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Disclaimer

# Getting the Best Chlorine Residual Data

- Measurement of total residual chlorine (TRC) at levels low enough to meet wastewater discharge limits has been (historically) difficult at best.
- Methods approved for measurement of chlorine in wastewater are often technically demanding and time consuming.
- Commercial test kits are available to simplify these procedures. However, commercial test kits often gloss over the very important aspects of the testing, including calibration, spiking and other quality control (QC) processes.

# What Other States Are Doing

#### **Wisconsin:**

- current permit limits set at 0.038 mg/L total residual chlorine (TRC)
- Accept 0.100 mg/L as an LOD

#### **North Carolina:**

- current chlorine standards are 0.017 mg/L total residual chlorine (TRC) for trout waters
- 0.017 mg/L TRC as an action level for non-trout waters.

#### Pennsylvania:

• current permit limits set at 0.011 mg/L total residual chlorine (TRC)

# Challenges in Testing Chlorine at levels required to meet discharge limits

- NR219 states the chlorine must be analyzed immediately (within 15 minutes of collection)
- The 15 minute time frame is very restrictive
  - Difficult to calibrate, warm sample to room temperature and test within 15 minutes
  - Almost precludes analysis by the ISE method-ISE is extremely temperature sensitive
  - Sampling and analysis to achieve the 0.038 ppm discharge limit becomes a logistical challenge

# Today's Objectives

- Discuss wastewater chlorine compliance testing requirements
- Discuss logistics to achieve quality chlorine results:
  - Working with your DNR engineer
  - Optimizing sampling
- Describe testing options available
- Two part session:
  - DPD method-Part 1
  - ISE method-Part 2
- Break into 4 groups for hands-on demos for DPD Method
  - Compare standard curves among groups
- Live demonstration of the ISE method
- Discussion-which approach best meets your needs?

## Collecting a Sample for Total Residual Chlorine

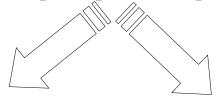
- Collect samples in amber, glass bottles treated with bleach to remove chlorine demand.
  - Treat bottles by filling with DI water, adding a few mL of household bleach, allow to soak about 30 minutes and then rinse thoroughly with tap water followed by DI water.
- Minimize the time between sampling and analysis (preferably = ≤ 15 mins.)
- Warm samples to room temperature before testing with the ISE method.
- Fill sample completely to minimize contact with the air until samples are tested.

# Sampling Logistics

- Calibrate your instrument before sampling
  - Have it ready to roll when you arrive with the sample
- Collect sample in stabilized amber glass bottle
- Work with you DNR engineer:
  - Collect some test data to see how time delays affect results
  - Your engineer may be able work with you through the permit process

# Chlorine Analysis Options

Two principal techniques



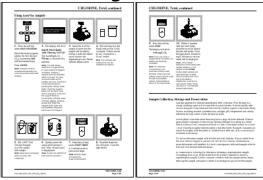
**DPD** Colorimetric

Ion Selective Electrode (ISE)

# DPD

# Commercial Method + QA/QC = Acceptable Testing

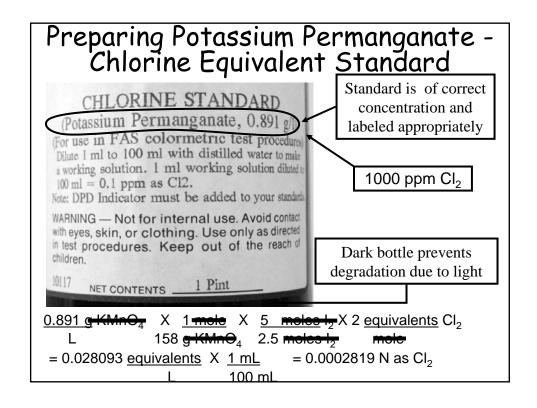
- The exclusive use of generic instructions is not acceptable.
  - No true calibration
  - No QC
  - No spikes/dupes
- These instructions are useful for quick checks and summary only



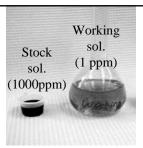
#### **Generic Instruction**

These instructions are simplistic. Alone, they are insufficient for proper testing.

 Using a commercial method does not exempt you from the QA and QC established in the original EPA/Std. Methods.



