

Radiological Monitoring Results for Groundwater Samples Associated with the Industrial Wastewater Reuse Permit for the Materials and Fuels Complex Industrial Waste Ditch and Pond: November 1, 2010 – October 31, 2011

February 2012



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U.S. Department of Energy
Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health
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ABSTRACT

This report summarizes radiological monitoring performed on samples from specific groundwater monitoring wells associated with the Industrial Wastewater Reuse Permit for the Materials and Fuels Complex Industrial Waste Ditch and Industrial Waste Pond (#LA-000160-01). The radiological monitoring was performed to fulfill Department of Energy requirements under the Atomic Energy Act.

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CONTENTS

ABSTRACT.....	iii
1 BACKGROUND.....	1
2 RADIOLOGICAL SAMPLE RESULTS.....	2
2.1 Reporting Period	2
2.2 Effluent.....	2
2.3 Groundwater.....	2
3 REFERENCES	4

TABLES

Table 1. Positive detections in groundwater samples collected in April and September 2011 from the monitoring wells sampled for the MFC Industrial Waste Ditch and Pond IWRP.....	3
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1 BACKGROUND

The radiological information presented in this report is provided based upon an agreement between the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and the U.S. Department of Energy Idaho Operations Office. The agreement is documented in the Industrial Wastewater Reuse Permit (IWRP) #LA-000160-01 for the Idaho National Laboratory Site's Materials and Fuels Complex (MFC) Industrial Waste Ditch (IWD) and Industrial Waste Pond (IWP). The IWRP was issued on April 14, 2010 and became effective on May 1, 2010 (Neher 2010). Items 7 and 8 of Section H ("Standard Reporting Requirements") of the IWRP state:

- The permittee agrees to provide to the Department the results of ground water radiological monitoring with respect to the MFC Industrial Waste Pond and Ditch (HMU or hydraulic management unit) that is performed to fulfill Department of Energy requirements under the Atomic Energy Act. The permittee agrees to provide the results with the Annual Report.
- The permittee agrees to provide to the Department the results of radiological monitoring of the MFC effluent, prior to discharge into the HMU, with respect to the MFC Industrial Waste Pond and Ditch (HMU) that is performed to fulfill Department of Energy requirements under the Atomic Energy Act.

2 RADIOLOGICAL SAMPLE RESULTS

2.1 Reporting Period

For the MFC Industrial Waste Pond and Ditch, the 2011 reporting year runs from November 1, 2010 through October 31, 2011. As stated in the “Facility Monitoring Table” of Section G of the IWRP, groundwater sampling shall be conducted in April/May and September/October.

2.2 Effluent

Composite samples were collected monthly from the Industrial Waste Pipeline (WW-016001) over a 24-hour period. Grab samples were collected quarterly from the wastewater discharged to Ditch C from the Industrial Waste Water Underground Pipe (WW-016002). No radiological analyses are performed on samples collected at these locations.

2.3 Groundwater

Groundwater samples for radiological parameters were collected from aquifer wells ANL-MON-A-012, ANL-MON-A-013, ANL-MON-A-014 in April and September 2011. The samples were shipped under full chain of custody to GEL Laboratories in Charleston, South Carolina, and analyzed for gamma spectrometry, gross alpha, gross beta, tritium, and alpha spectroscopy. Samples were collected to satisfy the surveillance objectives of DOE Order 450.1A and requirements for the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act.

Table 1 shows the positive detections in groundwater samples. Positive detections are considered measurements exceeding the instrument’s minimum detection level and greater than two times the uncertainty. Alpha/beta activity, potassium-40, uranium-234, and uranium-238 all occur naturally and are not indicative of anthropogenic impacts.

Table 1. Positive detections in groundwater samples collected in April and September 2011 from the monitoring wells sampled for the MFC Industrial Waste Ditch and Pond IWRP.

Monitoring Well	Sample Date	Parameter	Sample Result (pCi/L)
ANL-MON-A-012	04/27/11	Gross beta	5.16 (± 1.14) ^a
		Uranium-233/234	1.20 (± 0.182)
		Uranium-238	0.631 (± 0.121)
	09/28/11	Gross beta	4.64 (± 0.993)
		Uranium-233/234	1.63 (± 0.222)
		Uranium-238	0.714 (± 0.127)
ANL-MON-A-013	04/27/11	Uranium-233/234	1.38 (± 0.209)
		Uranium-238	0.512 (± 0.113)
	09/28/11	Gross beta	6.45 (± 1.30)
		Uranium-233/234	1.30 (± 0.179)
		Uranium-238	0.598 (± 0.108)
ANL-MON-A-014	04/27/11	Gross alpha	2.60 (± 1.01)
		Gross beta	4.46 (± 1.1)
		Potassium-40	34.3 (± 9.2)
		Uranium-233/234	1.52 (± 0.227)
		Uranium-238	0.603 (± 0.126)
	09/28/11	Gross alpha	2.14 (± 0.735)
		Gross beta	3.87 (± 0.942)
		Uranium-233/234	1.74 (± 0.225)
		Uranium-238	0.534 (± 0.102)

a. One sigma uncertainty shown in parentheses.

3 REFERENCES

42 USC § 2011–2259, 1954, “Atomic Energy Act of 1954,” *United States Code*.

DOE Order 450.1A, June 4, 2008, “Environmental Protection Program,” U.S. Department of Energy.

Neher, E., DEQ, to W. F. Hamel, DOE-ID, April 14, 2010, “Materials and Fuels Complex (MFC) Industrial Waste Ditch (IWD) and Industrial Waste Pond (IWP), Industrial Wastewater Reuse Permit No. LA-000160-01,” CCN 220726.