



August 24, 2011

Office of Water Quality Water-Quality Information Note 2011.05

Subject: Status of USGS tritium/helium-3 contract

The current USGS contract with Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory for mass spectrometric measurement of helium, neon, the $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ isotope ratio and tritium (by ^3He in-growth), i.e., for tritium/helium-3 dating of groundwater, expires on 31 August, 2011. While every effort is being made to establish a new contract for the USGS, this may not be accomplished by 1 September, 2011. Consequently, there may be a hiatus in contract service for $^3\text{H}/^3\text{He}$ dating beginning 1 September, 2011.

Samples that have been delivered to Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory on or before 31 August, 2011, with proper login through the USGS Chlorofluorocarbon Laboratory, will be processed normally through the LDEO Laboratory. Funds for samples that have been collected but not delivered to the contract lab can still be obligated using the Advanced Request for Services form of the CFC Lab (<http://water.usgs.gov/usgs/lab/submission/advance/>), however, pricing will need to be adjusted once the new contract is in place. Please contact Julian Wayland (cfc@usgs.gov, 703-648-5847), or Melissa Schomody (mlschom@usgs.gov, 703-648-5833) if you have further questions.

If this Note was forwarded to you and you would like to have your name placed on the WaQI Notes distribution, please send email to nlsnow@usgs.gov.

*WaQI Notes are archived on the Office of Water Quality web site,
<http://water.usgs.gov/usgs/owq/WaQI/index.html>*

Signed,

Jerad D. Bales
Chief Scientist for Hydrology
8/24/11

Donna N. Myers
Chief, Office of Water Quality
8/24/11

Distribution: All WRD Employees