

EPA Method 418.1, IR

- Recommended for determining TPH in water and liquid wastes, though accepted for use in solids such as soils and pit wastes (ATSDR, 1999).
- Requires the use of Freon 113 as the solvent, which has caused most states to use other methods to determine petroleum hydrocarbons.
- Provides a “one number” value of TPH that is not specific to hydrocarbons. (ATSDR, 1999)
- Can result in artificially high TPH concentrations due to inclusion of non-petroleum hydrocarbons of biogenic origin, polar hydrocarbons, and ultrafine-textured particulates such as clays.
- If the material has fewer ring structures than the calibration standard, TPH values will be inflated, as in cases where diesel and motor oil range hydrocarbons exceed gasoline range hydrocarbons