



Nevada Test Site

National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants Calendar Year 2005

June 2006

Test Cell A



JASPER



Dense Plasma Focus



DAF

Prepared for:
U.S. Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Nevada Site Office

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National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants Calendar Year 2005

By
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2005 RADIOLOGICAL DOSE TO THE PUBLIC MEETS FEDERAL STANDARD

The Nevada Test Site (NTS) is operated by the U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office (NNSA/NSO). From 1951 through 1992, the NTS was operated as the nation's site for nuclear weapons testing. The release of man-made radionuclides from the NTS as a result of testing activities has been monitored since the first decade of atmospheric testing. After 1962, when nuclear tests were conducted only underground, the radiation exposure to the public surrounding the NTS was greatly reduced. After the 1992 moratorium on nuclear testing, radiation monitoring on the NTS focused on detecting airborne radionuclides that are resuspended into the air (e.g., by winds, dust-devils) along with historically-contaminated soils on the NTS.

To protect the public from harmful levels of man-made radiation, the Clean Air Act, National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) (40 Code of Federal Regulations 61 Subpart H) limits the release of radioactivity from a U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) facility (e.g., the NTS) to 10 millirem per year (mrem/yr) effective dose equivalent (EDE) to any member of the public. This is the dose limit established for someone living off of the NTS for inhaling radioactive particles that may be carried by wind off of the NTS. This limit assumes that members of the public surrounding the NTS may also inhale "background levels" or radioactive particles unrelated to NTS activities that come from naturally-occurring elements in the environment (e.g., radon gas from the earth or natural building materials) or from other man-made sources (e.g., cigarette smoke).

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires DOE facilities (e.g., the NTS) to demonstrate compliance with the NESHAP dose limit by annually estimating the dose to a hypothetical member of the public, referred to as the maximally exposed individual (MEI), or the member of the public who resides within an 80-kilometer (50-mile) radius of the facility who would experience the highest annual dose. This dose to a hypothetical person living close to the NTS cannot exceed 10 mrem/yr.

This report has been produced annually for the EPA Region IX, and for the state of Nevada since 1992 and documents that the estimated EDE to the MEI has been, and continues to be, well below the NESHAP dose limit. The report format and level of technical detail has been dictated by the EPA and DOE Headquarters over the years. It is read and evaluated for NESHAP compliance by federal and state regulators. Each section and appendix presents technical information (e.g., NTS emission source estimates, onsite air sampling data, air transport model input parameters, dose calculation methodology, etc.), which supports the annual dose assessment conclusions.

In 2005, as in all previous years for which this report has been produced, the estimated dose to the public from inhalation of radiological emissions from current and past NTS activities is shown to be well below the 10 mrem/yr dose limit. This was demonstrated by air sampling data collected onsite at each of six EPA-approved "critical receptor" stations on the NTS. The sum of measured EDEs from the four stations at the NTS boundaries is 2.5 mrem/yr. This dose is 25 percent of the allowed NESHAP dose limit. Because the nearest member of the public resides approximately 20 kilometers (12 miles) from the NTS boundary, this individual receives only a small fraction of this dose.

NESHAP compliance does not require DOE facilities to estimate annual inhalation dose from non-DOE activities. Therefore, this report does not estimate public radiation doses from any other sources or activities (e.g., naturally-occurring radon, global fallout).

2005 CHANGES IN DOCUMENTING NESHAP COMPLIANCE

In previous years, the EPA-approved air transport model, called the Clean Air Package 1988 (CAP88-PC), was used to calculate the EDE to the MEI attributed to NTS air emissions. CAP88-PC was also used to calculate the population dose, or the collective EDE, for all individuals combined who reside within the 50-mile radius of the NTS (expressed as person-rem/yr). Since 1992, when the first annual NESHAP compliance report was prepared, the EDE to the MEI has consistently been less than 0.2 mrem/yr (0.0038 to 0.18 mrem/yr, less than 2% of the 10 mrem/yr limit), and the collective EDE has consistently been less than 1 person-rem/yr (0.0.029 to 0.53 person-rem/yr).

