatic carbon ranges. The other standard concentrations must correspond to the expected range of concentrations found in real samples and/or should define the working range of the detector.

7.4.1 Rapidly inject the methanolic standard into the water in the expanded area of a filled 100-mL volumetric flask. Remove the needle quickly after injection.

7.4.2 Mix aqueous standards by inverting the flask three times.

7.4.3 Discard the solution contained in the neck of the flask, and fill the sample syringe from the standard solution contained in the expanded area of the flask.

7.4.4 Do not use pipets to dilute or transfer samples or aqueous standards.

7.4.5 Do not inject more than 20 µL of methanolic standards into 100 mL of reagent water. Aqueous standards are not stable and should be discarded after one hour.

### 7.5 Surrogate Control Standard (SCS)

The analyst must monitor both the performance of the analytical system and the effectiveness of the method in dealing with sample matrices by spiking each sample, blank, and matrix spike with a surrogate standard. The surrogate standard is also added to the VPH calibration standard solutions. The recommended surrogate standard is 2,5-dibromotoluene, which elutes after all aliphatic and aromatic compounds of interest. The use of additional surrogates or surrogates other than those listed above may be used, at the discretion of the analyst, as long as their performance in the method is demonstrated as acceptable and does not compromise the quantitation of the various target analytes or carbon ranges.

7.5.1 Surrogate Spiking Solution: From a stock standard solution prepared as in Section 7.2.1, prepare a surrogate spiking solution at 50 µg/mL in methanol. Add 4.0 µL of this surrogate spiking solution directly into the 5-mL syringe with every aqueous sample, blank, and matrix spike. 1.0 mL of the surrogate spiking solution is added to soil samples during the extraction step (See 9.1.2.2).

#### 7.6 **Matrix Spiking Solution**

The recommended matrix spiking solution, consisting of the Targeted VPH Analytes, is prepared in methanol at concentrations of 50 µg/mL.

## 7.7 Petroleum Reference Standard

The use of a Petroleum Reference Standard is recommended for quality control purposes. The Petroleum Reference Standard consists of an API or commercial gasoline standard. Prepare a Petroleum Reference Standard Spiking Solution by accurately weighing approximately 0.0100 g of neat product. Dissolve the neat product in methanol and dilute to volume in a 10-mL volumetric flask.

## 8.0 SAMPLE COLLECTION, PRESERVATION, AND HANDLING

### 8.1 Aqueous Samples

- 8.1.1 Aqueous samples should be collected in duplicate (or the number of vials directed by the laboratory) without agitation and without headspace in contaminant-free amber glass VOC vials with Teflon-lined septa screw caps. Samples must be acidified to a pH of 2.0 or less at the time of collection and this can generally be accomplished by adding 3 or 4 drops (0.1 to 0.2 mL) of 1:1 HCl (1 part reagent water and 1 part concentrated HCl) to a 40-mL VOC vial. Samples must be cooled to 4°C immediately after collection.
- 8.1.2 A chain of custody form should accompany all sampling vials and should document the date and time of sample collection and acid preservation. The pH of all water samples must be determined by the laboratory unless sample vials containing acid for field preservation were supplied by the laboratory (this must be noted on the chain of custody). The pH measurement may be performed on left over sample. Any sample found to contain a pH above 2.0 should be so noted on the laboratory/data report sheet.
- 8.1.3 Any sample received by the laboratory that is not packed in ice or cooled to 4°C must be so noted on the laboratory/data report sheet.
- 8.1.4 Acid preserved aqueous samples must be analyzed within 14 days of collection. Aqueous samples which, for whatever reason, have not received acid preservation must be analyzed within 7 days of collection or the data must be reported as an “estimate quantity”.

### 8.2 Soil Samples

- 8.2.1 Soil samples must be collected in a manner that minimizes sample handling and agitation. All sediment must be removed from the glass threads of the vial to ensure an adequate seal. Samples must be cooled to 4°C immediately after collection.
- 8.2.3 Samples for VPH analysis should be collected in duplicate 2 or 4 ounce VOC jars with Teflon coated septum lined lids.
- 8.2.4 Sampling must be accomplished in a manner that ensures a minimum of headspace in the sample vial.

8.2.5 A chain of custody form should accompany all sampling vials and should document the date and time of sample collection.

8.2.6 Soil samples must be analyzed within 14 days of collection.

8.3 A summary of sample collection, preservation and holding times is provided in Table 2 .

**Table 2 . Holding Times and Preservatives for VPH Samples**

Matrix	Container	Preservation	Holding Time
Aqueous Samples	40-mL VOC vials w/ Teflon-lined septa screw caps	Add 3 to 4 drops of 1:1 HCl; cool to 4°C	14 days 7 days, if not preserved
Soil/Sediments Samples	VOC vials w/ Teflon-lined septa screw caps.  40-mL vials	cool to 4°C	14 days

## 9.0 PROCEDURE

### 9.1 Sample Preparation and Purging

9.1.1 It is recommended that samples known or suspected to have extremely high levels of volatile petroleum hydrocarbons be screened prior to analysis in order to establish the appropriate volume/mass to be used for analysis. This screening step may be analysis of a soil sample's methanol extract (diluted), the headspace method (SW-846 method 3810), the hexadecane extraction and screening method (SW-846 Method 3820) or other applicable method as determined by the analyst.

#### 9.1.2 Water Samples

Introduce volatile compounds into the gas chromatograph using a purge-and-trap concentrator. The use of autosampling devices for sample introduction is recommended or the analyst may use the manual method outlined below.

9.1.2.1 Remove the plunger from a 5-mL syringe and attach a closed syringe valve. Open the sample or standard bottle, which has been allowed to come to ambient temperature, and carefully pour the sample into the syringe barrel to just short of overflowing. Replace the syringe plunger and

compress the sample. Open the syringe valve and vent any residual air while adjusting the sample volume to 5.0 mL. This process of taking an aliquot destroys the validity of the liquid sample for future analysis; therefore, if there is only one 40-mL vial, the analyst should fill a second syringe at this time to protect against possible loss of sample integrity. This second sample is maintained only until such time when the analyst has determined that the first sample has been analyzed properly. Filling one 20-mL syringe would allow the use of only one syringe. If a second analysis is needed from a syringe, it must be analyzed within 24 hours. Care must be taken to prevent air from leaking into the syringe.

9.1.2.2 If necessary, samples should be diluted prior to injection into the purge chamber. In such cases, all steps must be performed without delay until the diluted sample is in a gas-tight syringe.

9.1.2.2.1 Dilutions may be made in volumetric flasks (10 mL to 100 mL). Select the volumetric flask that will allow for the necessary dilution. Intermediate dilutions may be necessary for highly concentrated samples.

9.1.2.2.2 Calculate the approximate volume of reagent water to be added to the volumetric flask selected and add slightly less than this volume of reagent water to the flask.

9.1.2.2.3 Inject the proper aliquot of sample from the syringe prepared in Paragraph 9.1.2.1 into the flask. Aliquots of less than 1 mL are not recommended. Dilute the sample to the mark with reagent water. Cap the flask, invert, and shake three times. Repeat the above procedure for additional dilutions. Alternatively the dilutions can be made directly in the glass syringe to avoid further loss of volatiles.

9.1.2.2.4 Fill a 5-mL syringe with diluted sample as in Paragraph 9.1.2.1.

9.1.2.3 Add 4.0  $\mu\text{L}$  of the surrogate spiking solution through the valve bore of the syringe. Close the valves.

9.1.2.4 Attach the syringe-syringe valve assembly to the syringe valve on the purging device. Open the syringe valves and inject the sample into the purging chamber.

9.1.2.5 Close both valves and purge the sample for 11 min. Recommended purge and trap operating parameters are provided in Table 3.

**Table 3. Suggested Purge and Trap Operating Parameters**

Purge gas	Helium
Purge gas flow rate (mL/min)	40
Purge time (min)	11.0
Purge temperature	Ambient
Desorb temperature °C	250
Backflush inert gas flow (mL/min)	15-20

9.1.2.6 At the conclusion of the purge time, attach the trap to the chromatograph (if necessary), adjust the device to the desorb mode, and begin the gas chromatographic temperature program (in Section 9.2.1) and GC data acquisition. Concurrently, introduce the trapped materials to the gas chromatographic column by rapidly heating the trap to 240°C and backflushing the trap with inert gas between 15 and 20 mL/min for 4 minutes.

9.1.2.7 While the trap is desorbing into the gas chromatograph, empty the purging chamber. Wash the chamber with a minimum of two 5 mL flushes of reagent water (or methanol followed by reagent water) to avoid carryover of pollutant compounds into subsequent analyses.

9.1.2.8 After desorbing the sample, recondition the trap by returning the purge-and-trap device to the purge mode. Wait 15 seconds, then close the syringe valve on the purging device to begin gas flow through the trap. The trap temperature should be maintained at 260°C. After approximately 7 to 15 min, turn off the trap heater and open the syringe valve to stop the gas flow through the trap. After a highly concentrated sample, a longer baking time may be necessary. When cool, the trap is ready for the next sample.

9.1.2.9 If the concentration of an analyte in a sample exceeds the calibration range, a dilution of the sample is required. If a sample analysis results in a saturated detector response for a compound, the analysis must be followed by one or more blank reagent water analyses. If the final blank analysis is not free of significant interferences, the system must be decontaminated. Sample analysis may not resume until a blank can be analyzed that is free of significant interferences.

9.1.2.10 All dilutions should keep the detector response of the major constituents (previously saturated peaks) in the upper half of the linear range of the calibration curve.

### 9.1.3 Soil/Sediments

Soil and sediment samples are extracted with methanol. An aliquot of the extract is added to reagent water and introduced into the gas chromatograph using a purge and trap concentrator. Should lower values for the targeted analytes be desired, the analyst may employ direct purging of the soil sample using the method outlined in EPA methods 5030 and 5035.

The use of autosampling devices for sample introduction is recommended or the analyst may use the manual method outlined below.

9.1.3.1 Weigh the sample vial to 0.1 g in a top loading balance and add 4 to 5 grams of the sample to the vial, reseal and determine the weight of the soil/sediment sample.

9.1.3.2 Quickly add 9.0 mL of methanol and 1.0 mL of the surrogate spiking solution. Cap and shake the sample vial for 2 minutes.

9.1.3.3 Allow soil/sediment to settle, or centrifuge the vial, until a layer of methanol is apparent.

9.1.3.4 Using a microliter syringe, withdraw an appropriate aliquot of the methanol extract for sparging. Sample screening data can be used to determine the volume of methanol extract to add to the 5 mL of reagent water for analysis. All dilutions must keep the response of the major constituents in the upper half of the linear range of the calibration curve.

9.1.3.5 Remove the plunger from one 5.0-mL Luerlock type syringe equipped with a syringe valve and fill until overflowing with reagent water. Replace the plunger and compress the water to vent trapped air. Adjust the volume to allow for addition of the extract (e.g., for 100  $\mu$ L of extract adjust to 4.9 mL). Pull the plunger to 5.0 mL for addition of the sample extract. Add the volume of methanol extract determined from screening (100  $\mu$ L maximum).

9.1.3.6 Attach the syringe valve assembly to the syringe valve on the purging device. Open the syringe valves and inject the sample into the purging chamber. Complete operations as specified in Paragraphs 9.1.2.5 through 9.1.2.8.

9.1.4 Proceed with the analysis as described in Sections 9.2 through 9.5. Analyze all laboratory method blanks and QC samples under the same conditions as that used for samples.

9.1.5 If the responses exceed the calibration or linear range of the system, use a smaller aliquot of methanol or aqueous sample.

## 9.1.6 Determination of Percent Moisture

9.1.6.1 Soil and sediment results must be reported on a dry-weight basis.

9.1.6.2 Transfer 5 to 10 g of sample into a tared crucible. The amount of material used to determine the percent moisture will depend on the amount of moisture present, thus relatively dry samples require more sample addition in order to achieve a significant weight change than wet samples. Dry the sample overnight in an oven at 105°C. Remove the sample from the oven and allow it to cool in a desiccator before reweighing. Reweigh and calculate the percent moisture of the sample using the equations provided in Section 9.6.2.2.

## 9.2 **GC Conditions**

9.2.1 Oven Program: Oven temperature 45°C, hold for 1 min, then to 100°C at 3°C/min, to 160°C at 8°C/min, to 230°C at 20°C/min; hold for 7.5 min. Conditions may be altered to improve resolution of volatile petroleum hydrocarbons.

9.2.2 Gas Flows: The recommended carrier gas is helium.

9.2.2.1 Carrier gas flow: 12.5 mL/min.

9.2.2.2 Air: 350 mL/min

9.2.2.3 Hydrogen: 30 mL/min

9.2.2.4 Make up gas flow: 17.5 mL/min

### 9.2.3 Miscellaneous:

9.2.3.1 FID temperature: 230°C

9.2.3.2 PID temperature: 230°C

9.2.3.3 Injection port temperature: 250°C

9.2.3.4 Column head pressure: 15 psi

## 9.3 Retention Time Windows

- 9.3.1 Before establishing retention time windows, make sure the GC system is within optimum operating conditions. Make three injections of the VPH Component Standard throughout the course of a 72-hr period. Serial injections over less than a 72-hr period may result in retention time windows that are too tight.
- 9.3.2 Calculate the standard deviation of the three absolute retention times for each individual compound in the VPH Component Standard. The retention time window is defined as plus or minus three times the standard deviation of the absolute retention times for each standard. However, the experience of the analyst should weigh heavily in the interpretation of chromatograms.
- 9.3.3 In those cases where the standard deviation for a particular standard is zero, the laboratory should substitute the standard deviation of a closely eluting structurally similar compound to develop a valid retention time window.
- 9.3.4 The laboratory must calculate retention time windows for each standard on each GC column and whenever a new GC column is installed. This data must be retained by the laboratory.
- 9.3.5 VPH retention time (Rt) windows are defined as beginning 0.1 minutes after the Rt of the beginning marker compound and ending 0.1 minutes after the Rt of the ending marker compound. The exception to this is the C5 through C6 aliphatic hydrocarbon range, where its Rt window is defined a beginning 0.1 minutes prior to the beginning marker compound and ending 0.1 minutes after the ending marker compound. VPH marker compounds and windows are summarized in Table 4 .

**Table 4 . VPH Marker Compounds**

<b>Hydrocarbon Range</b>	<b>Beginning Marker Compound</b>	<b>Ending Marker Compound</b>
C5-C6 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons (FID)	just before n-Pentane	just after n-Hexane
C6-C8 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons (FID)	just after n-Hexane	just after n-Octane
C8-C10 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons (FID)	just after n-Octane	just after n-Decane
C10-C12 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons (FID)	just after n-Decane	just after n-Dodecane
C8-C10 Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PID)	just after Toluene	just after 1,2,3-Trimethylbenzene
C10-C12 Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PID)	just after 1,2,3-Trimethylbenzene	just after Naphthalene
C12-C13 Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PID)	just after Naphthalene	just after 1-Methylnaphthalene

## 9.4 Calibration

### 9.4.1 External Standard Calibration Procedure

9.4.1.1 Prepare VPH Calibration Standards at a minimum of five concentration levels in accordance with the procedures and specifications contained in Section 7.0.

9.4.1.2 Analyze each VPH Calibration Standard following the procedures outlined in Section 9.5. Tabulate peak height or area responses against the mass injected. The results can be used to prepare a calibration curve for each targeted analyte. Alternatively, the ratio of the response to the amount injected, defined as the calibration factor (CF), may be calculated for method analytes using Equation 1. If the percent relative standard deviation (%RSD) of the calibration factor is equal to or less than 20 % over the working range for all analytes of interest, as determined using Equation 2, linearity through the origin can be assumed, and the average calibration factor can be used in place of a calibration curve.

