



UConn Research Community;

Due to the current helium shortage, our primary contracted supplier, AirGas, recently notified UConn that our allocation of liquid helium will be reduced to 60 LTs/ month, with pricing increased 30% as of November 1st. Based upon our known and understood demand requirements, this allocable amount will not be sufficient for our current research needs. We are faced with some difficult decisions regarding allocation and demand management. Our secondary (back-up) supplier, Praxair, had also announced they cannot supply non-contract customers and will not enter into new contracts at this time. Without Praxair as an option, the University is looking at additional sourcing option and resources. With this shortage affecting all consumers nationwide, this effort will prove difficult to obtain additional supply on a reliable basis.

As we seek to proactively manage this situation, AirGas is available to inspect current installations to recommend improvements to conserve helium and reduce loss. We will also continue to explore alternate suppliers and will keep you updated as those efforts progress.

Finally, to manage the current shortage, it may make sense to commence a group discussion within the Research community regarding prioritization of allocation.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Kearney

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