# Preparing Calibration Standards with Class A Pipets



Prepare working standard by diluting 1 mL of 1000 ppm to 1L with DI water. Must use pipettor & 1L volumetric flask.

Working Solution 1 ppm	Final Volume	Final Concentration
3.00 ml	100 ml	0.03 ppm DNR LOD goal
5.00 ml	100 ml	0.05 ppm 0.038 ppm
10.00 ml	100 ml	0.10 ppm DNR reg'd LOD 0.100 ppm
15.00 ml	100 ml	0.15 ppm
20.00 ml	100 ml	0.20 ppm

# Preparing Calibration Standards with a Variable Volume Pipettor

Prepare a 10 ppm working standard by diluting 1 mL of 1000 ppm to 100 mL with DI water. Must use pipettor

Working Solution 10 ppm	Final Volume	Final Concentration
0.30 ml*	100 ml	0.03 ppm
0.5 ml*	100 ml	0.05 ppm DNR LOD goal 0.038 ppm
1.0 ml*	100 ml	0.10 ppm DNR req'd LOD 0.100 ppm
0.75 ml*	50 ml	0.15 ppm
1.0 ml*	50 ml	0.20 ppm

<sup>\*</sup> Use a 0.1-1 mL variable volume pipettor

# Approaches for Color Development

- Commercially available DPD ampules
- Dry powder
  - ✓ Packets "pillows"
  - ✓ Dispenser bottles
- Commercially available DPD Solutions (per Standard Methods)

# Convenient Dry Reagent Options for Total Residual Chlorine DPD Color\*



Powder packets-note use only ones intended for total residual chlorine





Dispenser units for dry reagents

\*Note: Prepared liquid reagents in pre-filled vacuum vials or in bulk may also be purchased from most scientific specialty companies.

# Instruments for the DPD method







- Most brands of spectrophotometers or filter photometers may be used to measure chlorine in wastewater effluent using the DPD method if they meet the following requirements:
  - The wavelength can be adjusted to the 515-530 nm range
  - It will accommodate a 2 cm or large cell.
  - Check the instrument manual to confirm the above

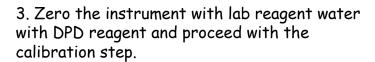
# Initial Instrument Set-up



1. Allow instrument to warm up according to manufacturer, generally at least 30 minutes.



2. Select mode (program or absorbance) and set the wavelength to 515 or 530 nm depending on instrument type.



# Tips for Calibration

- We recommend using only 1 sample cell when for calibration and sample analysis
- We also recommend calibrating daily
- Always align the cell in the instrument the same way...use mark to align



- If you use more than one cell, make sure they are "matched"
  - Optical quality cells vary from cell to cell
  - Fill all cells with DI water
  - Zero instrument with one cell
  - Measure and record absorbance, and compare
  - Group cells that have similar absorbance best results when cells vary by <0.005 from each other
- Today's demo-will use multiple cells because of time restrictions

# Developing Color with Dry Reagents



1. Prepare standards, pour into disposable beaker.



2. Pipet 10 mL of sample into instrument cell.

Add DPD color reagent using one of the below options



3. Cut open packet, squeeze open the sides and carefully transfer to cell.





3. Invert over cell and pull trigger dispenser.

# Developing Color with Powder Pillows



4. Cap cell, mix thoroughly and start timer.



5. If using the Hach reagents and wait 3 minutes. Note: HF Science recommends 2 minutes. Our experience shows 3 minutes works best.



6. Wipe-off any smudges from the cell with a soft, lint-free tissue, place in spectrophotometer and observe the absorbance or press read.





7. Remove cell, discard sample, rinse thoroughly with DI water and proceed to the next standard.

Remember to align the cell in the instrument the same way EVERY time!

Note: If using multiple cells, time reagent addition so that you may proceed to the next standard quickly....this takes good timing and lots of practice.