#### Equation 1: Calibration Factor

$$\text{Calibration Factor (CF)} = \frac{\text{area of peak}}{\text{mass purged (ng)}}$$

#### Equation 2: Relative Standard Deviation

$$\%RSD = \frac{\text{Stand Dev of 5 CFs}}{\text{Mean of 5 CFs}} \times 100$$

9.4.1.3 A collective calibration curve or factor must also be established for each hydrocarbon range of interest. Calculate the collective Calibration Factors (CF) for C5-C6, >C6-C8, >C8-C10 and >C10-C12 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons ranges using the FID chromatogram. Calculate the collective CF for the >C8-C10, >C10-C12 and C12-C13 Aromatic Hydrocarbons ranges using the PID chromatogram. Tabulate the summation of the peak areas of all components, the compounds which define the various ranges, in those fractions (e.g. C6-C8 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons, n-pentane and n-hexane or >C6 - C8, n-octane) against the total mass injected using Equation 3.

**Note: Do not include the area of any surrogate standard or internal standard in calculating a Range CF.**

#### Equation 3: Range Calibration Factor

$$\text{Range CF} = \frac{\text{Total area of peaks}}{\text{Total mass purged (ng)}}$$

9.4.1.4 At a minimum, the working calibration curve or calibration factor must be verified on each working day, and after every 20 samples, whichever is more frequent, by the injection of a mid-level calibration standard to verify instrument performance and linearity. If the percent difference (%D) for any targeted analyte response varies from the predicted response by more than  $\pm 15\%$ , as determined using Equation 4, a new calibration curve must be prepared for that analyte. Similarly, if the percent difference of the carbon range compound response varies from the predicted response by more than  $\pm 20\%$ , a new calibration curve must be prepared.

**Equation 4: Percent Difference (%D)**

$$\%D = \frac{\overline{CF} - CF_v}{\overline{CF}} \times 100$$

9.4.1.5 Targeted VPH Analytes and Aromatic Hydrocarbons ranges are quantitated on the PID chromatogram.

9.4.1.6 The Aliphatic Hydrocarbons ranges are quantitated on the FID chromatogram after subtraction of the collective concentrations of MTBE, and the BTEX compounds identified on the PID chromatogram from the collective concentration values of the C5 through C6 and C6 through C8 Aliphatic Hydrocarbon concentration values determined using the FID chromatogram. Similarly, the PID concentrations determined for the remaining aromatic ranges are subtracted from the FID concentrations for those ranges to yield the actual FID Aliphatic Hydrocarbon ranges values.

9.4.1.7 The concentration of specific analytes or hydrocarbon ranges in aqueous and non-aqueous samples may also be calculated from a calibration curve by use of linear regression analysis.

## 9.5 GC Analysis

9.5.1 Samples are analyzed in a set referred to as an analysis sequence. The sequence begins with instrument calibration followed by samples interspersed with blanks and QC samples. The analytical sequence ends must end with an acceptable calibration verification. If the final calibration verification is not acceptable, then all samples analyzed after the last acceptable calibration verification must either be reanalyzed or if this is not possible, then the data associated with those samples must be qualified as an “estimate quantity”.

9.5.2 Establish daily retention time windows for each analyte. Use the absolute retention time for each analyte as the midpoint of the window for that day. The daily retention time window equals the midpoint  $\pm$  three times the standard deviation determined in Section 9.3.

9.5.2.1 Tentative identification of an analyte occurs when a peak from a sample falls within the daily retention time window. In cases where interferences are suspected, confirmation on a second dissimilar GC column or by GC/MS analysis may be necessary.

9.5.2.3 Validation of GC system qualitative performance must be accomplished by the analysis of standards, generally mid-level, within the analysis sequence. If any of the standards fall outside their daily retention time window, the system is out of control. In such cases, the cause of the problem must be determined and corrected.

9.5.3 If the response for Targeted VPH Analytes exceeds the linear range of the system, dilute the sample and reanalyze. It is recommended that samples be diluted so that all peaks are on scale. Overlapping peaks are not always evident when peaks are off scale. Computer reproduction of chromatograms, manipulated to ensure that all peaks are on scale over a 100-fold range, are acceptable if linearity is demonstrated prior to the analysis of samples. Peak height measurements are recommended over peak area integration when overlapping peaks cause errors in area integration.

9.5.4 If detection of targeted analyte peaks are prevented by the presence of interferences, additional analytical techniques, e.g. GC/MS, are recommended.

9.5.5 Peak area and carbon range area quantification/integration must be from baseline (i.e. forced baseline projection which must include the unresolved complex mixture "hump" areas). The exception to this is the C5 through C6 Aliphatic Hydrocarbon range which, due to the use of capillary columns shorter than 100 meters and/or the purging of methanol volumes greater than 20 uL, may experience a lack of complete resolution between C5 (n-pentane) and methanol. In this event, the analyst is allowed to use tangential skim integration, or other suitable integration techniques, to integrate n-pentane, and subsequent hydrocarbons within the C5-C6 aliphatic range if it/they appear(s) on the trailing edge of the methanol solvent peak.

## 9.6 External Standard Calculations

The concentration of targeted analytes and hydrocarbon ranges in a sample may be determined by calculating the amount of analyte or hydrocarbon range purged, from the peak response, using the calibration curve or the calibration factor determined in Section 9.4.

### 9.6.1 Aqueous samples:

The general equation to determine the concentration of a specific analyte or hydrocarbon range in aqueous samples is provided in Equation 5.

#### Equation 5

$$\text{Concentration } (\mu\text{g} / \text{L}) = \frac{(A_x)(A)(D)}{(A_s)(V_s)}$$

where:

$A_x$  = Response for the analyte or hydrocarbon range in the sample, units may be in area counts or peak height.

$A$  = Amount of external standard purged, ng.

$D$  = Dilution factor; if no dilution was made,  $D = 1$ , dimensionless.

$A_s$  = Response for the external standard, units same as for  $A_x$ .

$V_s$  = Volume of sample purged, mL.

If a Calibration Factor is used, the concentration of a specific analyte or hydrocarbon range in an aqueous sample may be calculated using equations 6 and 7, respectively.

**Equation 6**

$$\text{Conc Analyte } (\mu\text{g} / \text{L}) = \frac{(A_x)(D)}{(V_s)(CF)}$$

**Equation 7**

$$\text{Conc HC Range } (\mu\text{g} / \text{L}) = \frac{(A_x)(D)}{(V_s)(\text{Range CF})}$$

where:

$A_x$  = Response for the analyte or hydrocarbon range in the sample, units may be in area counts or peak height.

$D$  = Dilution factor; if no dilution was made,  $D = 1$ , dimensionless.

$V_s$  = Volume of sample purged, mL.

$CF$  = Calibration Factor, area counts/ng.

Range CF = Calibration Factor for hydrocarbon range, (collective area count/collective mass), area counts/ng.

**9.6.2 Non-Aqueous Samples (Methanol Extraction):**

9.6.2.1 The general equation to determine the concentration of a specific analyte or hydrocarbon range in a soil or sediment sample is provided in Equation 8.

**Equation 8**

$$\text{Concentration } (\mu\text{g} / \text{kg}) = \frac{(A_x)(A)(V_t)(D)}{(A_s)(V_i)(W_d)}$$

where:

$A_x$  = Response for the analyte or hydrocarbon range in the sample, units may be in area counts or peak height.

$A$  = Amount of external standard purged, ng.

$V_t$  = Volume of total extract,  $\mu\text{L}$  (Note: this value must include the 1.0 mL surrogate spiking solution added to soil samples)

$D$  = Dilution factor; if no dilution was made,  $D = 1$ , dimensionless.

$A_s$  = Response for the external standard, units same as for  $A_x$ .

$V_i$  = Volume of methanol extract added to reagent water for purge and trap analysis,  $\mu\text{L}$ .

$W_d$  = Dry weight of sample purged, g (see equations 11 through 13)

If a Calibration Factor is used, the concentration of a specific analyte or hydrocarbon range in a soil or sediment sample may be calculated using Equations 9 and 10, respectively.

**Equation 9**

$$\text{Conc Analyte } (\mu\text{g} / \text{kg}) = \frac{(A_x)(V_t)(D)}{(V_i)(W_d)(CF)}$$

**Equation 10**

$$\text{Conc HC Range } (\mu\text{g} / \text{kg}) = \frac{(A_x)(V_t)(D)}{(V_i)(W_d)(\text{Range CF})}$$

where:

$V_t$  = Volume of total extract,  $\mu\text{L}$ .

$V_i$  = Volume of extract added for purging,  $\mu\text{L}$

$W_d$  = Dry Weight of sample purged, g (see Equations 11 through 13)

$A_x$ , CF, Range CF and D have the same definition as for aqueous samples.

#### 9.6.2.2 Calculation of Dry Weight of Sample

In order to calculate the dry weight of sample purged ( $W_d$ ), it is necessary to determine the moisture content of the soil/sediment sample, using the procedure outlined in Section 9.1.6. Using the data obtained from Section 9.1.6,  $W_d$  is calculated using Equations 11 through 13.

**Equation 11**

$$\% \text{ Moisture} = \frac{\text{g sample} - \text{g dry sample}}{\text{g sample}} \times 100$$

**Equation 12**

$$\% \text{ Dry Solids} = (1) - (\% \text{ Moisture})$$

**Equation 13**

$$W_d (\text{g}) = (\% \text{ Dry Solids})(\text{g of extracted sample})$$

9.6.3 The concentration of specific analytes or hydrocarbon ranges in aqueous and non-aqueous samples may also be calculated from the calibration curve by linear regression, provided that the correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) is at least 0.99 and the % D for any targeted analyte must not vary from the predicted response by more than  $\pm 15\%$ , nor any hydrocarbon range standard from its predicted response by more than  $\pm 20\%$ .

9.6.4 Peak areas measured from blanks may not be subtracted from sample peak areas.

9.6.5 All integration of collective hydrocarbon ranges must be to baseline.

9.6.6 Required Adjustment of Range Concentration Data: In order to minimize the "double counting" of the same hydrocarbon compounds on both the FID and PID chromatograms, the collective concentrations of MTBE, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and m, p, o-xylene identified on the PID chromatogram must be subtracted from the collective Aliphatic Hydrocarbon concentration values, for the ranges in which they elute, determined using the FID chromatogram. Similarly, the collective concentrations of the remaining aromatic ranges values determined on the PID chromatogram must be subtracted from the corresponding aliphatic ranges values determined on the FID chromatogram.

## 10.0 QUALITY CONTROL

### 10.1 General Requirements and Recommendations

10.1.1 Each laboratory that uses this method should operate a formal quality control program. The minimum requirements of this program consist of an initial demonstration of laboratory capability and an ongoing analysis of spiked samples to evaluate and document the quality of data. The laboratory must maintain records to document the quality of the data generated. Ongoing data quality checks are compared with established performance criteria to determine if the results of analyses meet the performance standards for the method. When results of sample spikes indicate atypical method performance, a quality control check standard must be analyzed to confirm that the measurements were performed in an in-control mode of operation.

10.1.2 A acidified reagent water blank should continually accompany each soil sample or water sample batch, respectively, over the course of sampling, storage, and analysis.

10.1.3 A Laboratory Method Blank should be run after samples suspected of being highly contaminated to determine if sample carryover has occurred.

10.1.4 At a minimum, for each analytical batch (up to 20 samples), a Laboratory Method Blank, Laboratory Fortified Blank, Laboratory Fortified Matrix Spike, and sample

duplicate must be analyzed. For analytical batches with more than 10 samples, the analysis of an additional mid-range calibration check standard is recommended. The blank and spiked samples must be carried through all stages of the sample preparation and measurement process.

10.1.5 The recommended sequence of analysis is as follows:

- (1) Calibration Standards (initial) or mid-range Calibration Check Standard (daily check on initial calibration)
- (2) Laboratory Method Blank
- (3) Samples
- (4) QC Samples
- (5) Mid-range Calibration Check Standard (also recommended after each 10 samples)

10.1.6 It is recommended that a system of control charts be developed to plot surrogate standard recoveries as a function of time. When surrogate recovery from a sample, blank, or QC sample is less than 60% or more than 140%, check calculations to locate possible errors, the fortifying solution for degradation, and changes in instrument performance. If the cause cannot be determined, the analyst may reanalyze the sample or report the surrogate values as outside acceptance limits.

## 10.2 Minimum Instrument QC

10.2.1 While it is recommended that the n-pentane (C5) peak be adequately resolved from the methanol solvent on the FID chromatogram, the analyst is allowed to follow the guidance as outlined in 9.5.5. Coelution of the m- and p- xylene isomers is permissible. Any surrogates and/or internal standards used must be adequately resolved from individual compounds in the VPH Component Standard.

10.2.2 Retention time windows must be established for each analyte of interest each time a new GC column is installed, and must be verified and/or adjusted on a daily basis. (See Section 9.3)

10.2.3 Calibration curves must be developed based upon the analysis of calibration standards prepared at a minimum of 5 concentration levels. The linearity of calibration or response factors may be assumed if the percent relative standard deviation (%RSD) over the working range of the curve is less than or equal to 20%. Alternatively, if linear regression analysis is used for quantitation, the correlation coefficient (r) must be at least 0.99 and no targeted analyte or carbon range standard may vary from the true value by more than +/- 15% and +/- 20% respectively. (See Section 9.4.)

## 10.3 Initial and Periodic Method QC Demonstrations

The following must be conducted as an initial demonstration of laboratory capability, prior to the analysis of any samples. Subsequent to this initial demonstration, additional evaluations of this nature should be conducted on a periodic basis, in response to changes in instrumentation or operations, and/or in response to confirmed or suspected systems, method, or operational problems.

#### 10.3.1 Accuracy and Precision

To demonstrate initial laboratory capability, analyze a minimum of four replicate reagent water and/or clean sand blanks spiked with each analyte of interest at approximately 20 to 60 µg/L and/or 20 to 60 mg/kg, respectively.

10.3.1.1 Add an appropriate aliquot of the stock or primary dilution standard solution(s) to each of the four replicate reagent water or clean sand blanks. Purge and analyze each replicate according to the procedures described in Section 9.0.

10.3.1.2 Calculate the measured concentrations of each analyte in all replicates, the mean accuracy (as a percentage of true value) for each analyte, and the precision (as %RSD) of the measurements for each analyte.

10.3.1.3 For each analyte, the mean accuracy, expressed as a percentage of the true value, must be between 80% and 120%. For each analyte, the %RSD must be less than or equal to 20%.

10.3.1. If desired, the Accuracy and Precision evaluation may be combined with the MDL evaluation specified in Paragraph 10.3.2.

#### 10.3.2 Method Detection Limits (Optional)

Analyze a minimum of seven replicate reagent water and/or clean sand blanks which have been fortified with all analytes of interest at approximately 0.5 to 5 µg/L and/or 1 to 5 mg/kg, respectively. Calculate the Method Detection Limit (MDL) of each analyte using the procedure described in Section 12.0.

10.3.2.1 Water MDLs are determined by analyzing 7 to 10 replicates of reagent water samples in 100-mL flasks spiked with the VPH Component standard and with 40 µg/L of the surrogate compound 2,5-dibromotoluene.

10.3.2.2 Soil/sediment MDLs are determined by analyzing 7-10 replicates of 5 -g of VPH-free sand blanks spiked with the VPH Component standard and with 2 mg/kg of the surrogate 2,5-dibromotoluene.

### 10.3.3 Petroleum Reference Standard

As an optional demonstration of the validity and relevance of VPH calibration, analyze a reagent water and/or clean sand blank spiked with a known concentration of a neat gasoline product.

10.3.3.1 Fortify a reagent water and/or clean sand blank with 5  $\mu$ L and/or 0.5 mL of the Petroleum Standard Spiking Solution, respectively. Purge and analyze in accordance with the procedures outlined in Section 9.0.

10.3.3.2 Calculate the total concentration of all petroleum hydrocarbons within the Aliphatic Hydrocarbon ranges using the FID chromatogram. Add these values together. Do not subtract the concentration of Targeted VPH analytes.