DOE Order 5400.5 specifies that dose calculations be performed using standard EPA or DOE dose conversion factors or analytical models prescribed in regulations applicable to site operations. The use of CAP88-PC and all conversion factors and mathematical methodologies used by NNSA/NSO in this report satisfied this DOE specification. However, in 2004, EPA Region IX approved the use of six "critical receptor" air sampling stations on the NTS to evaluate NESHAP compliance instead of using the estimated public dose calculated by the CAP88-PC model. The reasoning for this change is unique to the NTS and is summarized below:

- 1) Air sampling data reflect actual levels of re-suspended radionuclides collected continuously throughout the year and provide a more accurate and more conservative estimate of public dose. The annual dose to the MEI offsite is from diffuse NTS sources, primarily from the resuspension of radioactively-contaminated soil from legacy sites containing americium-241 (^{241}Am), plutonium-238 (^{238}Pu), plutonium-239+240 ($^{239+240}\text{Pu}$), and the evaporation of tritiated water or diffusion of tritiated water vapor from ponds and soils at legacy sites and waste management sites. The six critical receptor air sampling stations can detect these emissions of airborne radionuclides at very low levels. These levels would reflect the most accurate real-time presence of re-suspended man-made radionuclides present at each station. In contrast, the CAP88-PC model would compute offsite dose based on annually-monitored NTS wind pattern data, a soil re-suspension mathematical model, and estimates of radionuclide concentration levels in soils based on field surveys that were conducted in the 1980s. Dose computed at each critical receptor station from the actual air sampling data will represent the highest dose possible for a member of the public if they lived onsite. If each station's data reflect on site dose of less than the 10 mrem/yr limit, this finding is more than adequate to document that the nearest member of the public residing at least another 20 kilometers (12 miles) away would experience an even lower dose.
- 2) The air sampling stations are not expected to underestimate NTS emissions from sources other than the diffuse legacy soil sites. When other NTS source emissions have been estimated each year and entered into the CAP88-PC model, they have been shown to contribute no measurable increase to the total dose to the MEI. Such sources have historically included the Area 12 E Tunnel ponds, containment ponds receiving water pumped from wells near the sites of underground nuclear tests, radioactive waste management sites, the SCHOONER and SEDAN crater sites, and NTS laboratories from which tritium gas or vapor has been released. The six onsite critical receptor air sampling stations monitor tritium as well as other man-made radionuclides and are not expected to underestimate public dose from these known tritium sources given that the alternative CAP88-PC method produces an immeasurable dose to the public from such sources.
- 3) CAP88-PC will continue to be used for new projects. New projects and facility modifications that have a potential for airborne radioactive emissions will still be evaluated with CAP88-PC prior to and after their completion to determine compliance with NESHAP. The radiation dose to the MEI determined from these evaluations will be added to the MEI dose from legacy contamination (~0.2 mrem/yr) to assure that the total dose not exceed 10 mrem/yr.

Beginning with this report, data from the six critical receptor stations will be used in lieu of computing an EDE to the MEI from diffuse legacy contamination using the CAP88-PC air transport model. Furthermore, DOE also approved the discontinuance of reporting collective population dose (in units of person-rem/yr) to those residing within 80 kilometers (50 miles) of the NTS.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

Am	americium
ARL/SORD	Air Resources Laboratory, Special Operations and Research Division
BN	Bechtel Nevada
CAP88-PC	Clean Air Package 1988 (EPA software program for estimating doses)
CEDE	committed effective dose equivalent
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
Ci	curie(s)
cm	centimeter(s)
cm ²	square centimeters
cm/yr	centimeter(s)/year
Cs	cesium
CY	calendar year
DAF	Device Assembly Facility
DPF	Dense Plasma Focus
DoD	U.S. Department of Defense
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
DRA	Desert Rock Meteorological Observatory
EDE	effective dose equivalent
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ERDA	Energy Research and Development Administration
F	Fahrenheit
FFACO	Federal Facilities Agreement and Consent Order
ft	foot or (feet)
ft ³ /min	cubic feet per minute
GBq	gigabecquerel
³ H	tritium
HEPA	high efficiency particulate air
HTO	tritiated water
in/yr	inch(es)/year
I	iodine
JASPER	Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research
kCi	kilocurie(s) (1kCi = 1,000 Ci)
kg/m ²	kilogram(s) per square meter
km	kilometer(s)
km ²	square kilometers
km/hr	kilometer(s) per hour
Kr	krypton
L	liter(s)
LLW	low-level radioactive waste
m	meter(s)
m ³	cubic meters
MBq	mega-becquerels
mCi	millicuries
MDC	minimum detectable concentration
MEDA	Meteorological Data Acquisition System
MEI	maximally exposed individual
mi	mile(s)
mi ²	square miles
MIDNET	Meteorological Integrated Data Network
mph	mile(s) per hour

