

Characterization of sludges — Determination of trace elements and phosphorus — Aqua regia extraction methods

The European Standard EN 13346:2000 has the status of a
British Standard

ICS 13.030.20

National foreword

This British Standard is the official English language version of EN 13346:2000.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee EH/5, Sludge characterization, which has the responsibility to:

- aid enquirers to understand the text;
- present to the responsible European committee any enquiries on the interpretation, or proposals for change, and keep the UK interests informed;
- monitor related international and European developments and promulgate them in the UK.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

Further information

Users of this standard are informed that the UK submitted some substantial comments at the final voting stage of the draft EN for the following reasons.

1) The scope fails to address the question of whether this method is appropriate for all of the types of sludges in the scope of CEN/TC 308. For example, is it applicable to sludges containing large amounts of lime? Hence, modify the scope to answer the question of applicability to the scope of the TC.

2) The following note should be added to the scope:
“The validation for this standard has only been carried out using materials as described in annex A. For other sludges, the user should validate the method using recovery and reproducibility tests”.

3) The final phrase, “and sludge products,” in the first sentence of the scope should be removed as it is inappropriate.

4) This is not a single standard since there are 4 alternative methods of extraction and 3 alternative methods of pretreatment. The test report in clause 12 should therefore specify which of the 12 permutations has been used. Therefore, either rewrite c) as “describe which method of pretreatment and which method of digestion was used” or modify the document so that there is only one standard method against which others may be benchmarked.

5) In annex D, the data presented for Method D with reference materials appear to condemn this method as unfit since it is almost invariably outside the 95% confidence of the reference sample. Therefore, suggest deleting Method D.

6) It is recommended that an additional brief section on the use of adequate AQC as per CEN/TC 223 methods be added:
“The analysis described in this standard should be carried out within a quality control system utilizing analytical quality control measures. Where performance data are absent for the sample type, recovery and reproducibility data should be obtained as a minimum”.

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Health and Environment Sector Committee, was published under the authority of the Standards Committee and comes into effect on 15 October 2000

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Amendments issued since publication

Amd. No.	Date	Comments