10.3.3.3 The concentration calculated in Paragraph 10.3.3.2 is expected to be within 30% +/- of the known concentration of Petroleum Standard in the reagent water or sand blank.

## 10.4 Ongoing Method QC Demonstrations

10.4.1 Each sample, blank, and matrix spike must be spiked with the surrogate spiking solution. Required surrogate recovery is 60% to 140%.

10.4.2 At a minimum, with every batch of 20 samples or less the laboratory must analyze the following:

**10.4.2.1 Calibration Check Standard** - A mid-range calibration standard, prepared from the same stock standard solution used to develop the calibration curve, must be analyzed prior to sample analysis to verify the calibration state of the instrument. For large analytical batches that contain more than 10 samples, the analysis of an additional mid-range calibration check standard is recommended after the analysis of the tenth sample. If the percent difference (% D) of any analyte within the calibration check standard varies from the predicted response by more than 20 %, a new calibration curve must be prepared for that analyte.

**10.4.2.2 Laboratory Method Blank** - A water or soil laboratory method blank is prepared by fortifying a 5 mL reagent water blank with 4  $\mu$ L of the surrogate spiking solution, or by fortifying a 5 g sample of clean sand with 1.0 mL of the surrogate spiking solution. Peaks within the retention time windows of any hydrocarbon ranges of interest may not be present at or above the lowest calculated PQL for any sample within its batch. When determining the PQL for soil method blanks, incorporate the lowest percent solids value found for any sample within its batch in the calculation.

**10.4.2.3 Laboratory Fortified Blank (LFB)** - A water or soil component spike is prepared by fortifying a 5 mL reagent water blank with 4  $\mu$ L of the matrix spiking solution, or by fortifying a 5 g sample of clean sand with 1.0 mL of the matrix spiking solution. The spike recovery must be between 70% and 130% and if these values can not be obtained the analyst must identify and correct the problem before analyses can continue.

**10.4.2.4 Sample duplicates** - Sample duplicates may be laboratory or field duplicates. The RPD of duplicate samples should not exceed +/- 25%. The lack of sample homogeneity may contribute to RPD's for duplicates which exceed this value. Should the values exceed 25%, the analyst must report that occurrence.

**10.4.2.5 Laboratory Fortified Matrix (LFM) Spike** - The water or soil LFM spike is prepared by fortifying an actual 5 mL water sample with 4  $\mu$ L of the matrix spiking solution, or by fortifying an actual 5 g soil/sediment sample with 1.0 mL of the matrix spiking solution. The purpose

of the LFM is to determine whether the sample matrix contributes bias to the analytical results. The background concentrations of the analytes in the sample matrix must be determined in a separate aliquot and the measured values in the LFM corrected for background concentrations. The corrected concentrations of each analyte within the matrix spiking solution must be within 70 - 130% of the true value. Should the values determined exceed this range, the analyst must report that occurrence.

- 10.4.3 If any of the performance standards specified in Section 10.4 are not met, the problem must be corrected before further samples are analyzed. Exceptions to this are duplicate samples RPD's and high recoveries for LFM spikes which, due to sample non-homogeneity may exceed the allowable limits. Any samples run between the last calibration check standard that meets the criteria and one that does not must be rerun. If this is not possible, that data must be reported as an "estimated concentration".

## 11.0 DATA PRODUCTION AND REPORTING

### 11.1 Sample Analysis

#### 11.11 PID Chromatogram

- 11.1.1.1 Determine the peak area count for the Targeted VPH Analytes.
- 11.1.1.2 Determine the peak area count for the surrogate 2,5-dibromotoluene.
- 11.1.1.3 Separately determine the total area count for all peaks eluting 0.1 minutes after the Rt's for toluene through 0.1 minutes after the Rt for 1,2,3-trimethylbenzene, for all peaks eluting 0.1 minutes after the retention time (Rt) for 1,2,3-trimethylbenzene and 0.1 minutes after the retention time for naphthalene and for all peaks eluting 0.1 minutes after the Rt for naphthalene through 0.1 minutes after the Rt of 1-methylnaphthalene.
- 11.1.1.4 Using the equations contained in Section 9.6 or linear regression analysis, calculate the concentrations of the Targeted VPH Analytes, the surrogate standard 2,5-dibromotoluene, and >C8 through C10, >C10 through C12 and >C12 through C13 Aromatic Hydrocarbons.

### 11.2.1 FID Chromatogram

- 11.2.1.1 Separately determine the total area count for all peaks eluting 0.1 minutes before the retention time (Rt) for n-pentane to 0.1 minutes after the Rt for n-hexane and for all peaks eluting 0.1 minutes after the Rt for n-hexane to 0.1 minutes after the Rt for n-octane. It is not necessary to identify or quantitate individual aliphatic compounds within these ranges.
- 11.2.1.2 Determine the total area count for all peaks eluting 0.1 minutes after the Rt for n-octane to 0.1 minutes after the Rt for n-decane and 0.1 minutes after n-decane to 0.1 minutes after n-dodecane. It is not necessary to identify or quantitate individual aliphatic compounds within this range.
- 11.2.1.3 Determine the peak area count for the surrogate standard 2,5-dibromotoluene.
- 11.2.1.4 Using the equations contained in Section 9.6 or linear regression analysis, calculate the concentrations of C5 through C6 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons, >C6 through C8 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons, >C8 through C10 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons, >C10 through C12 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons and the surrogate standard 2,5-dibromotoluene.
- 11.2.1.5 To avoid "double counting" of the same analytes, adjust the concentrations of Aliphatic Hydrocarbons calculated in Paragraph 11.2.1.4 by subtracting the collective concentrations of methyl tert butylether, benzene, toluene, >C8 through C10 and >C10 through C12 Aromatic Hydrocarbons, as determined from the PID chromatogram in Section 11.11, from the Aliphatic Hydrocarbon range values effected.

### 11.3 **Data Reporting Format**

- 11.3.1 The following information and data must be reported:
- 11.3.1.1 The sample matrix (aqueous, soil or sediment);
- 11.3.1.2 The date(s) the sample was collected, received by the laboratory, and analyzed;
- 11.3.1.3 A description of the sample(s) received by the laboratory, relative to the physical condition of the containers, the temperature of the samples, and use of appropriate preservatives;
- 11.3.1.4 Moisture content (for soil/sediment samples);

11.3.1.5 The calculated concentrations of C5 through C6, C6 through C8, C8 through C10 and C10 through C12 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons ranges and C8 through C10, C10 through C12 and C12 through C13 Aromatic Hydrocarbons ranges

11.3.1.6 Surrogate recovery (expressed as percent recovery);

11.3.1.7 The calculated concentrations of Targeted VPH Analytes determined

11.3.1.8 The concentration units for aqueous samples are expressed as ug/L or mg/L and for soil or sediment samples the units are expressed as ug/Kg or mg/Kg on a dry-weight basis.

## 12.0 METHOD PERFORMANCE

### 12.1 Method Detection Limits (Optional)

12.1.1 The method detection limit (MDL) is defined as the minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99% confidence that the value is above zero. The MDL actually achieved in a given analysis will vary depending on instrument sensitivity and matrix effects.

12.1.2 The MDL is determined according to the following equation:

#### Equation 14

$$MDL = (t) \times (SD)$$

where:

t = student t value at the 99% confidence level

SD = standard deviation of the replicate analysis

Student t values are as follows:

Number of replicates	t value
7	3.14
8	3.00
9	2.90
10	2.82

12.1.3 For the purposes of this method, the designated MDL value for a hydrocarbon range of interest shall be the highest value calculated for the individual analytes within that hydrocarbon range.

## 12.2 Single Laboratory Accuracy, Precision, and MDL Data

Single laboratory accuracy, precision and MDL data for method analytes are provided in Tables 1-1 through 1-4 in Appendix 1. Additional investigation will be conducted to further evaluate the low recoveries for naphthalene.

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**METHOD FOR THE DETERMINATION  
OF  
EXTRACTABLE PETROLEUM  
HYDROCARBONS  
(EPH) FRACTIONS**

**Washington State Department of Ecology**

**June 1997**

**METHOD FOR THE DETERMINATION OF  
EXTRACTABLE PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS (EPH)**

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APPENDIX 3 - Single Laboratory Accuracy, Precision, and Method detection Limits

APPENDIX 4 - Suggested EPH Data Reporting Format

### DISCLAIMER

Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute endorsement by the Washington State Department of Ecology. Equipment and materials cited in this method may be replaced by similar products, as long as adequate data exists or has been produced documenting equivalent or superior performance.

## METHOD FOR THE DETERMINATION OF EXTRACTABLE PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS

### 1.0 SCOPE AND APPLICATION

- 1.1 This method is designed to measure the collective concentrations of extractable aliphatic and aromatic petroleum hydrocarbons in water and soil. **The carbon ranges used through out this document are given in equivalent carbon numbers (EC) which are related to the boiling point of a chemical normalized to the boiling point of the n-alkanes and its retention time in a boiling point gas chromatographic column.** Extractable aliphatic hydrocarbons are collectively quantitated within five ranges: C8 through C10, >C10 through C12, >C12 through C16, >C16 through C21 and >C21 through C34. Extractable aromatic hydrocarbons are collectively quantitated within five ranges: C8 through C10, >C10 through C12, >C12 through C16, >C16 through C21 and >C21 through C34. These aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbon ranges correspond to a boiling point range between approximately 150 °C and 500 °C.
- 1.2 Petroleum products suitable for evaluation by this method include, but are not limited to, kerosene and jet fuels, diesel and fuel oils and hydraulic, insulating and lubricating oils. This method, in and of itself, is not suitable for the evaluation of gasoline, mineral spirits, petroleum naphthas, and other petroleum products which contain a significant percentage of hydrocarbons lighter than C10. When samples are known or suspected to contain petroleum hydrocarbons of these or similar types, the Volatile Petroleum Hydrocarbon (VPH) method must also be employed to fully evaluate the hydrocarbons present.
- 1.3 For reporting purposes, the practical quantitation limits (PQL), given the sample volume/mass, final extract volume and assuming 100 percent solids for soil/sediments are: 50.0 ug/L for aliphatic and aromatic carbon ranges in water and 5.0 mg/Kg for these components in soil. If lower quantitation limits are desired, the analyst is allowed to extract larger volumes/masses and/or concentrate the extracts to smaller volumes prior to analysis. The procedure for Method Detection Limits

(MDL) determination in this method and the Single Laboratory Precision, Accuracy and MDL data (generated by State of Massachusetts) is added for informational purposes only.

- 1.4 This method is based on a solvent extraction, silica gel fractionation process and gas chromatography (GC) analysis using a flame ionization detector (FID). This procedure should be used by, or under the supervision of, analysts experienced in extractable organics analysis. Analysts using this method should be skilled in the interpretation of gas chromatograms and their use as a quantitative tool.
- 1.5 Like all GC procedures, this method is subject to a "false positive" bias, in that non-hydrocarbon compounds eluting or co-eluting within a specified retention time window may be falsely identified and/or quantitated with the respective carbon ranges. While the cleanup procedure specified in this method to segregate aliphatic and aromatic fractions will serve to mitigate this concern, confirmatory analyses by gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS) analysis, EPA Method 8270, or other suitable techniques are recommended in cases where significant concentrations of non-hydrocarbon compounds are known or suspected. Non-petroleum compounds identified and quantitated by GC/MS may be subtracted from the carbon ranges affected as long as the quantity and identities of the compounds are reported along with the carbon range data.

## 2.0 SUMMARY OF METHOD

- 2.1 A sample submitted for EPH analysis is extracted with methylene chloride, dried over sodium sulfate, solvent exchanged into hexane, and concentrated. Sample cleanup and separation into aliphatic and aromatic fractions is conducted using a modification of EPA method 3630 (silica gel cleanup). The use of commercially available silica gel cartridges (Sep-Pak cartridges, Waters, Milford, MA) may be substituted for the silica gel column outlined in method 3630 if they can be shown to achieve comparable results. The two extracts produced are then concentrated to final volumes of 10 mL each (i.e., an aliphatic extract and an aromatic extract) and are then separately analyzed by a gas chromatograph equipped with a capillary column and a flame ionization detector. The resultant chromatogram of aliphatic compounds is collectively integrated within the C8 through C10, >C10 through C12, >C12 through C16, >C16 through C21 and >C21 through C34 aliphatic hydrocarbon ranges. The resultant chromatogram of aromatic compounds is collectively integrated within the C8 through C10, >C10 through C12, >C12 through C16, >C16 through C21 and >C21 through C34 ranges.
- 2.2 Average calibration factors or response factors determined using an aliphatic hydrocarbon standard mixture are used to calculate the collective concentrations of the different aliphatic hydrocarbons ranges. An average calibration factor or response factor determined using the aromatic hydrocarbon standard mixture is used to calculate a collective concentrations of the aromatic hydrocarbon ranges.

- 2.3 This method is suitable for the analysis of waters, soils, and sediments.
- 2.4 This method is based on, and constitutes a significant modification of, the “Method for the Determination of Extractable Petroleum Hydrocarbons (EPH)” Public Comment Draft 1.0 developed by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. They in turn based their method on (1) USEPA Methods 8000, 8100, and 3630, SW-846, "Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste", 3rd Edition, 1986; (2) Draft "Method for Determination of Diesel Range Organics", EPA UST Workgroup, November, 1990; and (3) "Method for Determining Diesel Range Organics", Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, PUBL-SW-141, 1992.

**Table 1. Aromatic Hydrocarbon Standard**

Equivalent Carbon Number	Compound
7.6	Toluene
10.1	1,2,3-Trimethylbenzene
11.7	Naphthalene
15.5	Acenaphthene
Surrogate	Ortho-Terphenyl
20.8	Pyrene
34.01	Benzo(g,h,i)Perylene

**Table 2. Aliphatic Hydrocarbon Standard**

Carbon Number	Compound
8	Octane
10	Decane
12	Dodecane
16	Hexadecane
Surrogate	1-Chloro-octadecane
21	Henicosane
34	Tetratriacontane

### 3.0 DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 **Extractable Petroleum Hydrocarbons (EPH)** are defined as all hydrocarbon compounds eluting from toluene through benzo(g,h,i)perylene. EPH is comprised of C8 through C10, >C10 through C12, >C12 through C16, >C16 through C21 and >C21 through C34 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons and C8 through C10, >C10 through C12, >C12 through C16, >C16 through C21 and >C21 through C34 Aromatic Hydrocarbons. EPH concentration data are reported as the aggregate concentration of the aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbon ranges.
- 3.2 **Equivalent Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (E-TPH)** For samples contaminated with petroleum products in the C10 to C34 range, the E-TPH value is equivalent to the EPH value. For samples contaminated with a petroleum product(s) containing significant concentrations of hydrocarbons lighter and heavier than C10, (e.g., contaminated with both gasoline and diesel fuel), the E-TPH value is a summation of the EPH value and the Volatile Petroleum Hydrocarbon (VPH) value. In order to avoid double counting of analytes due to the overlap in the carbon ranges existing between the two methods, the analyst will report the highest of the two values determined for the overlapping ranges. In those cases where both the VPH and EPH methods are employed on samples, the analyst may select to quantitate the >C10 through C12 Aliphatic and the >C10 through C12 Aromatic Hydrocarbon ranges by the EPH method only. Similarly, the analyst may select to quantitate the C8 through C10 Aromatic and C8 through C10 Aliphatic Hydrocarbon ranges by the VPH method only.
- 3.3 **C8 through C10 Aromatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all of the aromatic hydrocarbon compounds eluting from (and including) toluene through 1,2,3-trimethylbenzene.
- 3.4 **>C10 through C12 Aromatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all aromatic hydrocarbon compounds eluting after 1,2,3-trimethylbenzene through naphthalene.
- 3.5 **>C12 through C16 Aromatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all aromatic hydrocarbon compounds eluting after naphthalene through acenaphthene.
- 3.6 **>C16 through C21 Aromatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all aromatic hydrocarbons compounds eluting after acenaphthene through pyrene.
- 3.7 **>C21 through C34 Aromatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all aromatic hydrocarbons compounds eluting after pyrene through benzo(g,h,i)perylene.
- 3.8 **C8 through C10 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all aliphatic hydrocarbon compounds eluting from (and including) n-octane (n-C8) through n-decane (n-C10).
- 3.9 **>C10 through C12 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all aliphatic hydrocarbon compounds eluting after n-decane through n-dodecane (n-C12).

