

SUSANA MARTINEZ Governor

JOHN SANCHEZ Lieutenant Governor

## NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

## DOE Oversight Bureau

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DAVE MARTIN Secretary

RAJ SOLOMON, P.E. Deputy Secretary

August 3, 2011

George Basabilvazo Department of Energy Carlsbad Field Office Carlsbad, NM 88220

**Subject:** 

Station A Exhaust Air Monitoring at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

Conducted by the New Mexico Environment, DOE Oversight Bureau, July -

December 2010.

Mr. Basabilovazo,

This letter transmits the subject final report.

These results are provided to DOE as final. If you have any questions, or would like copies of the complete data set, please contact me at 575-887-6851.

Sincerely,

Thomas Kesterson

Environmental Specialist -O

WIPP Oversight Section

Enclosure: Final submittal entitled: "Station A Exhaust Air Monitoring at the Waste Isolation

Pilot Plant Conducted by the New Mexico Environment Department, DOE Oversight Bureau, July - December 2010, with the following enclosures:

(1) Table 1 – Laboratory Results for Selected Analytes from Station A, July – December 2010, including blanks.

Cc: Dan Ferguson, Site Regulatory Specialist, DOE / CBFO Thomas Skibitski, Chief, NMED DOE OB



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Station A Exhaust Air Monitoring at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Conducted by the New Mexico Environment Department, DOE Oversight Bureau, July – December 2010

The New Mexico Environment Department DOE Oversight Bureau has compiled and assessed data collected from Station A for July through December 2010. The accompanying data Table 1 shows results for selected analytes as determined by an independent analytical laboratory.

There were no detections for Sr-90, Cs-137, or U-235 during this time. Concentrations of U-234 were detected in the filters collected for the months of September, November, and December, while U-238 was also detected in the filters collected during December. Concentrations of Pu-238 were detected in those filters collected during both July and November, while Pu-239/240 was detected in August. Concentrations of Am-241 were detected in August and September. It should be noted that Pu-238 and Am-241 were detected in the sample blanks, as well, indicating the results for the months showing detections are questionable.

#### Response

Questions and or comments may be addressed to Thomas Kesterson by phone at 575-887-6851, by e-mail at <a href="mailto:thomasl.kesterson@state.nm.us">thomasl.kesterson@state.nm.us</a>, or to the address in the above letterhead.

Enclosure: (1) Table 1 – Laboratory Results for Selected Analytes from Station A, July – December, 2010

Cc: Dan Ferguson, Site Regulatory Specialist, DOE / CBFO George Basabilvazo, DOE / CBFO Thomas Skibitski, Chief, NMED DOE OB

Table-1A		Ana	Data Sun	Data Summaries			
Jul-10		Monthly					
Station A							
Analyte	Result	2 s	Sample	Requested	Lab	Result	2 s
	pCi/cor	nposite	MDC	MDC	Flag	nBq/m <sup>3</sup>	
Sr-90	0.18	0.22	0.46	1	U	2909	3556
Pu-239/40	0.017	0.023	0.034	0.1	U	275	372
Pu-238	0.019	0.023	0.017	0.1	LT	307	372
Am-241	0.012	0.025	0.036	0.1	U	194	404
Cs-137	-1.0	4.9	8.7	10	U	-16164	79202
U-234	0.014	0.027	0.056	0.2	U	226	436
U-235	0.001	0.026	0.05	0.2	U	12	420
U-238	0.005	0.022	0.048	0.2	U	81	356
Total Air	$(m^3)$	(ft <sup>3</sup> )					
Flow	2289	80857					

U – Result is less than the sample specific MDC.

LT – Result is less than Requested MDC, greater than sample specific MDC.

#### **Abbreviations:**

TPU – Total Propagated Uncertainty

Table-1B		Ana	Data Sun	Data Summaries			
Aug-10		Monthly					
Station A							
Analyte	Result	2 s	Sample	Requested	Lab	Result	2 s
	pCi/coi	nposite	MDC	MDC	Flag	nBq/m <sup>3</sup>	
Sr-90	0.09	0.22	0.49	1	U	1402	3352
Pu-239/40	0.033	0.030	0.018	0.1	LT	503	457
Pu-238	0.019	0.028	0.052	0.1	U	290	427
Am-241	0.041	0.034	0.019	0.1	LT	625	518
Cs-137	0.0	4.9	8.7	10	U	0	74667
U-234	0.031	0.035	0.060	0.2	U	472	533
U-235	0.003	0.027	0.047	0.2	U	46	411
U-238	0.011	0.023	0.049	0.2	U	168	350
Total Air	$(m^3)$	(ft <sup>3</sup> )					
Flow	2428	85768					

U-Result is less than the sample specific MDC.

LT – Result is less than Requested MDC, greater than sample specific MDC.