mrem	millirem or milli-roentgen equivalent man (1 mrem = 0.001 (1 x 10 ⁻³) rem)
mrem/yr	millirem per year
NESHAP	National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants
NLVF	North Las Vegas Facility
NNSA/NSO	U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NRC	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
NTS	Nevada Test Site
NTTR	Nevada Test and Training Range
pCi/L	picocuries per liter
pCi/m ³	picocuries per cubic meter
Pu	plutonium
rem	roentgen equivalent man
rem/yr	rem per year
Rn	radon
RWMS	Radioactive Waste Management Site
s	second(s)
SNM	special nuclear materials
Sr	strontium
STAR	Stability Array (grouping of meteorological data)
Th	thorium
TRU	transuranic (nuclides with atomic numbers greater than uranium)
TTR	Tonopah Test Range
U	uranium
UCC	Yucca Flat Meteorological Observatory
μCi	micro-curie (1 μCi = 0.000001 (1 x 10 ⁻⁶) Ci)
μR/hr	micro-roentgen per hour
μrem/yr	micro-roentgen equivalent man per year
Xe	xenon
yr	year(s)

**U.S. Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Nevada Site Office
Air Emissions Annual Report
(under Subpart H, Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 61.94)
Calendar Year (CY) 2005**

Site Name: Nevada Test Site

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SECTION I FACILITY INFORMATION

SITE DESCRIPTION

The Nevada Test Site (NTS) is operated by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office (NNSA/NSO) as the site for experiments in support of the national Stockpile Stewardship Program, and the activities listed below. Located in Nye County, Nevada, the site's southeast corner is about 105 kilometers (km) (65 miles [mi]) northwest of the major population center, Las Vegas, Nevada. The NTS covers about 3,561 km² (1,375 mi²), an area larger than Rhode Island. Its size is 46 to 56 km (28 to 35 mi) east to west and from 64 to 88 km (40 to 55 mi) north to south. The NTS is surrounded, except on the south side, by public exclusion areas (Nevada Test and Training Range [NTTR]) that provide another 24 to 104 km (15 to 65 mi) between the NTS and public lands (Figure 1.0). The NTS is characterized by desert valley and Great Basin mountain topography, with a climate, flora, and fauna typical of the southwest deserts. Population density within 80 km (50 mi) from the NTS boundary is about 1.0 persons/km² (2.6 person/mi²). Restricted access, low population density in the surrounding area, and extended wind transport times are advantageous factors for the activities conducted at the NTS. Surface waters are scarce on the NTS, and slow-moving groundwater is present hundreds to thousands of feet below the land surface.

SOURCE DESCRIPTION

The sources of radionuclides include current and previous activities conducted on the NTS (Figure 2.0). The NTS was the primary location for testing of nuclear explosives in the Continental U.S. between 1951 and 1992. Historical testing has included (1) atmospheric testing in the 1950s and early 1960s, (2) underground testing between 1951 and 1992, and (3) open-air nuclear reactor and rocket engine testing (DOE, 1996a). No nuclear tests have been conducted since September 23, 1992 (DOE, 2000). Radionuclides remaining on the soil surface in some NTS areas after several decades of radioactive decay have the potential to become re-suspended into the atmosphere at concentrations that can be detected by onsite air sampling stations. This report, and those produced since 1992, have shown that these airborne radionuclides are well within the limit established by the Clean Air Act, National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) of 10 millirem per year (10 mrem/yr) from NTS sources. (In comparison, a cross-country commercial airline flight at 30,000 feet [ft] would result in a dose of 5 mrem/yr from direct exposure to cosmic rays.)

Limited non-nuclear testing includes spills of hazardous materials at the Non-Proliferation Test and Evaluation Complex (formerly called the Hazardous Materials Spill Center), private technology development, demilitarization activities, and site remediating activities.