- 3.10 **>C12 through C16 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all aliphatic hydrocarbon compounds eluting after n-dodecane through n-hexadecane (nC16)
- 3.11 **>C16 through C21 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all aliphatic hydrocarbons eluting after n-hexadecane through n-henicosane (nC21).
- 3.12 **>C21 through C34 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons** are defined as all aliphatic hydrocarbons eluting after n-henicosane through tetratriacontane (nC34).
- 3.13 **Aromatic Hydrocarbon Standard** is defined as a 6 component mixture (plus surrogate) of the aromatic hydrocarbons listed in Table 1. The compounds comprising the Aromatic Hydrocarbon Standard are used to (a) define and establish the windows for the Aromatic Hydrocarbon ranges, and (b) determine chromatographic response factors that can in turn be used to calculate the collective concentration of aromatic hydrocarbons in environmental samples within those hydrocarbon ranges.
- 3.14 **Aliphatic Hydrocarbon Standard** is defined as a 6 component mixture (plus surrogate) of the normal alkanes listed in Table 2. The compounds comprising the Aliphatic Hydrocarbon Standard are used to (a) define and establish windows for the aliphatic hydrocarbons ranges, and (b) determine chromatographic response factors that can in turn be used to calculate the collective concentration of aliphatic hydrocarbons in environmental samples within those hydrocarbon ranges.
- 3.15 **Analytical Batch** is defined as a group of samples with similar matrices which are processed as a unit. For Quality Control purposes, if the number of samples in such a group is greater than 20, then each group of 20 samples or less are defined as separate analytical batches.
- 3.16 **Laboratory Duplicates** are defined as split samples taken from the same sampling container and analyzed separately with identical procedures. The analysis of laboratory duplicates give a measure of the precision associated with laboratory procedures, but not with sample collection, preservation, or storage procedures.
- 3.17 **Field Duplicates** are defined as two separate samples collected at the same time and location under identical circumstances and managed the same throughout field and laboratory procedures. Analyses of field duplicates give a measure of the precision associated with sample collection, preservation and storage, as well as laboratory procedures.
- 3.18 **E-TPH Duplicates** are defined as two separate samples collected at the same time and location, for analysis by both EPH and VPH methods. E-TPH duplicates are taken at locations where significant concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons lighter and heavier than C10 are likely to be present (e.g., locations contaminated by releases of both gasoline and diesel fuel). The resultant EPH and VPH concentrations are then summed to determine the Equivalent TPH (E-TPH) concentration.

- 3.19 **Calibration Standards** are defined as a series of standard solutions prepared from dilutions of a stock standard solution, containing known concentrations of each analyte and surrogate compounds of interest.
- 3.20 **Calibration Check Standard** is defined as a calibration standard used to periodically check the calibration state of an instrument. The calibration check standard is prepared from the same stock standard solution as calibration standards, and is generally one of the mid-level range calibration standard dilutions.
- 3.21 **Matrix Spiking Solution** is defined as a solution which is generally prepared independently from the calibration standards and which contain known concentrations of method analytes.
- 3.22 **Laboratory Method Blank** is defined as, depending on the matrix of the samples, either reagent water or clean sand spiked with a surrogate standard. The laboratory method blank is treated identically as with samples, exposed to all glassware, solvents, reagents, and equipment. A laboratory method blank is analyzed with every batch of samples, to determine if method analytes or other interferences are present in the laboratory environment, reagents, or equipment.
- 3.23 **Laboratory Fortified Blank (LFB)** is defined as, depending on the matrix of the samples, either reagent water or clean sand blank fortified with a matrix spiking solution. The LFB is treated and analyzed identically as with samples and blanks and its purpose is to determine whether the methodology is in control and whether the laboratory is capable of making accurate and precise measurements at the required practical quantitation limits.
- 3.24 **Laboratory Fortified Matrix (LFM) Sample** is defined as an environmental sample which has been spiked with a matrix spiking solution containing known concentrations of method analytes. The LFM sample is treated and analyzed exactly as with samples and its purpose is to determine whether the sample matrix contributes bias to the analytical results. The background concentration of analytes in the sample matrix must be determined through the separate analyses of a laboratory or field duplicate, and the measured values in the LFM sample corrected for background concentrations.
- 3.25 All other terms are as defined in SW-846, "Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste", USEPA, September, 1986, and as amended.

#### 4.0 INTERFERENCES

- 4.1 Method interferences are reduced by washing all glassware with hot soapy water and then rinsing with warm tap water, acetone, and methylene chloride.
- 4.2 High purity reagents must be used to minimize interference problems.

- 4.3 Contamination by carryover can occur whenever high-level and low-level samples are sequentially analyzed. Whenever an unusually concentrated sample is analyzed, it should be followed by the analysis of a solvent blank to check for cross-contamination.
- 4.4 Matrix interferences may be caused by contaminants that are coextracted along with the analytes of interest from the sample. The type and extent of matrix interference will vary considerably from one source to another depending upon the nature and diversity of the site being sampled and may include certain solvents, halogenated hydrocarbons and phthalate esters. A silica gel cleanup procedure is used to overcome many of these interferences however, some samples may require additional cleanup procedures/approaches or analytical techniques, e.g. gel permeation chromatography and/or GC/MS, which are beyond the scope of this method.

## 5.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES

The toxicity and carcinogenicity of each reagent used in this method has not been precisely defined. However, each chemical compound should be treated as a potential health hazard. From this viewpoint, exposure to these chemicals must be reduced to the lowest possible level by whatever means available. The laboratory is responsible for maintaining a current awareness file of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations regarding the safe handling of the chemicals specified in this method. A reference file of material safety data sheets (MSDS) should also be made available to all personnel involved in the chemical analysis.

## 6.0 APPARATUS AND MATERIALS

6.1 The following glassware is used for this method:

6.1.1 1-L amber glass bottles

6.1.2 4 oz. (120 mL) amber glass wide-mouth jars

6.1.3 Vials:

6.1.3.1 autosampler: 2-mL glass vials with Teflon-lined rubber crimp caps

6.1.3.2 10-mL vials with Teflon-lined caps

6.1.4 Glass funnels

6.1.5 2-L Separatory funnels with Teflon stopcock

6.1.6 Kuderna-Danish apparatus including 10-mL concentrator tube, 500-mL Evaporative flask, & 3-ball Snyder column

6.1.7 Chromatographic column: 250 mm long x 10 mm I.D. with teflon stopcock

6.1.8 Disposable pipets: Pasteur

6.1.9 25-mL graduated cylinder

6.1.10 1-Liter graduated cylinder

6.1.11 100-mL beakers

6.1.12 25-mL volumetric flasks

6.2 Analytical balance: An analytical balance capable of accurately weighing 0.0001 g must be used for weighing standards. A top-loading balance capable of weighing to the nearest 0.1 g must be used for weighing soil samples.

6.3 A nitrogen blowdown apparatus for use in concentrating extracts.

#### 6.4 Gas Chromatography

6.4.1 Gas Chromatograph: An analytical system complete with temperature programmable gas chromatograph for use with capillary columns is required. The data station must be capable of storing and reintegrating chromatographic data and must be capable of determining peak areas using a forced baseline projection.

6.4.2 Recommended Column: 30-m long x 0.32-mm I.D., 0.25- $\mu$ m film DB-5 column (J&W Scientific) or equivalent. This column will allow for the adequate resolution of alkanes from n-C8 to n-C34.

6.4.3 Detector: A Flame Ionization Detector (FID).

6.4.4 Autosampler: An autosampler capable of making 1 to 2  $\mu$ L injections is recommended.

6.5 Water bath: heated with a concentric ring covers, capable of temperature control ( $\pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ). The bath should be used in a hood.

6.6 Microsyringes: 10- $\mu$ L, 100- $\mu$ L, 250- $\mu$ L, 500- $\mu$ L, 1000- $\mu$ L

6.7 Boiling Chips: glass or teflon, precleaned prior to use

6.8 Soxhlet or Sonication extraction apparatus

6.9 Drying oven

## 7.0 REAGENTS AND STANDARDS

### 7.1 Reagents

7.1.1 Reagent Water: organic free water

7.1.2 Solvents: hexane, methylene chloride, and acetone; pesticide grade or better. Store away from other solvents.

7.1.3 Sodium sulfate: (ACS) granular, anhydrous. Purify by heating at 400°C for 4 hours in a shallow tray.

7.1.4 Ottawa and/or masonry sand: free of extractable petroleum hydrocarbons.

7.1.5 Silica gel: 100/200 mesh (Davison Chemical grade 923 or equivalent). Heat to 150-160 °C for several hours before use. Silica Gel Sep-Pak Cartridges: 5 g/20-mL (Waters, Milford, MA) , if it is demonstrated to give equivalent separations.

### 7.2 Stock Standard Solutions

Prepare stock standard solutions at approximately 1000 ng/μL, or purchase as certified solutions.

7.2.1 Aromatic Hydrocarbon Standard: The Aromatic Hydrocarbon Standard consists of the 6 aromatic compounds listed in Table 1 and a surrogate compound. Prepare stock standard solutions by accurately weighing approximately 0.0100 g of pure material. Dissolve the material in methylene chloride and dilute to volume in a 10-mL volumetric flask. The use of commercially prepared stock standards solutions is an acceptable alternative to the use of neat material. The analyst is allowed to prepare a separate surrogate solution.

7.2.2 Aliphatic Hydrocarbon Standard: The Aliphatic Hydrocarbon Standard consists of the 6 normal alkanes listed in Table 2 and a surrogate compound. Prepare stock standard solutions by accurately weighing approximately 0.0100 g of pure material. Dissolve the material in hexane and dilute to volume in a 10-mL volumetric flask. The use of commercially prepared stock standard solutions is an acceptable alternative to the use of neat material. The analyst is allowed to prepare a separate surrogate solution.

7.2.3 Petroleum Reference Standard: The use of a Petroleum Reference Standard is recommended for quality control purposes. The Petroleum Reference Standard consists of an API or commercial diesel, fuel oil, kerosene, and/or lubricating oil. Prepare stock standard solutions by accurately weighing approximately 0.0100 g of neat product. Dissolve neat product in hexane and dilute to volume in a 10-mL volumetric flask.

### 7.3 Surrogate Standards

- 7.3.1 The recommended surrogate standards are chloro-octadecane (COD, available from Restek Corporation, Bellefonte, PA) and ortho-terphenyl (OTP, available from EM Sciences, Gibbstown, NJ). Additional surrogates or surrogates other than those listed above may be used at the discretion of the analyst as long as their performance in the method is demonstrated as acceptable. Preparation and use of those surrogates will be in the same manner as the listed surrogate.
- 7.3.2 The surrogate standard COD is prepared by accurately weighing approximately 0.0100 g of pure material in a 10-mL volumetric flask. Dissolve the material in hexane. This solution is added to the Aliphatic Hydrocarbon standard.
- 7.3.3 The surrogate standard OTP is prepared by accurately weighing approximately 0.0100 g of pure material in a 10-mL volumetric flask. Dissolve the material in methylene chloride. This solution is added to the Aromatic Hydrocarbon standard.
- 7.3.4 Surrogate Spiking Solution: The recommended surrogate spiking solution is comprised of a mixture of the COD and OTP surrogate standards. Prepare a surrogate spiking solution which contains the surrogate standards at a concentration of 20 ng/ $\mu$ L in acetone. Each sample, blank, and matrix spike is fortified with 1.0 mL of the surrogate spiking solution.

### 7.4 Internal Standard

If an internal standard method of calibration is to be used, the recommended internal standard is 5-alpha-androstane (EM Sciences, Gibbstown, NJ).

### 7.5 Matrix Spike Standard

- 7.5.1 Four or more analytes from each analyte group (i.e., aromatic and aliphatic hydrocarbons) are selected for use in a matrix spiking solution, which is prepared independently from the calibration standards.
- 7.5.2 The recommended spiking solution, consisting of C10, C12, C16 and C21 normal alkanes and naphthalene, acenaphthene, anthracene, pyrene, benzo(a)pyrene and benzo(g,h,i)perylene, is prepared in acetone at concentrations of 25 ng/ $\mu$ L.
- 7.5.3 The samples selected as the matrix spike are fortified with 1.0 mL of the matrix spiking solution.

### 7.6 Fractionation Check Solution

- 7.6.1 The Fractionation Check Solution is used to monitor the fractionation efficiency of different batches (lot numbers) of silica gel used to prepare the silica gel hydrocarbon fractionation columns (and Sep-Pak cartridges if used) as well as check for sample preparation errors (e.g., insufficient/excessive pentane use).
- 7.6.2 Prepare a Fractionation Check Solution in hexane containing 25 ng/ $\mu$ L each of the n-C8, n-C10, n-C12, n-C16, n-C21, and n-C34 alkanes) and 25 ng/ $\mu$ L each of naphthalene, acenaphthylene, acenaphthene, fluorene, phenanthrene, anthracene, fluoranthene, pyrene, benzo(a)anthracene, chrysene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(k)fluoranthene, benzo(a)pyrene, indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene and benzo(g,h,i)perylene. The final solution will contain 6 alkanes and 16 PAHs at concentrations of 25 ng/ $\mu$ L each. The use of commercially available check solutions containing these compounds is acceptable.

## 8.0 SAMPLE COLLECTION, PRESERVATION, AND HANDLING

- 8.1 Aqueous samples are collected in 1 liter amber glass bottles with teflon-lined screw caps.
- 8.2 Soil and sediment samples are collected in 4 oz. (120 mL) amber wide-mouth glass jars with teflon-lined screw caps.
- 8.3 Aqueous samples must be preserved at the time of sampling by the addition of an acid to reduce the pH of the sample to less than 2.0. This is accomplished by the addition of approximately 5 mL of 1:1 HCl to a 1 liter sample. Following collection and the addition of acid, the sample must be cooled to 4°C.
- 8.4 Soil and sediment samples must be cooled to 4°C immediately after collection.
- 8.5 A chain of custody form must accompany all aqueous, soil and sediment samples, documenting the time and date of sampling and any preservative additions.
- 8.6 Aqueous, soil and/or sediment samples must be extracted within 14 days of collection. If for whatever reason aqueous samples were not preserved at the time of collection they must be extracted within 7 days of collection. Both aqueous and soil/sediment extracts must be analyzed within 40 days of extraction.
- 8.7 A summary of sample collection, preservation, and holding times is provided in Table 3.

**Table 3. Holding Times and Preservatives for EPH Samples**

Matrix	Container	Preservation	Holding Time
Aqueous Samples	1-Liter amber glass bottle with Teflon-lined screw cap	Add 5 mL of 1:1 HCl; cool to 4°C	Samples must be extracted within 14 days and extracts analyzed within 40 days
Soil/Sediments Samples	4-oz. (120 mL) wide mouth amber glass jar with Teflon-lined screw cap	Cool to 4°C	Samples must be extracted within 14 days and extracts analyzed within 40 days

## 9.0 PROCEDURE

### 9.1 Sample Preparation

#### 9.1.1 Water Extraction

9.1.1.1 Mark the water meniscus on the side of the 1 liter of sample bottle (for later volume determination) and transfer the water to a 2-liter separatory funnel. For blanks and quality control samples, pour 1 liter of reagent water into the separatory funnel. Add 1.0 mL of the surrogate spiking solution to all samples, blanks and matrix spikes. For the sample in each analytical batch selected for spiking, add 1.0 mL of the matrix spiking solution.