#### **Abbreviations:**

TPU – Total Propagated Uncertainty

Table-1C		Ana	Data Sun	nmaries			
Sep-10		Monthly					
Station A							
Analyte	Result	2 s	Sample	Requested	Lab	Result	2 s
	pCi/cor	pCi/composite MD0			Flag	nBq/m <sup>3</sup>	
Sr-90	-0.07	0.20	0.46	1	U	-1112	3270
Pu-239/40	0.022	0.027	0.041	0.1	U	360	441
Pu-238	0.007	0.024	0.018	0.1	U	106	392
Am-241	0.034	0.030	0.032	0.1	LT	556	490
Cs-137	1.6	5.0	8.6	10	U	26159	81747
U-234	0.048	0.038	0.041	0.2	LT	785	621
U-235	0.000	0.027	0.020	0.2	U	0	441
U-238	0.017	0.023	0.034	0.2	U	278	376
Total Air	$(m^3)$	(ft <sup>3</sup> )					
Flow	2263	79939					

 $\boldsymbol{U}-\boldsymbol{Result}$  is less than the sample specific MDC.

LT – Result is less than Requested MDC, greater than sample specific MDC.

## **Abbreviations:**

TPU – Total Propagated Uncertainty

Table-1D		Ana	Data Sun	nmaries				
Oct-10		Monthly						
Station A								
Analyte	Result	2 s	Sample	Requested	Lab	Result	2 s	
	pCi/cor	nposite	MDC	MDC	Flag	nBq	nBq/m³	
Sr-90	-0.04	0.22	0.49	1	U	-520	3270	
Pu-239/40	0.007	0.021	0.042	0.1	U	97	312	
Pu-238	0.004	0.021	0.031	0.1	U	61	312	
Am-241	0.023	0.025	0.032	0.1	U	342	372	
Cs-137	-3.1	5.1	9.4	10	U	-46084	75816	
U-234	0.011	0.024	0.053	0.2	U	164	357	
U-235	0.020	0.027	0.047	0.2	U	297	401	
U-238	0.013	0.020	0.035	0.2	U	193	297	
Total Air	$(m^3)$	(ft <sup>3</sup> )						
Flow	2489	87916						

U – Result is less than the sample specific MDC.

LT – Result is less than Requested MDC, greater than sample specific MDC.

## **Abbreviations:**

TPU – Total Propagated Uncertainty

Table-1E		Ana	Data Sun	Data Summaries			
Nov-10		Monthly					
Station A				-			
Analyte	Result	2 s	Sample	Requested	Lab	Result	2 s
	pCi/coi	nposite	MDC	MDC	Flag	nBq/m <sup>3</sup>	
Sr-90	0.10	0.23	0.50	1	U	1553	3573
Pu-239/40	0.017	0.025	0.044	0.1	U	264	388
Pu-238	0.035	0.032	0.019	0.1	LT	544	497
Am-241	0.030	0.032	0.048	0.1	U	466	497
Cs-137	-3.2	4.3	7.9	10	U	-49709	66796
U-234	0.038	0.033	0.038	0.2	LT	590	513
U-235	-0.004	0.025	0.044	0.2	U	-65	388
U-238	0.002	0.022	0.038	0.2	U	37	342
Total Air	$(m^3)$	(ft <sup>3</sup> )					
Flow	2382	84135					

U – Result is less than the sample specific MDC.

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## **Abbreviations:**

TPU – Total Propagated Uncertainty

Table-1F		Ana	Data Sun	Data Summaries			
Dec-10		Monthly					
Station A							
Analyte	Result	2 s	Sample	Requested	Lab	Result	2 s
	pCi/coi	nposite	MDC	MDC	IDC Flag	nBq/m <sup>3</sup>	
Sr-90	-0.03	0.25	0.58	1	U	-734	5394
Pu-239/40	0.016	0.024	0.041	0.1	U	345	518
Pu-238	0.007	0.024	0.018	0.1	U	140	518
Am-241	0.019	0.023	0.035	0.1	U	410	496
Cs-137	5.2	4.3	6.8	10	U	112187	92770
U-234	0.15	0.07	0.05	0.2	LT	3236	1445
U-235	0.029	0.033	0.050	0.2	U	626	712
U-238	0.099	0.054	0.051	0.2	LT	2136	1165
Total Air	$(m^3)$	$(ft^3)$				·	
Flow	1715	60579					

U – Result is less than the sample specific MDC.

LT – Result is less than Requested MDC, greater than sample specific MDC.

#### **Abbreviations:**

TPU – Total Propagated Uncertainty

Table-1G	
Blank filter July - December	2010
Station A	

Analyte	Result 2 s		MDC	Requested	
	pCi/coi	mposite		MDC	Lab Flag
Sr 90	-0.18	0.19	0.45	1	U
Pu-239/40	0.003	0.031	0.054	0.1	U
Pu-238	0.043	0.039	0.023	0.01	LT
Am 241	0.027	0.028	0.019	0.1	LT
Cs 137	-0.5	4.1	7.1	10	U
U-234	0.008	0.025	0.059	0.2	U
U-235	-0.002	0.028	0.041	0.2	U
U-238	0.014	0.024	0.047	0.2	U

U – Result is less than the sample specific MDC.

LT – Result is less than Requested MDC, greater than sample specific MDC.

## **Abbreviations:**

TPU - Total Propagated Uncertainty