



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

DEC - 3 1999

Antoinette Ruschman
President
Cardinal Laboratories, Inc.
622 Buttermilk Pike
Covington, Kentucky 41017

OFFICE OF
WATER

Dear Ms. Ruschman:

We are pleased to inform you that in the judgement of the Analytical Methods Staff (AMS), Merck Method 14XXXP: "Phosphorus by Ascorbic Acid Reaction and Photometry" [September 1999, Revision 1.0] (ATP case No. N99-0018) is an acceptable version of the EPA-approved methods at 40 *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 136 for determination of total phosphorus by persulfate digestion and manual colorimetry, and orthophosphate by manual colorimetry [i.e., EPA Method 365.2: "Phosphorus, All Forms (Colorimetric, Ascorbic Acid, Single Reagent)"].

We appreciate Merck's continued interest in the development of environmental compliance monitoring methods and Cardinal Laboratories support of these efforts. If you have any questions regarding the review of the N99-0018 application, please contact Maria Gomez-Taylor (AMS) at 202/260-1639.

Sincerely,

William A. Telliard, Director
Analytical Methods Staff
Engineering and Analysis Division (4303)

cc: Maria Gomez-Taylor, USEPA, EAD
Khouane Ditthavong, USEPA, EAD
USEPA Regional Administrators (all Regions)
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