Programs and activities involving radioactive materials include laboratory analyses; handling, transport, storage, and assembly of radioactive targets for the Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research (JASPER) gas gun; conducting subcritical experiments at U-1a; and operation of radioactive waste management sites (RWMSs) for low-level radioactive and mixed waste (DOE, 1996a). Monitoring and evaluation of the various activities conducted onsite indicate that the potential sources of offsite radiation exposure in calendar year (CY) 2005 were releases from (1) evaporation of tritiated water (HTO) from ponds, such as the E Tunnel ponds in Area 12, an UGTA containment pond receiving water pumped from a well used to characterize the aquifer at the site of a past underground nuclear test, and a sewage lagoon in which water (containing low

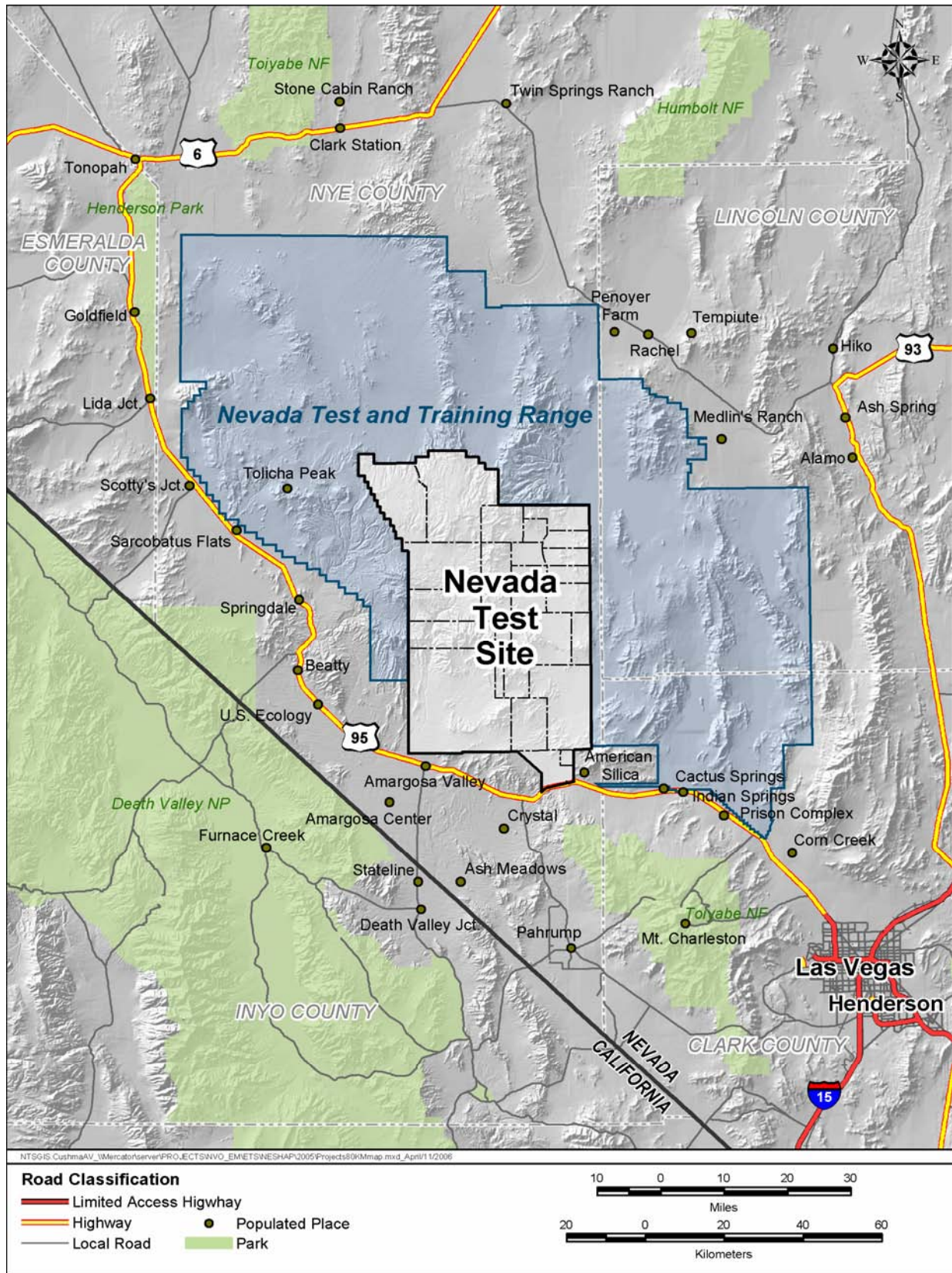


Figure 1.0 Map of the NTS and Surrounding Populated Areas

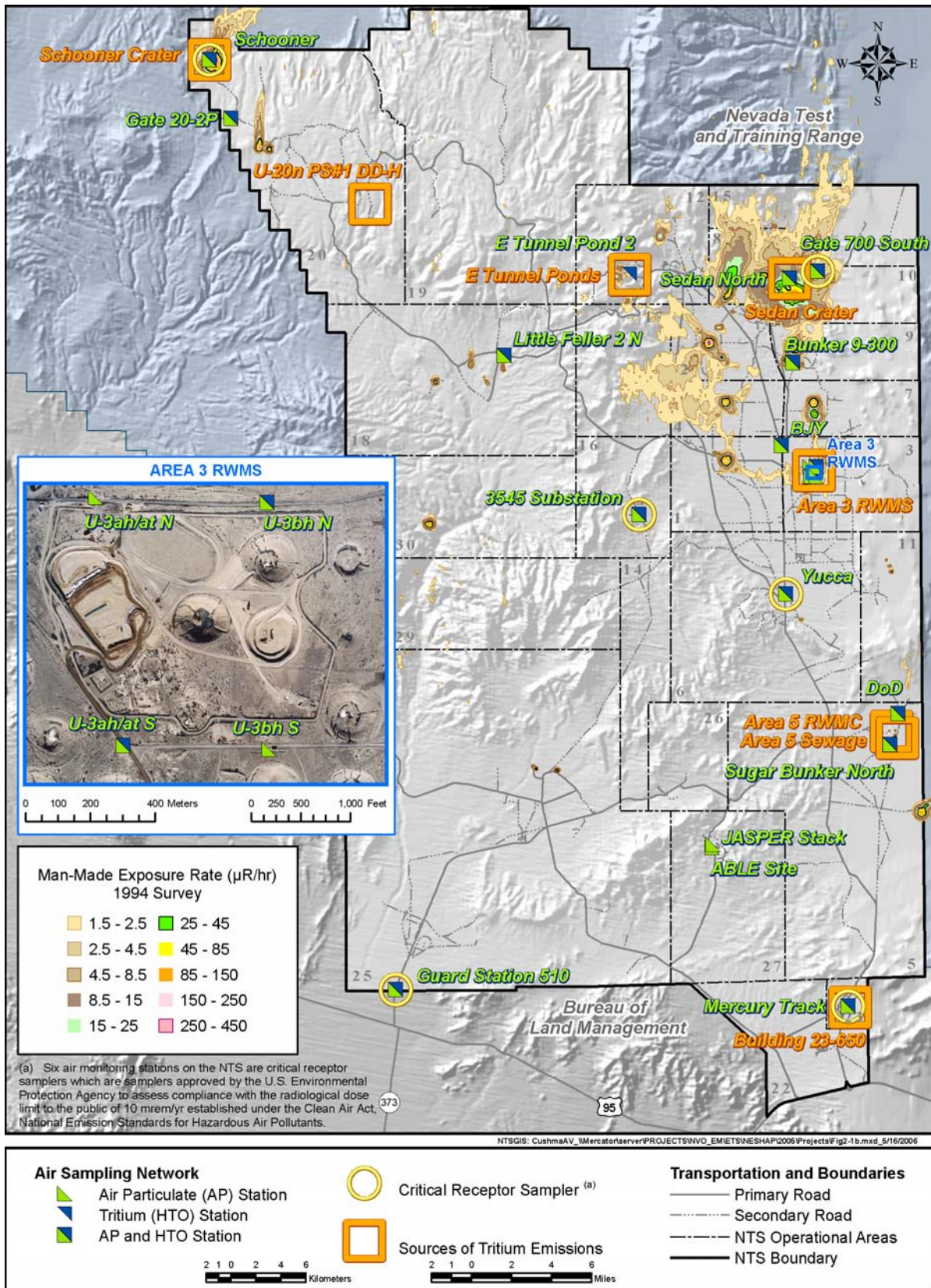


Figure 2.0 Sources of Radioactive Contamination and Air Sampling Network on the NTS

concentrations of tritium) from Building A-1, North Las Vegas Facility (NLVF), was disposed; (2) onsite radioanalytical laboratories; (3) the Area 3 and Area 5 RWMS facilities; and (4) diffuse sources of tritium (^3H) and re-suspension of plutonium ($^{239+240}\text{Pu}$) and americium (^{241}Am) at the sites of past nuclear tests. It is improbable that radioactive emissions would be released into the atmosphere during the preparation and performance of subcritical experiments at U-1a. The following sections present a general description of the present emission sources on the NTS and at the NLVF.