9.1.1.2 Check the pH of the sample with wide-range pH paper. Note the pH in the laboratory notebook. The pH of the sample need not be adjusted.

9.1.1.3 Add 60 mL methylene chloride to the sample bottle to rinse the inner walls of the container, then add this solvent to the separatory funnel.

9.1.1.4 Seal and shake the separatory funnel vigorously for 1 to 2 minutes with periodic venting to release excess pressure.

**NOTE: Methylene chloride creates excessive pressure very rapidly; therefore, venting should be done immediately after the separatory funnel has been sealed and shaken once.**

9.1.1.5 Allow the organic layer to separate from the water phase for a minimum of 5 minutes. If the emulsion interface between layers is more than one-third the size of the solvent layer, the analyst must employ mechanical techniques to complete the phase separation. The optimum technique depends upon the sample and may include stirring, filtration of the emulsion through glass wool, centrifugation, or other physical methods.

Collect the solvent extract in an 500ml Kuderna-Danish (K-D) evaporation flask to which is attached a 10 mL concentrator tube..

9.1.1.6 Repeat the extraction two more times using fresh portions of solvent and adding the solvent extracts to the KD flask. (Steps 9.1.1.3 to 9.1.1.5) The use of continuous liquid-liquid extraction (EPA method 3520) is an acceptable alternative to the separatory funnel extraction method described above.

9.1.1.7 For sample volume determination add water to the sample bottle to the level of the meniscus previously marked then transfer this water to a graduated cylinder and record the volume.

9.1.1.8 Add one clean boiling chip to the K-D flask and attach a three ball Snyder column. Pre-wet the Snyder column by adding about 1 mL of methylene chloride to the top of the column. Place the K-D apparatus on a hot water bath (80-90°C) so that the concentrator tube is partially immersed in the hot water and the entire lower rounded surface of the flask is bathed with hot vapor. Adjust the vertical position of the apparatus and the water temperature as required to complete the concentration in 10 to 20 minutes. At the proper rate of distillation, the balls of the column will actively chatter, but the chambers will not flood. When the apparent volume of liquid reaches 4-6 mL, remove the K-D apparatus from the water bath and allow it to drain and cool for at least 10 minutes.

9.1.1.9 Solvent exchange the methylene chloride with hexane by adding at least 50 mL of hexane to the top of the Snyder column. and concentrate the extract to less than 10 mL, as described in Paragraph 9.1.1.8, raising the temperature of the water bath, if necessary, to maintain proper distillation.

Note: An alternative solvent exchange method is to use the nitrogen blowdown apparatus to exchange the methylene chloride with hexane. This is accomplished by placing a disposable pipet in the concentrator tube and adding the small amounts of hexane via the pipet to the bottom of the concentrator tube during the concentration process in the apparatus.

- 9.1.1.10 Remove the Snyder column and evaporation flask from the 10-mL concentrator tube. Place the concentrator tube containing the hexane extract onto a nitrogen blowdown apparatus. Adjust the extract volume to 1-2 mL under a gentle stream of nitrogen. If the extract is highly colored, forms a precipitate, or stops evaporating, the final volume will need to be larger.
- 9.1.1.11 The extract obtained is now ready to be cleaned and fractionated on a silica gel column. If cleanup will not be performed immediately, transfer the extract to a Teflon-lined screw-cap vial, label, and refrigerate.
- 9.1.1.12 Record the sample preparation information for the extraction and concentration steps. At a minimum, record the date, sample laboratory number, sample volume, volume and concentration of added surrogate and matrix spike solutions, and any deviations or problems associated with the extraction of the samples.
- 9.1.1.13 For cleanup and fractionation, refer to Section 9.1.4.

#### 9.1.2 Soil/Sediment Extraction using Ultrasonic Extraction

- 9.1.2.1 The following steps should be performed rapidly to minimize the loss of the more volatile fractions. In a beaker blend 10 g of the soil/sediment sample with sufficient anhydrous sodium sulfate to form a free flowing powder using a spatula. Add 1.0 mL of the surrogate spiking solution to the samples and blanks. For the samples in each analytical batch selected for matrix spiking, add 1.0 mL of the matrix spiking standard. Immediately add approximately 50 mL of 1:1 methylene chloride:acetone to the beaker. If lower PQL's are desired, the analyst is allowed to increase the sample size extracted. This will necessitate a proportional increase in the volume of extraction solvent used.
- 9.1.2.2 Place the bottom surface of the tip of the ultrasonic horn about 1/2 inch below the surface of the solvent but above the soil/sediment layer.
- 9.1.2.3 Sonicate for 3 minutes with the control knob set to the maximum output, pulse mode and 50% duty cycle.
- 9.1.2.4 Assemble a Kuderna-Danish (K-D) concentrator by attaching a 10-mL concentrator tube to a 500-mL evaporation flask.
- 9.1.2.5 Decant and filter the extract through Whatman No. 41 filter paper into the K-D concentrator. Repeat the extraction two more times with additional 50 mL portions of the solvent. Decant off and filter the extract into the K-D flask each time. On the last extraction, pour

the entire sample into the funnel and rinse the beaker and sample with additional portions of solvent and add these to the K-D flask. The analyst may find it useful to (1) either add anhydrous sodium sulfate to the filter for drying the extract or (2) to pass the extract through a drying column containing about 10 cm of anhydrous sodium sulfate prior to collecting the extract in the K-D flask.

9.1.2.6 Add one clean boiling chip to the K-D flask and attach a three-ball Snyder column. Pre-wet the Snyder column by adding about 1 mL of methylene chloride to the top of the column. Place the K-D apparatus on a hot water bath (80-90°C) so that the concentrator tube is partially immersed in the hot water and the entire lower rounded surface of the flask is bathed with hot vapor. Adjust the vertical position of the apparatus and the water temperature, as required, to complete the concentration in 10 to 20 min. At the proper rate of distillation, the balls of the column will actively chatter, but the chambers will not flood. When the apparent volume of liquid reaches 1-2 mL, remove the K-D apparatus from the water bath and allow it to drain and cool for at least 10 minutes.

9.1.2.7 Exchange the methylene chloride with hexane by adding 50 mL of hexane to the top of the Snyder column and concentrating the extract as described in Paragraph 9.1.2.6, raising the temperature of the water bath, if necessary, to maintain proper distillation. The alternate solvent exchange technique described in note in 9.1.1.9 may also be used.

9.1.2.8 Remove the Snyder column and evaporation flask from the 10-mL concentrator tube. Place the concentrator tube containing the hexane extract onto a nitrogen blowdown apparatus. Adjust the extract volume to 1-2 mL under a gentle stream of nitrogen. If the extract is highly colored, forms a precipitate, or stops evaporating, the final volume will need to be larger.

9.1.2.9 The extract obtained is now ready to be cleaned and fractionated on a silica gel column. If cleanup will not be performed immediately, transfer the extract to a Teflon-lined screw-cap vial, label, and refrigerate.

9.1.2.10 Record the sample preparation information for the extraction and concentration steps, as specified in paragraph 9.1.1.14.

9.1.2.11 For cleanup and fractionation, refer to Section 9.1.4.

### 9.1.3 Soil/Sediment Extraction by Soxhlet Extraction

9.1.3.1 Blend 10 g of the soil/sediment sample with sufficient anhydrous sodium sulfate to produce a free flowing powder and place this material in an extraction thimble. The extraction thimble must drain freely for the duration

of the extraction period. Add 1.0 mL of the surrogate spiking solution onto the sample. For the samples in each analytical batch selected for matrix spiking, add 1.0 mL of the matrix spiking solution. If lower PQL's are desired, the analyst may increase the quantity of sample extracted.

9.1.3.2 Place approximately 200 mL of methylene chloride into a 250-mL Erlenmeyer or round bottomed flask (depending on the heating source) containing several clean boiling chips. Attach the flask to the extractor and extract the sample for 8-16 hr.

9.1.3.3 Allow the extract to cool after the extraction is completed.

9.1.3.4 Assemble a Kuderna-Danish (K-D) concentrator by attaching a 10-mL concentrator tube to a 500-mL evaporation flask.

9.1.3.5 Dry the extract by passing it through a glass powder funnel containing anhydrous sodium sulfate. Collect the dried extract in the K-D concentrator. Wash the extractor flask and sodium sulfate column with 50 to 75 mL of methylene chloride to complete the quantitative transfer.

9.1.3.6 Add one or two clean boiling chips to the flask and attach a three-ball Snyder column. Pre-wet the Snyder column by adding about 1 mL of methylene chloride to the top of the column. Place the K-D apparatus on a hot water bath (80-90°C) so that the concentrator tube is partially immersed in the hot water and the entire lower rounded surface of the flask is bathed with hot vapor. Adjust the vertical position of the apparatus and the water temperature, as required, to complete the concentration in 10 to 20 min. At the proper rate of distillation, the balls of the column will actively chatter, but the chambers will not flood. When the apparent volume of liquid reaches 1-2 mL, remove the K-D apparatus from the water bath and allow it to drain and cool for at least 10 minutes.

9.1.3.7 Exchange the methylene chloride with hexane by adding 50 mL of hexane to the top of the Snyder column and concentrating the extract as described in Paragraph 9.1.3.6, raising the temperature of the water bath, if necessary, to maintain proper distillation. The alternate solvent exchange technique outlined in the note in 9.1.1.9 may also be used.

9.1.3.8 Remove the Snyder column and evaporation flask from the 10 mL concentrator tube. Place the concentrator tube containing the hexane extract onto a nitrogen blowdown apparatus. Adjust the extract volume to 1-2 mL under a gentle stream of nitrogen. If the extract is highly colored, forms a precipitate, or stops evaporating, the final volume will need to be larger.

9.1.3.9 The extract obtained is now ready to be cleaned and fractionated on a silica gel column. If cleanup will not be performed immediately, transfer the extract to a Teflon-lined screw-cap vial, label, and refrigerate.

9.1.3.10 Record the preparation information for the extraction and concentration steps, as specified in 9.1.1.14.

9.1.3.11 For cleanup and fractionation, refer to Section 9.1.4.

9.1.3.12 The use of the Accelerated Solvent Extraction (ASE), EPA Method 3545, is an acceptable alternative to either ultrasonic or soxhlet extraction techniques as long as it is demonstrated to achieve comparable results.

#### 9.1.4 Silica Gel Cleanup and Separation

9.1.4.1 Silica gel is a regenerative adsorbent of amorphous silica with weakly acidic properties. It is produced from sodium silicate and sulfuric acid. Silica gel can be used for column chromatography and is used for separating analytes from interfering compounds of a different chemical polarity. Silica gel is also used to separate petroleum distillates into aliphatic and aromatic fractions. Before the silica gel technique can be utilized, the extract solvent must be exchanged to hexane. This procedure may be performed immediately before the extract concentration step is complete by adding hexane to the K-D (when the volume of remaining methylene chloride is approximately 10 to 15 mL) and reducing the extract volume to 1 to 2 mL. After cooling, disassemble the K-D apparatus, rinsing the joints into the concentrator tube with a minimum of hexane. With a nitrogen blowdown concentrator, further reduce the extract to a final volume of 2 mL.

9.1.4.2 Prepare a slurry of 10g of activated silica gel in methylene chloride and place this into a 10 mm I.D.x 250 mm long chromatographic column. Tap the column to settle the silica gel and elute the methylene chloride. Add 1 to 2 cm of anhydrous sodium sulfate to the top of the silica gel. Note: The activity of each new batch (lot number) of silica gel must be evaluated prior to its use in this procedure. This requires the use of the fractionation check solution to insure that there is an efficient separation of the aromatic fraction from the aliphatic fraction. If necessary, the analyst is allowed to adjust the volumes of the eluants used to facilitate this process.

9.1.4.3 Pre-elute the column with 40 mL of pentane. Let the solvent flow through the column, at a rate of about 2 mL/minute, until the head of the liquid in the

column is just above the sodium sulfate layer. Close the stopcock to stop solvent flow. Discard this pentane.

9.1.4.4 Open the stopcock and immediately transfer the hexane sample extract onto the silica gel column. Rinse the concentrator tube with an additional 1-2 mL of hexane and add this to the column as well.

9.1.4.5 Just prior to exposure of the sodium sulfate layer to the air, add 25 mL of pentane to the column. Collect the eluant in a 250 mL K-D flask to which is attached a 10 mL concentrator tube and label this fraction "aliphatics". Concentrate and solvent exchange this extract into hexane.

9.1.4.6 Following recovery of the aliphatic fraction and just prior to exposure of the sodium sulfate layer, elute the column with 50 mL of methylene chloride/pentane (40:60) (v/v) and collect the eluant in a 250 mL K-D flask equipped with a 10 mL concentrator tube. Label this fraction "aromatics". Concentrate and solvent exchange this extract into methylene chloride.

9.1.4.7 Concentrate each fraction to a final volume of 10 mL under a gentle stream of nitrogen from a nitrogen blowdown apparatus.

9.1.4.8 Transfer 1 mL of the fractions to a labeled two-mL glass autosampler vials with teflon-rubber crimp caps for analysis and save the remaining extract in a teflon-rubber septum screw topped vial. If lower PQL's are required, the analyst may concentrate the extract to as low as 1 mL prior to analysis

9.1.5 Proceed with the analysis in accordance with Sections 9.2 through 9.5. Analyze all laboratory method blanks and QC samples under the same conditions as that used for samples.

9.1.6 If chromatographic responses exceed the linear range of the system, dilute the extract(s) and re-analyze

#### 9.1.7 Determination of Percent Moisture

9.1.7.1 Soil and sediment sample results must be reported on a dry-weight basis. A portion of sample for moisture determination should be weighed out at the same time as the portion used for hydrocarbon determination.

9.1.7.2 Immediately after weighing a sample for extraction, transfer 5 to 10 g of the sample into a tared crucible. Dry the sample overnight at 105°C in an oven. After drying remove it from the oven allow it to cool in a desiccator before reweighing. Calculate the percent moisture of the sample using the equations provided in Section 9.6.3.

## 9.2 GC Conditions

### 9.2.1 Suggested Gas Chromatographic Conditions

9.2.1.1 Oven Program: Set oven temperature to 50 °C for 2 minute, then 8°C/min to 320 °C and hold for 10 minutes.

9.2.1.2 Sample/autosampler injection volume is 1 to 2 µL.

9.2.1.3 Gas Flows: The recommended carrier gas is helium.

9.2.1.3.1 Helium carrier gas flow: 1 to 2 mL/min.

9.2.1.3.2 Air: 400 mL/min.

9.2.1.3.3 Hydrogen: 35 mL/min.

9.2.1.3.4 Make up gas flow: 30 mL/min.

9.2.1.4 Miscellaneous:

9.2.1.4.1 FID temperature, 310 to 320 °C

9.2.1.4.2 Injection port temperature, 290 to 300 °C

9.2.1.4.3 GC operated in splitless mode

9.2.1.4.4 Column head pressure 15.0 psi at 50°C

9.2.1.4.5 Linear velocity approximately 50 cm/sec

## 9.3 Retention Time Windows

9.3.1 Before establishing windows, make sure the GC system is within optimum operating conditions. Make three injections of the Aromatic and Aliphatic Hydrocarbon standard mixtures throughout the course of a 72-hr period. Serial injections over less than a 72-hr period may result in retention time windows that are too tight.

9.3.2 Calculate the standard deviation of the three absolute retention times for each standard.

9.3.3 Plus or minus three times the standard deviation of the absolute retention times for each standard should be used to define the retention time window. However, the

experience of the analyst should weigh heavily in the interpretation of chromatograms.

