From:	William H Orem
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Cc:	Axelrad, Don; David P Krabbenhoft; gilmourc@si.edu; G. Ronnie Best; scheidt.dan@epamail.epa.gov; wlanding@fsu.edu
Subject:	Re: FW: Sulfide method
Date:	Wednesday, January 07, 2009 1:45:15 PM

Peter:

Thanks. I hope I didn't come across as critical - that was not my intention. Just trying to pass on some issues we had with the methylene blue approach. What you could do for future work if you decide to go electrode is collect the water sample and just fix it with SAOB in the field (this ups the pH and stabilizes the sulfide as S2- for up to about 24 hours). Then the analyses could be done in the hotel room using the electrode with stirring. This has worked pretty well for us and helps make the filed time go faster. Lots of folks use the methylene blue method, so it is a widely accepted approach. We have just had some issues with it in highly colored water. I'm not usually a big proponent of many electrode methods, but the sulfide electrochemical method works really well and is very easy. One possible reason (maybe) your numbers could be higher (apart from the colored water reasons I mentioned earlier) is that maybe you are also seeing metal sulfides from particles in the water using the meth blue method. The electrode approach probably only sees free sulfides.

Bill