North Las Vegas Facility

At the NLVF, parts of the Building A-1 basement were contaminated with tritium by a previous contractor in 1995. The incident involved the release of tritium as HTO. This unusual occurrence led to a very small potential exposure (<0.001 mrem/yr) to an offsite person. The HTO emission has continued at lower levels (probably re-emanation from building materials), even after cleanup activities in November and December 1997. A description of the incident and the potential effective dose equivalent (EDE) for offsite exposure during CY 2005 are presented in Appendix A.

Tunnel Operations

Nuclear explosive tests have been conducted within tunnel complexes mined into the Rainier Mesa region (Area 12) and in Areas 15 and 16. When these tests were conducted, purging gases from the tunnels occasionally resulted in releases of radioactivity, and contaminated water drained from the tunnels into containment ponds (Energy Research and Development Administration [ERDA], 1977). No nuclear testing activities have occurred since 1992.

Ponds

Water contaminated with radionuclides seeped from the tunnels in Area 12 and was collected in ponds resulting in water evaporation and seepage into the soil. The tunnels have been sealed, but water continues to seep from E Tunnel. The only radiological contaminant which produces a measurable air emission from evaporation of the water is tritium (as HTO). Calculation of the source term for this emission is described in Appendix B.

To characterize the groundwater regime under the NTS, suitable wells are being drilled and existing wells re-completed in the vicinity of certain underground tests and at other locations on the NTS, as determined by hydrologists. During these drilling operations, if the tritium level exceeds 4×10^5 picocuries per liter (pCi/L), contaminated water is pumped from the wells and diverted to lined containment ponds, as required by the State and explained in the Underground Test Area Program Waste Management Plan (DOE, 2002). During CY 2005, water containing tritium was pumped from Well U-20cn PS#1DD-H into a lined containment pond. Calculations of the tritium emissions from this source are described in Appendix B.

In the basement of Building A-1 in the NLVF, a vacant radiation source well used in the past for calibrating radiation instruments has been filling with water due to the soil bottom in the well and a rise in the ground water level. Low concentrations of tritium found in the water from this source well were attributed to the tritium contaminating incident at the NLVF in 1995. A representative of the State of Nevada was informed of the problem and approved the disposal of the water by evaporation with evaporative coolers outside the north side of Building A-1 and by disposal in the Area 5 Sewage Lagoon at the NTS when the evaporative coolers were not effective. The tritium emissions from the evaporative coolers and the Area 5 Sewage Lagoon are estimated in Appendices A and B, respectively.

Laboratories

Radiological analyses were conducted in laboratories located in Area 23 Buildings 650 and 652 (in Mercury), Building CP-95A (in Area 6), and the Device Assembly Facility (DAF) (in Area 6). Because these facilities process environmental samples, very little radioactivity passes through them. However, there is potential for some radionuclides to be discharged into the atmosphere from the hood ventilation systems during sample processing, particularly of spiked samples, or from loss of radioactive standards in liquid or gaseous form.

This year, the only laboratory emission was tritium gas which was used by laboratory personnel at Area 23 Building 650 while calibrating analytical equipment. The tritium emission from this source is described in Appendix C.

Non-volatile radioactive standards and sealed radiation sources were controlled in accordance with Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 835.

Radioactive Waste Management Sites

The Area 3 RWMS and the Area 5 RWMS are used for the disposal of low-level radioactive wastes (LLW). Disposal is accomplished by the use of pits and trenches. The Area 5 RWMS is also used for accumulation of mixed waste and storage of transuranic (TRU) and mixed TRU wastes. Concrete pads are used for temporary storage of wastes. At the Area 5 RWMS, only packaged, dry wastes are accepted for disposal. The facility is considered a diffuse source of radiological effluents. The only radioactive emission detected by the various types of samplers located downwind of the site and attributed to site operations was tritium as HTO in atmospheric moisture. The calculation of the tritium source term for these emissions is explained in Appendix D. Since the Area 3 RWMS LLW site is in a location where the surrounding surface soil has been contaminated by past nuclear tests, the re-suspension of this soil by wind or vehicular activity results in above background levels of plutonium being detected in air samples collected outside the perimeter fence. Due to past disposal of waste containing tritium at the Area 3 RWMS, air samplers for tritium were installed at the northeast and southwest corners of the perimeter fence on November 8, 2004.