- 9.3.4 In those cases where the standard deviation for a particular standard is zero, the laboratory should substitute the standard deviation of a closely eluting structurally similar compound to develop a valid retention time window.
- 9.3.5 The laboratory must calculate retention time windows for each standard on each GC column and whenever a new GC column is installed or a portion removed as part of GC maintenance. This data must be retained by the laboratory.
- 9.3.6 EPH retention time (Rt) windows for all fractions (carbon ranges and hydrocarbon types) except the C8 through C10 are defined as beginning 0.1 minutes after the Rt of the beginning marker compound and ending 0.1 minutes after the Rt of the ending marker compound. Since the first fraction for both the aliphatics and aromatics includes the beginning marker compounds, the Rt windows for them are defined as beginning 0.1 minutes before the Rt of the beginning marker compound and ends 0.1 minutes after the ending marker compound.

EPH marker compounds and windows are summarized in Table 4.

**Table 4. EPH Marker Compounds**

Range/ Hydrocarbon Standard	Beginning Marker Compound	Ending Marker Compound
C8-C10 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons	just before n- octane	just after n-decane
C10-C12 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons	just after n-decane	just after n-dodecane
C12-C16 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons	just after n- dodecane	just after n-hexadecane
C16-C21 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons	just after n- hexadecane	just after n-henicosane
C21-C34 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons	just after n- henicosane	just after n-tetratriacontane
C8-C10 Aromatic Hydrocarbons	just before toluene	just after 1,2,3-trimethylbenzene
C10-C12 Aromatic Hydrocarbons	just after 1,2,3- trimethylbenzene	just after naphthalene
C12-C16 Aromatic Hydrocarbons	just after naphthalene	just after acenaphthene
C16-C21 Aromatic Hydrocarbons	just after acenaphthene	just after pyrene
C21-C34 Aromatic Hydrocarbons	just after pyrene	just after benzo(g,h,i)perylene

## 9.4 Calibration

Calibrate the GC system using either the external standard procedure (Section 9.4.1) or the internal standard procedure (Section 9.4.2).

### 9.4.1 External standard calibration procedure

9.4.1.1 Prepare Aromatic and Aliphatic Hydrocarbon calibration standards at a minimum of five concentration levels by adding volumes of one or more stock standard solutions to volumetric flasks and diluting to volume with methylene chloride and hexane, respectively. The surrogate OTP is added to the Aromatic Hydrocarbon Standard; the surrogate COD is added to the Aliphatic Hydrocarbon Standard. One of the calibration

standards must be at a concentration near, but above, the method detection limit and is used to determine the reporting PQL. In order to report the PQL's listed in 1.4, given the volume/mass water or soil extracted of 1 liter or 10 grams and assuming 100% solids on the soil, this standard must be at a 5 ng/uL level. The other concentrations must correspond to the expected range of concentrations found in real samples or should define the working range of the detector.

9.4.1.2 A collective calibration curve or factor must be established for each hydrocarbon range of interest. Inject each calibration standard using the technique that will be used to introduce the actual samples into the gas chromatograph (e.g., 1 to 2  $\mu$ L injections). To calculate the collective CF for C8-C10, >C12-C12, >C12-C16, >C16-C21 and C21-C34 Aromatic Hydrocarbons, tabulate the summation of all peak areas of the calibration compounds in that range (e.g. C8-C10, toluene and 1,2,4-trimethylbenzene or >C10-C12, naphthalene) against the total mass injected. Although a forced baseline projection is required for samples and blanks, the analyst is allowed to integrate only the area of the calibration compound(s) to generate the calibration factors. The ratio of the response to the amount injected, defined as the calibration factor (CF), or range CF, may be calculated for hydrocarbon ranges at each standard concentration using Equation 1. If the percent relative standard deviation (%RSD) of the calibration factor is equal to or less than 20 % over the working range for the ranges of interest, as determined using Equation 2, linearity through the origin can be assumed, and the average calibration factor can be used in place of a calibration curve. The Aliphatic Hydrocarbon collective CF is calculated in the same manner using the aliphatic standards.

**Equation 1: Range Calibration Factor**

$$\text{Range CF} = \frac{\text{total area of peaks}}{\text{mass injected (ng)}}$$

**Equation 2: Percent Relative Standard Deviation**

$$\%RSD = \frac{\text{Stand Dev of 5 CFs}}{\text{Mean of 5 CFs}} \times 100$$

**Note: The area for the surrogates COD and OTP must be subtracted from the area of the range in which they elute (e.g., COD is subtracted from the C16-C21 Aliphatic Hydrocarbon range.**

9.4.1.4 At a minimum, the working calibration curve or calibration factor must be verified at the beginning of each working day and after the final analysis of that day, or after every 20 samples, whichever is more frequent, by the injection of a mid-level calibration standard to verify instrument performance and linearity. If the percent difference (%D) for any range varies from the predicted response by more than  $\pm 20\%$ , as calculated using Equation 4, a new calibration curve must be prepared.

**Equation 4: Percent Difference (%D)**

$$\%D = \frac{\overline{CF} - CF_v}{\overline{CF}} \times 100$$

where:

$\overline{CF}$  = Average Calibration Factor from calibration curve.

$CF_v$  = Calibration Factor from verification calibration check.

9.4.1.5 The concentrations of hydrocarbon ranges may also be calculated from a calibration curve by use of linear regression analysis.

#### 9.4.2 Internal standard calibration procedure

9.4.2.1 The suggested internal standard for this method is 5-alpha-androstane (EM Science, Gibbstown, NJ).

9.4.2.2 Prepare Aromatic and Aliphatic Hydrocarbon calibration standards at a minimum of five concentration levels by adding volumes of stock standard solutions to volumetric flasks. The surrogate OTP is added to the Aromatic Hydrocarbon Standard; the surrogate COD is added to the Aliphatic Hydrocarbon Standard. To each calibration standard, add a known constant amount of an internal standard. One of the calibration standards must be at a concentration near, but above, the method detection limit and is used to determine the reporting PQL. The other concentrations must correspond to the expected range of concentration found in real world samples or should define the working range of the detector.

9.4.2.3 Inject each calibration standard using the same technique that will be applied to the samples (e.g., 1 to 2  $\mu\text{L}$  injection). Tabulate the peak area responses against the concentration of each hydrocarbon range and internal standard. Calculate the collective response factors (RF) for each hydrocarbon range using Equation 5.

**Note: The area for the surrogates COD and OTP must be subtracted from the area of the range in which they elute (e.g., COD is subtracted from the appropriate Aliphatic Hydrocarbon range).**

**Equation 5: Range Response Factor**

$$\text{Range RF} = \frac{(A_s)(C_{is})}{(A_{is})(C_s)}$$

where:

$A_s$  = Summation of peak areas of the fraction (e.g., C10-C12 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons).

$C_{is}$  = Concentration of internal standard,  $\text{ng}/\mu\text{L}$ .

$A_{is}$  = Response for the internal standard.

$C_s$  = Total mass concentration of injected standards,  $\text{ng}/\mu\text{L}$ .

9.4.2.4 At a minimum, the working calibration curve or RF must be verified at the beginning of each working day and after the final analysis of that day, or after every 20 samples, whichever is more frequent, by the injection of a mid-level calibration standard to verify instrument performance and linearity. If the percent difference (%D) for any hydrocarbon range varies from the predicted response by more than  $\pm 20\%$ , as calculated using Equation 4, a new calibration curve must be prepared for that range.

9.4.2.5 The concentrations of hydrocarbon ranges may also be calculated from a calibration curve by the use of linear regression analysis.

## 9.5 GC Analysis

- 9.5.1 Samples are analyzed in a set referred to as an analysis sequence. The sequence begins with instrument calibration, or verification of calibration, followed by sample extracts interspersed with blanks and QC samples. The analytical sequence must end with an acceptable verification calibration standard. If the ending calibration standard is not acceptable, all samples analyzed after the last acceptable calibration verification must be reanalyzed. If, for whatever reason, reanalysis is not possible, then the data for those samples must be qualified as an “estimate”.
- 9.5.2 Aliphatic and aromatic extracts are introduced into the gas chromatograph by slitless injection.
- 9.5.3 Inject 1 to 2  $\mu\text{L}$  of the sample extract. Record the volume injected and the resulting peak size in area units.
- 9.5.4 Confirm the established retention time windows for each hydrocarbon range on a daily basis. Use the absolute retention time for each analyte as the midpoint of the window for that day. The daily retention time window equals the midpoint  $\pm$  three times the standard deviation determined in Section 9.3.
- 9.5.4.1 Validation of GC system qualitative performance must be accomplished by the analysis of standards within the analysis sequence. If any of the standards fall outside their daily retention time window, the system is out of control. In such cases, the cause of the problem must be determined and corrected.
- 9.5.5 When quantifying on a peak area basis by internal or external calibration, peak area integration for the aliphatic and aromatic carbon ranges must be from baseline (i.e. must include the unresolved complex mixture "hump" areas).

## 9.6 Calculations

### 9.6.1 External Standard Calibration

The concentration of each hydrocarbon range in a sample may be determined by calculating the amount of hydrocarbon range compounds injected, from the peak response, using the calibration curve or the calibration factor determined in Section 9.4.

### 9.6.1.1 Aqueous samples:

The general equation to determine the concentration of a hydrocarbon range in aqueous samples is provided in Equation 6.

#### Equation 6

$$\text{Concentration (ug / L)} = \frac{(A_x)(A)(V_t)(D)}{(A_s)(V_i)(V_s)}$$

here:

$A_x$  = Response for a hydrocarbon range in the sample, units may be in area counts or peak height.

$A$  = Amount of standard injected, ng.

$A_s$  = Response for the external standard, units same as for  $A_x$ .

$V_i$  = volume of extract injected,  $\mu\text{L}$ .

$D$  = Dilution factor: if no dilution was made,  $D = 1$ , dimensionless.

$V_t$  = Volume of total extract,  $\mu\text{L}$ .

$V_s$  = Volume of sample extracted, mL.

If a Calibration Factor is used, the concentration of a hydrocarbon range may be calculated using Equation 7.

#### Equation 7

$$\text{Conc HC Range (ug / L)} = \frac{(A_x)(V_t)(D)}{(V_i)(V_s)(\text{Range CF})}$$

where:

Range CF = Calibration Factor for

hydrocarbon ranges (collective area count/collective mass).

### 9.6.1.2 Nonaqueous samples:

The general equation to determine the concentration of a hydrocarbon range in soil or sediment samples is provided in Equation 8.

#### Equation 8

$$\text{Concentration (ug / kg)} = \frac{(A_x)(A)(V_t)(D)}{(A_s)(V_i)(W_d)}$$

where:

$W_d$  = Dry weight of sample extracted, g. (See Equations 12 through 14)

$A_x$ ,  $A_s$ ,  $A$ ,  $V_t$ ,  $D$ , and  $V_i$  have the same definition as for aqueous samples.

If a Calibration Factor is used, the concentration of specific hydrocarbon ranges in a soil or sediment sample may be calculated using Equation 9.

#### Equation 9

$$\text{Conc HC Range (ug / kg)} = \frac{(A_x)(V_t)(D)}{(V_i)(W_d)(\text{Range CF})}$$

where:

Range CF = Calibration Factor for a hydrocarbon range (collective area count/collective mass).

### 9.6.2 Internal Standard Calibration

The concentration of each hydrocarbon range in a sample may be determined by calculating the amount of hydrocarbon range compound(s) injected, from the peak response, based upon the compound/internal-standard response ratio.

#### 9.6.2.1 Aqueous samples:

The general equation to determine the concentration of a specific hydrocarbon range in aqueous samples is provided in Equation 10.

#### Equation 10

$$\text{Concentration (ug / L)} = \frac{(A_x)(C_{is})(D)}{(A_{is})(RF)(V_s)}$$

where:

$A_x$  = Response of the hydrocarbon

range being measured, units may be in area counts or in peak height.

$C_{is}$  = Amount of internal standard added to extract, ng.

$D$  = Dilution factor, if a dilution was made on the sample prior to analysis. If no dilution was made,  $D = 1$ , dimensionless.

$A_{is}$  = Response of the internal standard, units same as  $A_x$ .

$RF$  = Response factor for the hydrocarbon range, dimensionless.

$V_s$  = Volume of aqueous sample extracted, mL.

#### 9.6.2.2 Nonaqueous samples:

The general equation to determine the concentration of a specific or hydrocarbon range in soil or sediment samples is provided in Equation 11.

#### Equation 11

$$\text{Concentration (ug / kg)} = \frac{(A_x)(C_{is})(D)}{(A_{is})(RF)(W_d)}$$

where:

$W_d$  = Dry weight of sample

extracted, g. (See Equations 12 through 14).

$A_x$ ,  $C_{is}$ ,  $D$ ,  $A_{is}$ , and  $RF$  have the same definition as for aqueous samples.

#### 9.6.3 Calculation of Dry Weight of Sample

In order to calculate the dry weight of sample extracted ( $W_d$ ), it is necessary to determine the moisture content of the soil/sediment sample, using the procedure outlined in Section 9.1.7. Using the data obtained from Section 9.1.7,  $W_d$  is calculated using Equations 12 through 14.

**Equation 12**

$$\% \text{ Moisture} = \frac{\text{g sample} - \text{g dry sample}}{\text{g sample}} \times 100$$

**Equation 13**

$$\% \text{ Dry Solids} = (1) - (\% \text{ Moisture})$$

**Equation 14**

$$W_d (\text{g}) = (\% \text{ Dry Solids})(\text{g of extracted sample})$$

## 10.0 QUALITY CONTROL

### 10.1 General Requirements and Recommendations

10.1.1 Each laboratory that uses this method should operate a formal quality control program. The minimum requirements of this program consist of an initial demonstration of laboratory capability and an ongoing analysis of spiked samples to evaluate and document data quality. The laboratory must maintain records to document the quality of the data generated. Ongoing data quality checks are compared with established performance criteria to determine if the results of analyses meet the performance standards for the method. When results of sample spikes indicate atypical method performance, a quality control check standard must be analyzed to confirm that the measurements were performed in an in-control mode of operation.

10.1.2 Hexane or methylene chloride solvent blanks should be run after samples suspected of being highly contaminated to determine if sample carryover has occurred.

10.1.3 At a minimum, for each analytical batch (up to 20 samples), a Laboratory Method Blank, Laboratory Fortified Blank Spike (Water or Soil), Laboratory Fortified

Matrix Spike, and sample duplicate must be analyzed. For analytical batches with more than 10 samples, the analysis of an additional mid-range calibration check standard is recommended. The blank and spiked samples must be carried through all stages of the sample preparation and measurement process.

10.1.4 The recommended sequence of analysis is as follows:

- (1) Calibration Standards (initial) or mid-range Calibration Check (Verification) Standard (i.e. daily check of initial calibration)
- (2) Laboratory Method Blank
- (3) Samples
- (4) QC Samples
- (5) Mid-range Calibration Check (Verification) Standard (also recommended after each 10 samples)

10.1.5 It is recommended that a system of control charts be developed to plot surrogate standard recoveries as a function of time. When surrogate recovery from a sample, blank, or QC sample is less than 50% or more than 150%, check calculations to locate possible errors, the fortifying solution for degradation, and changes in instrument performance. If the cause cannot be determined, the analyst may reanalyze the sample extract, report the surrogate values as outside acceptance limits or, if additional sample is available, re-extract and reanalyze the sample.

## 10.2 Minimum Instrument QC

10.2.1 The instrument must be able to achieve adequate separation and resolution of peaks of interest.

10.2.1.1 The n-octane (n-C8) and toluene peaks must be adequately resolved from the solvent front of the chromatographic run.

10.2.1.2 The surrogates COD and OTP and any internal standards used must be adequately resolved from any individual components in the Aliphatic Hydrocarbon and Aromatic Hydrocarbon standards.

