



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OCT 28 2003

OFFICE OF
WATER

Les Orr
Technical Representative
Environmental Express
490 Wando Park Blvd.
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

Dear Mr. Orr:

This letter responds to your request for an evaluation of Environmental Express, Ltd.'s single use (disposable), carbon-coated polyethylene terephthalate (PET) BOD bottles. Generally, the ATP program evaluates only methods, not specific pieces of equipment. However, ambiguities in the approved methods made it unclear as to whether the single use, coated-PET bottles fell within the inherent flexibility of the methods. Therefore, EPA agreed to provide this evaluation.

Environmental Express provided data from seven laboratories comparing results obtained using single use, coated-PET bottles with those obtained using glass BOD bottles in a number of sample matrices. The data indicated that comparable performance was achieved with both bottle types. Therefore, EPA recommends that Environmental Express's single use, coated-PET BOD bottles be allowed for use with EPA-approved BOD methods (e.g., EPA Method 405.1) and associated methods for determination of dissolved oxygen (e.g., EPA Methods 360.1, 360.2) that are used in wastewater compliance monitoring. Each bottle should only be used for a single use, as directed by the manufacturer.

We appreciate your continued interest in environmental monitoring. If you have any questions regarding this letter or other issues, please contact me at 202-566061 at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Telliard", written over a white background.

William Telliard
Director of Analytical Methods
Engineering and Analysis Division (4303T)

cc: Maria Gomez-Taylor, USEPA, EAD
James Boiani, DynCorp-CSC