

PPC 9502.1996(05)

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

November 26, 1996

Mr. Anthony E. Perrotti  
President  
R. I. Analytical Laboratories, Inc.  
41 Illinois Avenue  
Warwick, RI 02888

Dear Mr. Perrotti:

Thank you for your letter of November 22, 1996 requesting approval for the use of aluminum cap liners instead of Teflon for soil sample containers.

The reason that the Agency recommended the use of Teflon capliners for soil sample containers in Chapter Four of SW-846, Table 4-1, was as a precautionary measure. Historically, a few samples collected for analysis for the RCRA and CERCLA Programs contained constituents which could corrode the aluminum cap liners and contaminate the collected samples. In order to minimize this potential problem, the Agency recommended the use of Teflon-lined caps for all soil sample containers.

However, we see no reason why aluminum cap liners cannot be used for soil sample containers for the organic parameters mentioned in your letter, TPHs, semivolatiles, PCBs, and pesticides, provided that you can demonstrate that the samples in question do not contain constituents that corrode the aluminum cap liners.

If I can be of any further assistance, please call me at 703 308-0476.

Sincerely,

Barry Lesnik, Chemist  
OSW Methods Team (5307W)  
RCRA Organic Methods Program Manager

RO 14113

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ATTACHMENT  
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R.I. Analytical  
Specialists in Environmental Services

November 22, 1996

Mr. Barry Lesnick  
US EPA  
OSW Methods Team  
(5307W)  
401 M Street, Southwest  
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Aluminum Cap Liners

Pursuant to our recent telephone conversation, I am requesting a written response approving the use of aluminum cap liners instead of Teflon for soil sample containers.

The soils that are to be collected in these containers will be analyzed for organic parameters such as; TPH's, semi-volatiles, PCB's, and pesticides.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,  
RIAL, Inc

Anthony E. Perrotti  
President

RO 14113