10.2.2 Retention time windows must be established for each hydrocarbon range of interest each time a new GC column is installed, and must be verified and/or adjusted on a daily basis. (See Section 9.3)

10.2.3 Calibration curves must be developed based upon the analysis of calibration standards prepared at a minimum of 5 concentration levels. The linearity of calibration or response factors may be assumed if the percent relative standard deviation (%RSD) over the working range of the curve is less than or equal to 20 %. Alternatively, if linear regression analysis is used for

quantitation, the correlation coefficient (r) must be at least 0.99, and the percent difference (% D) of the response for any hydrocarbon range from the predicted response may not vary by more than +/- 20%. (See Section 9.4.)

### 10.3 Initial and Periodic Method QC Demonstrations

The following must be conducted as an initial demonstration of laboratory capability, prior to the analysis of any samples. Subsequent to this initial demonstration, additional evaluations of this nature should be conducted on a periodic basis, in response to changes in instrumentation or operations, and/or in response to confirmed or suspected systems, method, or operational problems.

#### 10.3.1 Accuracy and Precision

To demonstrate initial laboratory capability, analyze a minimum of four replicate reagent water and/or clean sand blanks spiked with the calibration compounds for each range of interest at approximately 50 µg/L and/or 5 mg/kg, respectively.

10.3.1.1 Extract and analyze each replicate according to the procedures described in Section 9.0.

10.3.1.2 Calculate the measured concentrations of each range in all replicates, the mean accuracy (as a percentage of true value) for each compound, and the precision (as %RSD) of the measurements for each compound.

10.3.1.3 For each compound, the mean accuracy, expressed as a percentage of the true value, should be between 70 % and 130 %. For each compound, the %RSD must be less than or equal to 20%.

#### 10.3.2 Method Detection Limits (Optional)

Analyze a minimum of seven replicate reagent water and/or clean sand blanks which have been fortified with all analytes of interest at approximately 0.5 to 2 µg/L and/or 1.0 to 5.0 mg/kg, respectively. Extract and analyze each replicate according to the procedures described in Section 9.0. Calculate the Method Detection Limit (MDL) of each analyte using the procedure described in Section 12.0.

10.3.2.1 Water MDLs are determined by extracting 7 to 10 replicates of 1-L reagent water blanks spiked with OTP, COD and each analyte of interest.

10.3.2.2 Soil/sediment MDLs are determined by extracting 7-10 replicates of 10-g of EPH-free sand blanks spiked with OTP, COD, and each analyte of interest.

### 10.3.3 Fractionation

To demonstrate the capability of properly fractionating aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbons in a sample, the analyst must first prepare and analyze the Fractionation Check Solution specified in Section 7.6.

10.3.3.1 Prepare a silica gel column as outlined in 9.1.4

10.3.3.2 Load 1.0 mL of the Fractionation Check Solution onto column and proceed with the elution and collection of the aliphatic and aromatic fractions as outline in 9.1.4.

**NOTE: The amount of pentane used during the elution/fractionation is critical. Excessive pentane will cause elution of aromatics into the aliphatic fraction. Insufficient pentane will cause low recoveries of the aliphatic fraction. The volume of pentane and/or methylene chloride/pentane recommended may need to be adjusted to meet QC limits.**

10.3.3.3 Solvent exchange the aliphatic fraction to hexane and the aromatic fraction to methylene chloride. Concentrate each solution to a final volume of 1.0 mL under a gentle stream of nitrogen from an nitrogen blowdown apparatus.

10.3.3.4 Transfer the final 1.0 mL extracts to two labeled glass auto sampler vials with teflon-lined rubber crimp caps. Analyze by GC/FID (see Section 9.0).

10.3.3.5 For each analyte within the Fractionation Check Solution, the mean accuracy, expressed as a percentage of the true value, must be between 70 % and 130 %.

### 10.3.4 Petroleum Reference Standard

As an optional demonstration of the validity and relevance of EPH calibration, analyze a reagent water and/or clean sand blank spiked with a known concentration of a neat petroleum product.

10.3.4.1 Dilute a Petroleum Reference Standard stock standard solution with acetone to a concentration of approximately 250 ng/ $\mu$ L. Spike a 1 Liter reagent water blank or 10 g clean sand blank with 1.0 mL of this spiking solution. Extract and analyze in accordance with the procedures outlined in Section 9.0.

10.3.4.2 Calculate the total concentration of all petroleum hydrocarbons within each range. Add these values together.

10.3.4.3 The concentration calculated in Paragraph 10.3.4.2 is expected to be within +/- 30 % of the known concentration of Petroleum Standard in the reagent water or sand blank.

#### 10.4 Ongoing Method QC Demonstrations

10.4.1 Each sample, blank, and matrix spike sample must be spiked with the surrogate spiking solution. Required surrogate recovery is 60% to 140%.

10.4.2 At a minimum, with every batch of 20 samples or less the lab must analyze the following:

10.4.2.1 **Calibration Check Standard** - A mid-range calibration standard, prepared from the same stock standard solution used to develop the calibration curve, must be analyzed prior to sample analysis to verify the calibration state of the instrument. For large analytical batches that contain more than 10 samples, the analysis of an additional mid-range calibration check standard is recommended after the analysis of the tenth sample. If the percent difference (% D) of any compound within a calibration check standard varies from the predicted response by more than 20 %, a new calibration curve must be prepared. (See Section 9.4)

10.4.2.2 **Laboratory Method Blank** - A water or soil laboratory method blank is prepared by fortifying a reagent water or clean sand blank with 1.0 mL of the surrogate spiking solution. Peaks within the retention time windows of any hydrocarbon ranges of interest may not be present at or above the lowest calculated PQL for any sample within its batch. When determining the PQL of soil method blanks, incorporate the lowest percent solids value found for any sample within its batch in the calculation.

10.4.2.3 **Laboratory Fortified Blank Spike** - A water or soil component spike is prepared by fortifying a reagent water or clean sand blank with 1.0 mL of the matrix spiking solution. The spike recovery must be between 70 % and 130 % and, if these values can not be obtained, the analyst must identify and correct the problem before analyses can continue.

10.4.2.4 **Sample duplicates** - Sample duplicates may be laboratory duplicates or field duplicates and the RPD of the duplicate samples should not exceed +/- 25%. The lack of sample homogeneity may contribute to the RPD's values for duplicates which exceed this value. Should the values exceed 25% the analyst must report that occurrence.

10.4.2.5 **Laboratory Fortified Matrix (LFM) Spike** - The water or soil LFM spike is prepared by fortifying an actual water or soil sample with 1.0 mL of the matrix spiking solution. The purpose of the LFM spike is to

determine whether the sample matrix contributes bias to the analytical results. The background concentrations of the analytes in the sample matrix must be determined in a separate aliquot and the measured values in the LFM corrected for background concentrations. The corrected concentrations of each analyte within the LFM spike sample must be within 70 to 130 % of the true value. Should the values determined exceed this range, the analyst must report that occurrence.

10.4.3 If any of the performance standards specified in Section 10.4 are not met, the problem should be corrected before further samples are analyzed. Exceptions to this are duplicate samples RPD's and high recoveries for LFM spikes which, due to sample non-homogeneity, may exceed the allowable limits. Any samples run between the last calibration check standard that meet the criteria and one that does not must be reanalyzed. If this is not possible, then the data must be reported as an "estimated concentration."

## 11.0 DATA PRODUCTION AND REPORTING

### 11.1 Sample Analysis

#### 11.1.1 Aliphatic Fraction

11.1.1.1 Determine the total area count for all peaks eluting 0.1 minutes before the retention time (Rt) for C8 to 0.1 minutes after the Rt for C10.

11.1.1.2 Determine the total area count for all peaks eluting 0.1 minutes after the Rt for C10 to 0.1 minutes after the Rt for C12. Determine the total area count of all peaks eluting 0.1 minutes after the Rt for C12 to 0.1 minutes after the Rt for C16, for all peaks eluting 0.1 minutes after the Rt for C16 to 0.1 minutes after the Rt for C21 and for all peaks eluting 0.1 minutes after the Rt for C21 to 0.1 minutes after the Rt for C34. It is not necessary to identify or quantitate individual aliphatic compounds within these ranges.

11.1.1.3 Determine the peak area count for the surrogate COD and any internal standard used. Subtract these values from the collective area count value within the appropriate hydrocarbon range(s).

11.1.1.4 Using the equations contained in Section 9.6 or linear regression analysis, calculate the concentrations of C8 through C10, >C10 through C12, >C12 through C16, >C16 through C21 and >C21 through C34 Aliphatic Hydrocarbon ranges and the surrogate standard COD.

11.1.1.5 The term "all peak areas" must include any unresolved envelope of peaks which elute within the Rt windows listed above and below for the aliphatic and aromatic fractions.

### 11.2.1 Aromatic Fraction

- 11.2.1.1 Determine the total area count for all peaks eluting 0.1 minutes before the retention time (Rt) for toluene to 0.1 minutes after the Rt for 1,2,3-trimethylbenzene. In the same manner, determine the total area count for all peaks eluting 0.1 minutes after the Rt for 1,2,3-trimethylbenzene to 0.1 minutes after the Rt for naphthalene, from 0.1 minutes after the Rt for naphthalene to 0.1 minutes after the Rt for acenaphthene, from 0.1 minutes after the Rt for acenaphthene to 0.1 minutes after the Rt for pyrene and 0.1 minutes after the Rt for pyrene to 0.1 minutes after the Rt for benzo(g,h,i)perylene.
- 11.2.1.2 Determine the peak area count for the surrogate OTP and any internal standard used.
- 11.2.1.3 Subtract the peak area value from 11.2.1.2 from the collective area count value for the range effected determined in 11.2.1.1 to calculate the area count for Aromatic Hydrocarbons ranges.
- 11.2.1.4 Using the equations contained in Section 9.6 or linear regression analysis, calculate the concentrations of C8 through C10, >C10 through C12, >C12 through C16, >C16 through C21 and >C21 through C34 Aromatic Hydrocarbons and the surrogate standard COD.

### 11.3 Data Reporting Format

- 11.3.1 The following information and data must be reported:
- 11.3.1.1 The sample matrix (aqueous, soil or sediment);
- 11.3.1.2 The date(s) the sample was collected, received by the laboratory, extracted, and analyzed;
- 11.3.1.3 A description of the sample(s) received by the laboratory, relative to the physical condition of the containers, the temperature of the samples, and use of appropriate preservatives;
- 11.3.1.4 Moisture content (for soil/sediment samples);
- 11.3.1.5 The calculated concentrations of C8 through C10, >C10 through C12, >C12 through C16, >C16 through C21 and >C21 through C34 Aliphatic Hydrocarbons, and C8 through C10, >C10 through C12, >C12 through C16, >C16 through C21 and >C21 through C34 Aromatic Hydrocarbons.
- 11.3.1.6 Surrogate recovery (expressed as percent recovery);

11.3.1.7 The concentration units for aqueous samples are expressed as ug/L or mg/L and soil or sediment samples the units are expressed as µg/Kg or mg/Kg on a dry-weight basis.

## 12.0 METHOD PERFORMANCE

### 12.1 Method Detection Limits (Optional)

12.1.1 The method detection limit (MDL) is defined as the minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99% confidence that the value is above zero. The MDL actually achieved in a given analysis will vary depending on instrument sensitivity and matrix effects.

12.1.2 The MDL is determined according to Equation 15.

#### Equation 15

$$MDL = (t) \times (SD)$$

where:

t = student t value at the 99% confidence level.

SD = standard deviation of the replicate analysis.

Student t values are as follows:

Number of replicates	t value
7	3.14
8	3.00
9	2.90
10	2.82

### 12.2 Single Laboratory Accuracy, Precision and MDL Data

Single laboratory accuracy, precision and MDL data for method analytes are provided in Tables 1-1 through 1-4 in Appendix 1. Tables 1-1 and 1-2 present data collected from spiking reagent water at 5.0 µg/L; Tables 1-3 and 1-4 by spiking sand at 1.0 mg/kg.

## 13.0 REFERENCES

1. Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and ABB Environmental Services, Inc., Wakefield, MA "Interim Petroleum Policy: Development of Health-based Alternative to the Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH) Parameter," August 1994.
2. USEPA, "Measurement of Petroleum Hydrocarbons: Report on Activities to Develop a Manual." Prepared by Midwest Research Institute, Falls Church, VA, under EPA Contract #68-WO-0015, WA No. 4; submitted to USEPA Office of Underground Storage Tanks, Washington, DC; November 20, 1990.
3. USEPA Federal Register 40 CFR Part 136, Appendix B, "Guidelines Establishing Test procedures for the Analysis of Pollutants," July 1992.
4. USEPA Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste (SW-846); Method 3510: Separatory Funnel Liquid-Liquid Extraction; September 1986.
5. USEPA Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste (SW-846); Method 3540: Soxhlet Extraction; September 1986.
6. USEPA Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste (SW-846); Method 3630: Silica Gel Cleanup; September 1986.
7. USEPA Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste (SW-846): Method 8000: Gas Chromatography; September 1986.
8. USEPA Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste (SW-846); Method 8100: Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons; September 1986.
9. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, "Modified DRO - Method for Determining Diesel Range Organics," PUBL-SW-141, 1992.

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **SINGLE LABORATORY ACCURACY, PRECISION, AND METHOD DETECTION LIMITS (MDL) DATA FOR VPH**

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**Table 1-1. Single Laboratory Accuracy, Precision, and Method Detection Limits (MDLs) for Compounds in Component Standard Spiked Into Reagent Water and Analyzed by the VPH Method**

Compound	Spiked Conc. (µg/L)	Method Accuracy <sup>a</sup> (Mean % Recovery <sup>b</sup> )		Method Precision <sup>a</sup> (RSD <sup>c</sup> - %)		MDL <sup>a</sup> (µg/L)	
		PID <sup>d</sup>	FID <sup>e</sup>	PID	FID	PID	FID
n-Pentane	6.0		98		7.8		1.4
Methyl tert butylether	1.8	77	79	4.8	15	0.21	0.69
Benzene	0.6	82	97	4.9	10	0.08	0.19
Toluene	0.6	79	104	7.3	6.5	0.11	0.13
n-Nonane	2.0		83		8.0		0.42
Ethylbenzene	0.6	77	94	4.2	9.1	0.06	0.16
m- & p-Xylene	1.2	68	85	4.3	6.4	0.11	0.20
o-Xylene	0.6	79	88	16	6.4	0.23	0.11
1,2,3-Trimethylbenzene	0.6	69	89	8.2	6.4	0.11	0.11
Naphthalene	3.6	58	56	16	18	1.0	1.2
2,5-Dibromotoluene (surrogate)	40	88	92	4.9	13		

<sup>a</sup> Based on analysis of seven samples spiked with component standard.

<sup>b</sup> Recovery (%) of spiked concentration.

<sup>c</sup> RSD = relative standard deviation (%) of mean concentration measured.

<sup>d</sup> PID = photoionization detector.

<sup>e</sup> FID = flame ionization detector.

**Table 1-2. Single Laboratory Accuracy, Precision, and Method Detection Limits (MDLs) for Compounds in Component Standard Spiked Into VPH- Free Sand and Analyzed by the VPH Method**

Compound	Spiked Conc. (µg/Kg)	Method Accuracy <sup>a</sup> (Mean % Recovery <sup>b</sup> )		Method Precision <sup>a</sup> (RSD <sup>c</sup> - %)		MDL <sup>a</sup> (µg/Kg)	
		PID <sup>d</sup>	FID <sup>e</sup>	PID	FID	PID	FID
n-Pentane	120		124		6.0		28
Methyl tert butylether	120	70	96	3.1	27	8.1	99
Benzene	60	122	128	3.3	5.4	7.6	13
Toluene	60	139	137	4.8	8.6	13	22
n-Nonane	120		119		4.6		21
Ethylbenzene	60	107	103	4.3	5.0	8.6	9.7
m- & p-Xylene	120	109	104	4.1	5.2	17	20
o-Xylene	60	103	111	3.8	6.6	7.4	14
1,2,3-Trimethylbenzene	60	93	102	5.5	5.3	9.6	10
Naphthalene	ND <sup>f</sup>	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
2,5-Dibromotoluene (surrogate)	2,000	119	117	8.6	9.7		

<sup>a</sup> Based on analysis of seven samples spiked with component standard.

