



PECKSR
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To: SZAKATBK, MILLERSR, HALBERRM
cc: ESTILLJO, ZIPFEL, MILLERW, MAYLESM, PARSONMA
Subject: air C8 recheck

As shown in the Table below, all air samples collected 7-29-98 appear to contain appreciable levels of C-8 except for the blank. These samples were analyzed with fresh reagent (from a new shipment that arrived late Wednesday). In addition to the "blank" Tenax tube, three additional blanks were examined. All blanks showed essentially clean baselines which verify the purity of the reagent. The GC response at retention time of 3.7 minutes (corr C8 pk) is shown to emphasize the levels of C8 observed.

Table 1: C-8 in Air

SAMPLE	LOCATION	corr C8 pk	Liters of air	ug C8	mpb C8
A	smoking area; 162 roof	18547	50.7	0.738	0.82
B1	blank tube	1309	44.2	0	0
C1	top of SW stairs, unit side	37058	52.3	1.545	1.66
D1	SE rail	32870	45.6	1.363	1.67
E	mid-rail, North	23812	48.2	0.968	1.13

Table 2: Calibration results

Standard	corr C8 pk.
blank (0 ug)	693
0.1 ug standard	4090
0.5 ug standard	14539
1.0 ug standard	23797

Slope: 22948
intercept: 1600
R²: 0.989

It should be stressed that although the electron capture detector (ECD) used in this GC method is extremely sensitive for fluorinated species (e.g. "C-8"), it is incapable of providing positive (qualitative) identification of analytes. It is theoretically possible that the response (peak) interpreted as "C-8" is another substance (or mixture) which co-elutes with C-8.

Recommend additional samples be collected ASAP. Duplicates should be obtained where possible as we are still working to improve robustness

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of this method and understand run-to-run variations.

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