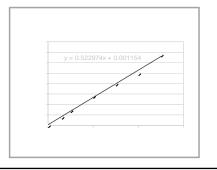
# Making a Calibration Curve: Record Data

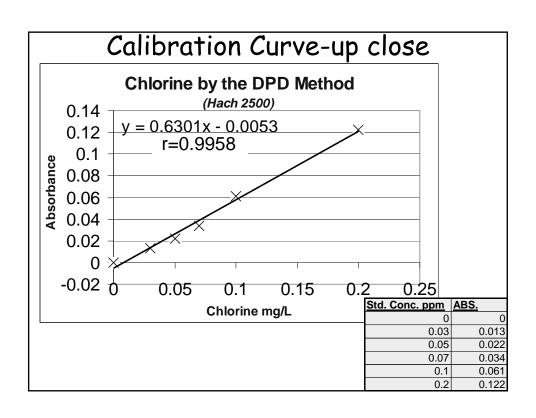
- Record the absorbance of each calibration standard
- This data is used when calculating a calibration curve.

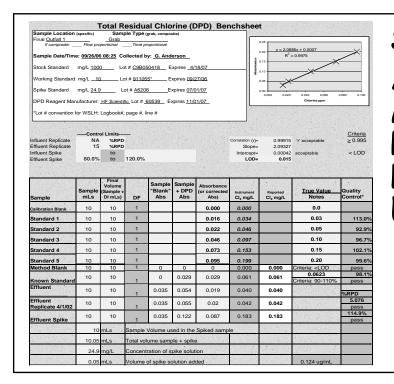
Use a calculator, Excel, or "onboard" software that comes with most spectrophotometers.
In Excel, you can use the CORREL formula.

R = 0.998079

Sample	True Value Notes	Absorbance
Calibration Blank	0.0	0.000
Standard 1	0.03	0.016
Standard 2	0.05	0.029
Standard 3	0.10	0.056
Standard 4	0.15	0.080
Standard 5	0.20	0.100
Standard 6	0.25	0.135







# BENCHSHEET

# Additional Recommended DPD Quality Control Check



- Test a single use, primary chlorine standard such as those available from Hach and NCL.
- · Each vial contains chlorine
- Standards are available in the 25-30 mg/L.
- Break open the glass vial and pipet between 0.25-0.50 mL into a 100 mL volumetric flask and bring to volume with DI water.
  - •0.25 mL to 100 mL will yield a chlorine level of about 0.06-0.075 mg/L.
- Test just like a real sample.



# Analyzing a Sample

- When analyzing a sample record both absorbances (without DPD and with DPD) on the data sheet.
- Subtract the <u>without DPD</u> absorbance from the <u>with DPD</u> absorbance to get the <u>adjusted</u> absorbance.
- This adjusted absorbance corrects for any natural absorbance of the sample due to color or turbidity.
- Handle blank & sample +DPD the same (timing)!

Sample no.	no DPD	with DPD	Adj. Abs.
Outfall no. 1	0.01	0.032	(0.022)
Outfall no. 2	0.012	0.048	0.036

Use this value to calculate the sample concentration

**WITH DPD - without DPD = Adjusted Absorbance** 

# Don't forget the paperwork.....



Sample	Sample mLs	Volume (Sample + DI mLs)		"Blank" Abs	+ DPD Abs	Absorbance (or corrected Abs)	Instrument Cl <sub>2</sub> mg/L	Reported Cl <sub>2</sub> mg/L	True Value Notes	Quality Control*
Calibration Blank	10	10	1			0.000	0.000		0.0	
Standard 1	10	10	1			0.016	0.034		0.03	113.0%
Standard 2	10	10	1			0.022	0.046		0.05	92.9%
Standard 3	10	10	1			0.046	0.097		0.10	96.7%
Standard 4	10	10	1			0.073	0.153		0.15	102.1%
Standard 5	10	10	1			0.095	0.199		0.20	99.6%
Method Blank	10	10	1	0	0	0	0.000	0.000	Criteria: <lod< td=""><td>pass</td></lod<>	pass
Known Standard	10	10	1	0	0.029	0.029	0.061	0.061	0.0623 Criteria: 90-110%	98.1% pass
Effluent	10	10	1	0.035	0.054	0.019	0.040	0.040		%RPD
Effluent Replicate 4/1/02	10	10	1	0.035	0.055	0.02	0.042	0.042	27 SX = 1	5.076 pass
Effluent Spike	10	10	1	0.035	0.122	0.087	0.183	0.183		114.9% pass
	10	mLs	Sample	Sample Volume used in the Spiked sample				F-11 11		
	10.05	mLs	Total volume sample + spike							
	24.9	mg/L	Concen	Concentration of spike solution						
Control of the Control	0.05	mLs -	Volume	of spike so	olution ad	lded		HE S	0.124 ug/mL	

