chemical forms of iodine; 3) lower cost for ^{99}Tc analyses resulting from simultaneous separation procedures; 4) lower cost of analysis for some iodine samples if the mass spectrometer can be used; and 5) increased availability of ^{129}I data.

The lower cost and better precision for iodine analyses that might be possible by using the mass spectrometer for analysis would be a real benefit. The cost of analysis on some samples might be reduced by as much as $500 (from ~$600 per sample to ~$100 per sample). This reduced cost is anticipated for samples with higher concentrations, including the ground-water samples; it probably would not apply to samples with very low concentrations, such as river-water samples.

Very truly yours,

Leigh S. Prater

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