<sup>b</sup> Recovery (%) of spiked concentration.

<sup>c</sup> RSD = relative standard deviation (%) of mean concentration measured.

<sup>d</sup> PID = photoionization detector.

<sup>e</sup> FID = flame ionization detector.

<sup>f</sup> ND = not determined.

**Table 1-3. Single Laboratory Accuracy and Precision for Compounds in Component Standard Spiked Into Reagent Water at Concentrations in the Low to Middle End of the Analytical Range and Then Analyzed by the VPH Method**

Compound	Spiked Conc. (µg/L)	Method Accuracy <sup>a</sup> (Mean % Recovery <sup>b</sup> )		Method Precision <sup>a</sup> (RSD <sup>c</sup> - %)	
		PID <sup>d</sup>	FID <sup>e</sup>	PID	FID
n-Pentane	40		96		7.7
Methyl tert butylether	60	87	88	4.0	3.9
Benzene	20	99	99	4.4	3.7
Toluene	60	99	99	4.1	4.0
n-Nonane	40		104		10
Ethylbenzene	20	99	99	4.2	4.2
m- & p-Xylene	80	99	99	4.3	4.2
o-Xylene	40	99	99	3.7	3.6
1,23-Trimethylbenzene	40	99	99	4.1	4.0
Naphthalene	40	70	81	4.3	3.2
2,5-Dibromotoluene (surrogate)	40	92	94	5.2	4.6

<sup>a</sup> Based on analysis of five samples spiked with component standard.  
<sup>b</sup> Recovery (%) of spiked concentration.  
<sup>c</sup> RSD = relative standard deviation (%) of mean concentration measured.  
<sup>d</sup> PID = photoionization detector.  
<sup>e</sup> FID = flame ionization detector.

**Table 1-4. Single Laboratory Accuracy and Precision for Compounds in Component Standard Spiked Into VPH-Free Sand at Concentrations in the Low to Middle End of the Analytical Range and Then Analyzed by the VPH Method**

Compound	Spiked Conc. (mg/Kg)	Method Accuracy <sup>a</sup> (Mean % Recovery <sup>b</sup> )		Method Precision <sup>a</sup> (RSD <sup>c</sup> - %)	
		PID <sup>d</sup>	FID <sup>e</sup>	PID	FID
n-Pentane	2.0		118		1.9
Methyl tert butylether	3.0	100	94	2.4	2.8
Benzene	2.0	119	109	3.0	0.7
Toluene	2.0	118	109	1.7	1.3
n-Nonane	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Ethylbenzene	1.0	121	110	1.4	1.2
m- & p-Xylene	3.0	122	110	1.4	1.1
o-Xylene	2.0	118	107	1.3	1.1
1,2,3-Trimethylbenzene	2.0	115	109	1.4	1.3
Naphthalene	2.0	61	57	11	1.8
2,5-Dibromotoluene (surrogate)	2.0	75	64	9.7	3.3

<sup>a</sup> Based on analysis of five samples spiked with component standard.

<sup>b</sup> Recovery (%) of spiked concentration.

<sup>c</sup> RSD = relative standard deviation (%) of mean concentration measured.

<sup>d</sup> PID = photoionization detector.

<sup>e</sup> FID = flame ionization detector.

<sup>f</sup> ND = not determined.

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **SUGGESTED VPH DATA REPORTING FORMAT**

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## VOLATILE PETROLEUM HYDROCARBON (VPH) ANALYSIS

	Client:	
Client Sample ID:		Date Received:
Laboratory Sample ID:		Date Analyzed:
Matrix:		Date Reported:
	Percent Moisture:	

### VPH RESULTS

Parameter	Results	PQL				Units
C5-C6 Aliphatics (FID) *						
C6-C8 Aliphatics (FID) *						
C8-C10 Aliphatics (FID) *						
C10-C12 Aliphatics (FID) *						
C8-C10 Aromatics (PID)						
C10-C12 Aromatics (PID)						
C12-C13 Aromatics (PID)						

\* Excludes any MTBE or BTEX compounds

### SURROGATE RECOVERY

Surrogate	%Recovery	Acceptance Range
2,5-dibromotoluene		80% - 120%

### TARGETED VPH ANALYTES

Analyte	Results	PQL	Units
Methyl tert butylether			
Benzene			
Toluene			
Ethylbenzene			
p-Xylene *			
m-Xylene *			
o-Xylene			
Naphthalene			

\* p and m-xylenes may not be able to be resolved and may be reported as the total of p and m-xylenes.



## **APPENDIX 3**

### **SINGLE LABORATORY ACCURACY, PRECISION, AND METHOD DETECTION LIMIT (MDL) DATA FOR EPH**

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**Table 1-1. Single Laboratory Accuracy, Precision, and Method Detection Limits (MDLs) for Alkanes Spiked Into Reagent Water and Analyzed by the EPH Method**

Compound <sup>a</sup>	Compound Conc. Measured (µg/L)		Mean Accuracy (Mean % Recovery <sup>b</sup> )	Method Precision (RSD <sup>c</sup> - %)	MDL (µg/L)
	Mean	Std. Dev.			
C <sub>10</sub>	4.1	0.040	82	0.98	0.12
C <sub>12</sub>	4.1	0.021	82	0.51	0.064
C <sub>16</sub>	4.0	0.062	80	1.6	0.19
COD <sup>d</sup>	44	0.93	88	2.1	-
C <sub>21</sub>	3.7	0.047	74	1.3	0.14

<sup>a</sup> Compounds were spiked into 7 or 8 samples at a concentration of 5.0 µg/L.

<sup>b</sup> Recovery (%) of spiked concentration.

<sup>c</sup> RSD = relative standard deviation (%) of mean concentration measured.

<sup>d</sup> Surrogate (COD = 1-Chloro-octadecane) was spiked into three samples at a concentration of 50 µg/L.

**Table 1-2. Single Laboratory Accuracy, Precision, and Method Detection Limits (MDLs) for Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) Spiked Into Reagent Water and Analyzed by the EPH Method**

Compound <sup>a</sup>	Compound Conc. Measured (µg/L)		Mean Accuracy (Mean % Recovery <sup>b</sup> )	Method Precision (RSD <sup>c</sup> - %)	MDL (µg/L)
	Mean	Std. Dev.			
Naphthalene	5.6	0.088	112	1.6	0.26
2-Methylnaphthalene	6.4	0.096	128	1.5	0.29
Acenaphthylene	5.6	0.085	112	1.5	0.26
Acenaphthene	5.7	0.092	114	1.6	0.28
Fluorene	5.6	0.094	112	1.7	0.28
Phenanthrene	5.5	0.097	110	1.8	0.29
Anthracene	7.0	0.10	140	1.4	0.31
OTP <sup>d</sup>	44	1.6	88	3.6	-
Fluoranthene	5.7	0.090	114	1.6	0.27
Pyrene	6.1	0.098	122	1.6	0.29
Benzo(a)Anthracene	5.9	0.089	118	1.5	0.27
Chrysene	5.8	0.098	116	1.7	0.29
Benzo(b)Fluoranthene	6.3	0.082	126	1.3	0.25
Benzo(k)Fluoranthene	5.6	0.065	112	1.2	0.20
Benzo(a)Pyrene	6.0	0.075	120	1.2	0.22
Indeno(123 cd)Pyrene	5.1	0.17	102	3.3	0.50
Dibenzo(ah)Anthracene	2.8	0.21	56	7.5	0.62
Benzo(ghi)Perylene	3.8	0.18	76	4.7	0.54

<sup>a</sup> Compounds were spiked into 7 or 8 samples at a concentration of 5.0 µg/L.

<sup>b</sup> Recovery (%) of spiked concentration.

<sup>c</sup> RSD = relative standard deviation (%) of mean concentration measured.

<sup>d</sup> Surrogate (OTP = ortho-Terphenyl) was spiked into three samples at a concentration of 50 µg/L.

**Table 1-3. Single Laboratory Accuracy, Precision, and Method Detection Limits (MDLs) for Alkanes Spiked Into EPH-Free Sand and Analyzed by the EPH Method**

Compound <sup>a</sup>	Compound Conc. Measured (mg/Kg)		Mean Accuracy (Mean % Recovery <sup>b</sup> )	Method Precision (RSD <sup>c</sup> - %)	MDL (mg/Kg)
	Mean	Std. Dev.			
C <sub>10</sub>	0.72	0.074	72	10	0.22
C <sub>12</sub>	0.83	0.079	83	9.5	0.24
C <sub>16</sub>	1.2	0.14	120	12	0.42
COD <sup>d</sup>	4.3	0.48	86	11	-
C <sub>21</sub>	0.81	0.044	81	5.4	0.13

<sup>a</sup> Compounds were spiked into 8 samples at a concentration of 1.0 mg/Kg.

<sup>b</sup> Recovery (%) of spiked concentration.

<sup>c</sup> RSD = relative standard deviation (%) of mean concentration measured.

<sup>d</sup> Surrogate (COD = 1-Chloro-octadecane) was spiked into three samples at a concentration of 5.0 mg/kg.

**Table 1-4. Single Laboratory Accuracy, Precision, and Method Detection Limits (MDLs) for Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) Spiked Into EPH-Free Sand and Analyzed by the EPH Method**

Compound <sup>a</sup>	Compound Conc. Measured (mg/Kg)		Mean Accuracy (Mean % Recovery <sup>b</sup> )	Method Precision (RSD <sup>c</sup> - %)	MDL (mg/Kg)
	Mean	Std. Dev.			
Naphthalene	0.64	0.063	64	9.8	0.19
2-Methylnaphthalene	0.64	0.058	64	9.1	0.17
Acenaphthylene	0.68	0.060	68	8.8	0.18
Acenaphthene	0.70	0.064	70	9.1	0.19
Fluorene	0.79	0.060	79	7.6	0.18
Phenanthrene	0.83	0.041	83	4.9	0.12
Anthracene	1.2	0.082	120	6.8	0.25
OTP <sup>d</sup>	4.8	0.45	96	9.4	-
Fluoranthene	0.92	0.038	92	4.1	0.12
Pyrene	0.91	0.037	91	4.1	0.11
Benzo(a)Anthracene	0.96	0.042	96	4.4	0.12
Chrysene	0.90	0.050	90	5.6	0.15
Benzo(b)Fluoranthene	0.96	0.038	96	4.0	0.11
Benzo(k)Fluoranthene	0.87	0.037	87	4.3	0.11
Benzo(a)Pyrene	0.96	0.036	96	3.8	0.11
Indeno(123 cd)Pyrene	0.90	0.033	90	3.7	0.099
Dibenzo(ah)Anthracene	0.82	0.033	82	4.0	0.099
Benzo(ghi)Perylene	0.82	0.032	82	3.9	0.096

<sup>a</sup> Compounds were spiked into 7 or 8 samples at a concentration of 1.0 mg/Kg.

<sup>b</sup> Recovery (%) of spiked concentration.

<sup>c</sup> RSD = relative standard deviation (%) of mean concentration measured.

<sup>d</sup> Surrogate (OTP = ortho-Terphenyl) was spiked into three samples at a concentration of 5.0 mg/kg.

## **APPENDIX 4**

### **SUGGESTED EPH DATA REPORTING FORMAT**

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## EXTRACTABLE PETROLEUM HYDROCARBON (EPH) ANALYSIS

Client:		
Client Sample ID:		Date Received:
Laboratory Sample ID:		Date Extracted:
Matrix:		Date Analyzed:
Percent Moisture:		Date Reported:

### EXTRACTABLE PETROLEUM HYDROCARBON (EPH)

Parameter	Results	PQL				Units
C8-C10 Aliphatics						
C10-C12 Aliphatics						
C12-C16 Aliphatics						
C16-C21 Aliphatics						
C21-C34 Aliphatics						
C8-C10 Aromatics						
C10-C12 Aromatics						
C12-C16 Aromatics						
C16-C21 Aromatics						
C21-C34 Aromatics						

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### SURROGATE RECOVERIES

Surrogate	%Recovery	Acceptance Range
Chloro-octadecane (COD)		50% - 150%
Ortho-terphenyl (OTP)		50% - 150%

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**APPENDIX 5**  
**REPORT OF ANALYSIS**  
**SUMMARY SHEET**

Client: Client Sample ID Number(s): Laboratory ID Number(s):
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**SAMPLE INFORMATION**

Sample Matrix	<input type="checkbox"/> Aqueous <input type="checkbox"/> Soil <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
Analysis Performed	<input type="checkbox"/> VPH <input type="checkbox"/> EPH <input type="checkbox"/> VPH and EPH (E-TPH Duplicate samples)	
Condition of Containers	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Broken <input type="checkbox"/> Leaking <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
Sample Preservatives	AQUEOUS	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> pH ≤ 2 <input type="checkbox"/> pH > 2
	SOIL/SEDIMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Sample Temperature	<input type="checkbox"/> Received on Ice <input type="checkbox"/> Received at 4 °C <input type="checkbox"/> Other	

**ANALYTICAL RESULTS**

Parameter	Results	PQL	Units
Volatile Petroleum Hydrocarbons (VPH)			
Extractable Petroleum Hydrocarbons (EPH)			
Equivalent TPH (E-TPH) ** [IF BOTH VPH AND EPH ANALYSES PERFORMED]			

**\*\* Due to overlapping carbon ranges between the VPH and EPH methods and in order to avoid double counting, the analyst must select the higher of the two values to be included for reporting purposes for those ranges effected.**

**COMMENTS**

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## APPENDIX 6\*

### Petroleum Product Chromatograms

Carburator Cleaner  
Automotive Gasoline  
Mineral Spirits #1  
Mineral Spirits #2  
JP-4 Jet Fuel (old)  
JP-4 Jet Fuel (new)  
JP-5 Jet Fuel  
Kerosene  
Kerosene (ICP grade)  
Gasoline and #2 Diesel Oil  
Natural Gas Condensate  
#2 Fuel Oil  
#2 Fuel Oil (38% aromatic) (See chromatogram in NWTPH-Dx)  
#2 Diesel Oil (See chromatogram in NWTPH-Dx)  
#2 Diesel Oil and Motor Oil (30w) (See chromatogram in NWTPH-Dx)  
2-Cycle Engine Oil #1  
2-Cycle Engine Oil #2  
2-Cycle Engine Oil #3  
Motor Oil (30w) (See chromatogram in NWTPH-Dx)  
Automatic Transmission Fluid  
Power Steering Fluid  
Transformer Oil (used)  
Transformer Oil (new)  
Hydraulic Fluid #1  
Hydraulic Fluid #2  
Hydraulic Fluid #3  
Mineral Oil #1  
Mineral Oil #2  
Cutting Oil #1  
Cutting Oil #2  
Bunker-C #1  
Bunker-C #2  
CSS-1 (emulsion asphalt)  
AR-4000 (asphalt cement)

### Non-petroleum Product Chromatograms

Turpentine  
Creosote  
Synthetic Motor Oil

\* The chromatograms are not available in the “electronic” version. They are included in the printed publication.

**Chromatograms: NWTPH-Gx**

Gasoline  
Weathered Gasoline  
Naphtha  
Mineral Spirits #1  
Mineral Spirits #2  
Mineral Spirits #3

**Chromatograms: NWTPH-Dx**

#2 Diesel Oil  
#2 Diesel Oil/Motor Oil  
#2 Fuel Oil (38% Aromatic)  
Kerosene (Deodorized)  
Jet Fuel A  
Bunker C #1  
Bunker C #2  
Motor Oil 30 Wgt.  
Mineral Oil (USP)  
Hydraulic Fluid  
Transformer Oil  
Gas Oil