# LOD data by approach

Spikes level: 0.090 mg/L

LOD=	0.0115	0.0133
stdev	0.00365	0.0044
mean	0.087	0.0868
rep #7	0.041 0.091	0.049 0.086
rep #6	0.038 0.086	0.054 0.094
rep #5	0.036 0.082	0.047 0.083
rep #4	0.040 0.089	0.049 0.086
rep #3	0.039 0.087	0.047 0.083
rep #2	0.037 0.084	0.048 0.084
rep #1	0.041 0.091	0.053 0.092
	Abs. CURVE	Abs. CURVE
	HACH DR890	HACH DR2500

# DPD

Hands on DEMOS

# ISE

# Key Equipment needed for ISE







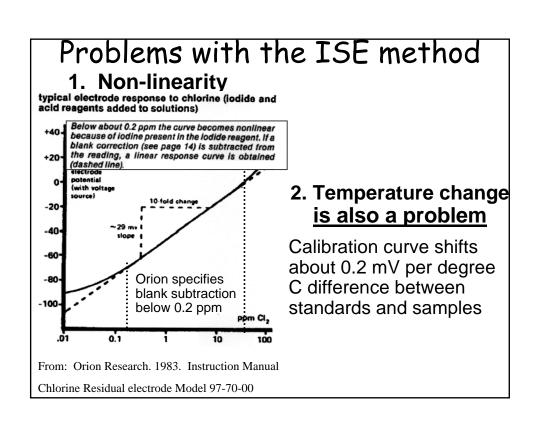


- Electronic or mechanical, variable volume pipettors in the 100 to 1000 µL range
- Orion model 97-70 residual chlorine electrode
- pH/ISE meter
- Magnetic stir plate
- Magnetic stir bar



# Ion Selective Electrode (ISE) Theory

- Based on iodometric measurement of chlorine
- lodide (l<sup>-</sup>)and acid (H<sup>+</sup>) are added to the sample
- lodide reacts with chlorine to form iodine
- The iodine concentration is equal to the chlorine concentration
- The ISE contains a platinum sensing element and iodine sensing reference element
- The platinum element develops a potential that depends on the relative amount of iodine and iodide in solution.
- The iodine-sensing element develops a potential that depends on the iodide level in solution
- The meter measures the difference between these potentials (the iodine concentration)
- Iodine concentration = total residual chlorine concentration
- Differences from ammonia:
  - A. Slope is positive
  - B. mV per decade of concentration is 29.0, not 58



# Reagents & Stds needed for ISE





- Residual chlorine standard (*iodate* equivalent to chlorine)
- Iodide reagent
- Acid reagent

## Recommended



 Primary chlorine standard (additional QC check)

# How is iodate equivalent to chlorine?

Chlorine produces iodine in a 1:1 molar ratio

$$Cl_2 + H_2O \rightarrow HOCI + H^+ + CI^-$$
 1st H<sup>+</sup> =1st equivalent

 $2nd H^+ = 2nd equivalent$ 

$$CIO^{-} + 2 H^{+} + 2 I^{-} \rightarrow I_{2} + CI^{-} + H_{2}O$$

Iodate produces iodine in a 1:3 molar ratio

$$IO_3^- + 5I^+ + 6H^+ \rightarrow 3I_2 + 3H_2O$$

There are 2 H<sup>+</sup> equivalents per mole Cl<sub>2</sub>; 1 per mole KIO<sub>3</sub>

Std Methods:  $0.1002 \text{ g KIO}_3/L = 0.00281 \text{ equivalent Cl}_2/L$  $1 \text{ ml} = 100 \text{ mg as Cl}_2$ 

= 0.0028093 <u>equivalents</u> = 0.00281 N as Cl<sub>2</sub>

# Standards of ISE Method

- The ISE may be calibrated using either a chlorine standard or potassium iodate standard solution.
- The iodate solution is less costly and more stable than chlorine standards.
- lodate solution produces a reaction equivalent to chlorine in the ISE method.
- The iodate solution is recommended.
- Primary chlorine standards are available in single use vials as an additional QC check.

# Suggested Way to Prepare Working Iodate Chlorine Equivalent Standards

Chlorine Conc. (mg/L)	mL of 100 ppm chlorine equivalent standard added directly to analysis beaker **
0.10	0.100
0.20*	0.200
0.50	0.500
0.70	0.700
1.00	1.000
2.0*	2.0

<sup>\*</sup> Used for slope check

<sup>\*\*</sup>Must add standard directly to 150 mL beaker and react with iodide and acid reagents before adding 100 mL of DI water.

# Standardizing the ISE



1. Add a magnetic stir bar to a 150 mL beaker



3. Insert a clean disposable tip a  $1000~\mu L$  pipettor.



2. Pour off 100 ppm chlorine or iodate (*chlorine equivalent*) standard into a dispo-beaker



4. Pipet standard into 150 mL beaker, starting with the lowest concentration.

# ISE Sample Analysis Procedure



5. Pour off acid and iodide reagent into dispo-beakers.



7. Add 1 mL of iodide reagent to the beaker.



6. Add 1 mL of acid reagent to the beaker containing the standard



8. Swirl beaker to mix



9. Allow solution to sit and react for 2 minutes

# ISE Sample Analysis Procedure



10. Add 100 mL of distilled water to beaker.



12. Insert electrode into solution and turn off magnetic stirrer, set meter to the mV mode.

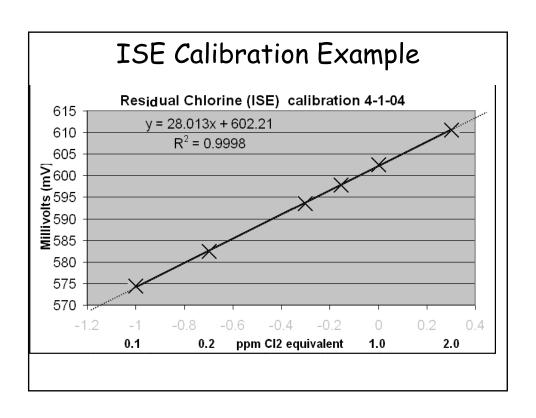


11. Place beaker on magnetic stirrer and allow solution to mix about 20-30 seconds.



13. Allow meter to stabilize. Be patient, it may take 5 or more minutes to stabilize. Record mV readings on bench sheet.

14. Repeat steps 3-13 to measure the remaining standards.



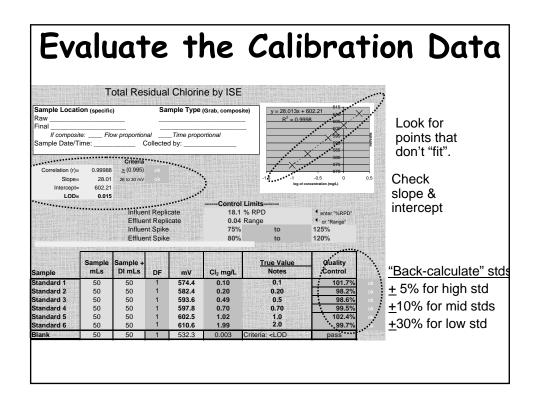
# Calculating std curve

- Plug observed mV readings and chlorine concentration of standards into the spreadsheet.
  - Remember that , like ammonia, you need to use the LOG of concentration when generating a regression.
- Calculate a standard curve and record the equation of the line and correlation coefficient (r) on the bench sheet.
- The "r" value must be 0.995 or greater
- DO NOT proceed with sample measurements unless the slope and "r" requirements are met.

## Slope Check and Other Considerations

- Check the slope by finding the difference between the 2.0 and 0.20 mg/L (one decade) chlorine standards. (e.g., 610.5 581.9 = 28.6 mV).
- The slope must be in the 26-30 mV/decade range
- The manufacturer states the ISE is only linear from 0.2 to 20 mg/L. Consequently, the 26-30 mV/decade specification is only valid above 0.2 mg/L.
- The observed mV readings increase with increasing concentrations of chlorine.

NOTE: The opposite is true for most other ISE applications (such as ammonia).



# Measuring Chlorine in Samples using the ISE



1. Add a magnetic stir bar to a 150 mL beaker



3. Insert a clean disposable tip a 1000 µL pipettor.



2. Pipet (or pourgraduated cylinder) 100 mL of sample into a clean 150 mL beaker.



4. Add 1 mL of iodide reagent to the beaker.

## Measuring Chlorine in Samples using the ISE



5. Add 1 mL of acid reagent to the beaker containing the standard



7. Insert electrode into solution and turn off magnetic stirrer, set meter to the mV mode.



8. Allow solution to sit and react for 2 minutes



6. Place beaker on magnetic stirrer and allow solution to mix about 20-30 seconds.



9. Allow meter to stabilize. Be patient, it may take 5 or more minutes to stabilize. Record mV readings on bench sheet.

10. Repeat steps 3-9 to measure the remaining samples.

# Record all appropriate information on the benchsheet *REMEMBER:*



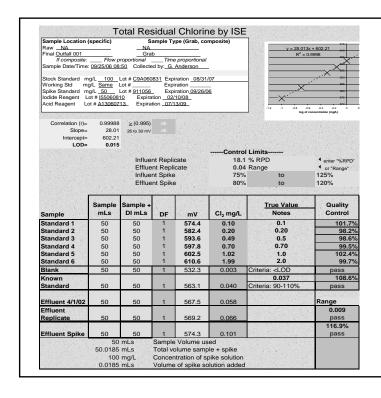
	Sample	Sample +			
Sample	mLs	DI mLs	DF	mV	Cl <sub>2</sub> mg/L
Standard 1	50	50	1	574.4	0.10
Standard 2	50	50	1	582.4	0.20
Standard 3	50	50	1	593.6	0.49
Standard 4	50	50	1	597.8	0.70
Standard 5	50	50	1	602.5	1.02
Standard 6	50	50	1	610.6	1.99
Blank	50	50	1	532.3	0.003
Known Standard	50	50	1	563.1	0.040
Effluent 4/1/02	50	50	1	567.5	0.058
Effluent Replicate	50	50	1	569.2	0.066
Effluent Spike	50	50	1	574.3	0.101

# Additional Recommended ISE Quality Control Check



- Test a single use, primary chlorine standard such as those available from Hach and NCL.
- Each vial contains chlorine
- Standards are available in the 25-30 mg/L and 50-75 mg/L range.
- Break open the glass vial and pipet a portion into a 150 mL beaker.
- Add distilled water to bring the volume to 100 mL.
- Test just like a real sample.





# BENCHSHEET



Graham Anderson

Special thanks to Graham who <u>can</u> do! .....Those that can't ... manage

## Conclusions

- # An LOD of <u>less than</u> 0.038 ppm IS achievable
- # 0.100 ppm is certainly a realistic LOQ.
- Quality low level calibrations CAN be easily developed.
- # The use of electronic or mechanical pipettors is required to obtain quality data at these trace levels.
- # Either technique will get the results you need

## More Conclusions

#### **DPD**

- The best DPD data will be obtained using a technique providing a path-length of > 2 cm.
- Both hand-held and table-top spectrophotometers are available that will meet your needs.
- Internal calibrations not sufficiently accurate.
- Commercial powder and liquid DPD reagents are generally satisfactory

#### **ISE**

- Use the more stable potassium iodate standard for calibration
- Avoid calibrating below 0.1 ppm due to non-linearity
- Check the slope from 0.2 to 2.0 (start above 0.1)
- 30-45 minutes for 5-pt calibration
- ISE method is extremely temperature-sensitive

#### Advantages/Disadvantages: ISE v. DPD **DPD** Advantages Disadvantages Most labs have a spectrophotometer Color & turbidity interfere ■ Fewer reagents; can be purchased Color correction is critical step ■ Temperature not critical factor ■ Need at least 2 cm cell May not need full daily calibration Less costly initial set-up (assuming) have spectrophotometer) Less equipment required Calculations easier ■ Same instrumentation allows free & total chlorine measurement ISE **Advantages Disadvantages** Few interferences Higher initial set-up cost (electrode) Requires full calibration daily Slower More reagents Temperature is critical Can only measure total residual

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DNR's LabCert homepage:

http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/science/lc/

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- Graham Anderson...for "doing" while we "managed"
- Jim Burk and Hach Company... for loaning us the pipettes and supplies
- Chris Scott and Thermo-Orion... for providing a chlorine electrode and meter