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Approval by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was obtained in June 1999 for the construction of a hydrogen gas gun in Building 5100 in Area 27 using special nuclear material and other actinide materials as targets. To assure that the emissions are in conformance with National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP), a stack monitoring system was installed downstream of high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters. In June 2000, the construction and startup phase was completed. Beginning in June 2003, equation-of-state experiments, with the two-stage light gas gun, were begun using plutonium as target material. From the results of the stack monitoring system, no radioactive emissions from the experiments conducted during CY 2005 were detected.

Surface Areas Contaminated with Tritium, Plutonium, or Americium

Tritium emanation from the cratering tests SEDAN and SCHOONER was detectable in atmospheric moisture samples collected on molecular sieves by special air samplers. Derivation of the tritium emissions for these locations is described in Appendix D.

Surface soils in some areas on the NTS were contaminated with plutonium and/or tritium from either nuclear device safety, atmospheric, or cratering tests, using nuclear explosives. An investigation of these areas during the Nevada Applied Ecology Group studies, updated by the Desert Research Institute (DOE, 1991), developed an inventory of radionuclides (Table 1.0). The inventory is an estimate of the curies (Ci) of each radionuclide in the top 5 centimeters (cm) of the soil within each study area.

Table 1.0 Inventory of ²⁴¹Am, ²³⁸Pu, and ²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰Pu in Surface Soil^(a) at the NTS

NTS Administrative Area Studied	Study Site Area in mi ² / Percent of Total Administrative Area	Radionuclide Inventory (Ci)		
		²⁴¹ Am	²³⁸ Pu	²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰ Pu
1	26.5 / 100	4.2	6.5	24 ^(b)
2	19.7 / 100	2.9	8.6	22 ^(b)
3	32.3 / 100	4.6	3.1	37
4	16.0 / 100	6.6	13	40 ^(b)
5	2.9 / 3	0.6	0.1	4.8 ^(b)
6	32.3 / 81	1.7	3.3	8.4 ^(b)
7	19.3 / 100	2.2	0.6	16 ^(b)
8	13.9 / 100	17	8.0	110
9	20.0 / 98	4.2	2.2	89
10	20.0 / 99	19	19	110
11	4.0 / 16	3.3	0.5	29
12	39.6 / 100	5.7	8.5	39 ^(b)
15	35.3 / 100	8.0	7.8	63 ^(b)
16	14.3 / 50	0.7	1.5	3.7 ^(b)
17	31.4 / 100	2.8	4.5	18 ^(b)
18	27.3 / 31	19	5.6	100
19	148.3 / 100	21	32	140 ^(b)
20	6.2 / 6	23	30	41
25	0.9 / 0.004	0	0	0
26	0.2 / 0.009	0	0	0
30	0.3 / 0.0051	3.2	4.5	14 ^(b)

Source: (DOE, 1991)

(a) Soil within 0-5 centimeters (cm) of the surface

(b) DOE, 1991 indicated that these levels were probably the result of historical fallout from nuclear tests in surrounding areas.

These contaminated areas on the NTS could become sources of radionuclide exposure to the public if the soils were to be re-suspended, e.g., during windy conditions, surface cleanup, construction, vehicular travel, or similar activities. Figure 2.0 shows the approximate locations of the contaminated areas based upon an aerial survey conducted in 1994. These areas are considered diffuse sources of radioactive emissions. The derivation of the source terms for the NTS contaminated areas is explained in Appendix E.

Federal Facilities Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO)

Under the FFACO between the DOE, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the state of Nevada (FFACO, 1996), contamination generated by historical NTS activities is being addressed. Two surface areas northwest of the NTS on the NTTR including the Tonopah Test Range have had partial source removal, resulting in a decrease in the offsite EDE. These surface areas are DOUBLE TRACKS, remediated in 1996, and CLEAN SLATE I in 1997. The monitoring plan for such activities required continuous air sampling before, during, and after cleanup operations until the concentration in air returned to background levels. During 2005, no further remediation work or air monitoring was conducted in these areas.

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SECTION II AIR EMISSIONS DATA

Each potential source of NTS emissions was characterized by one of the following methods: (1) monitoring methods using procedures previously developed at the NTS; (2) a yearly radionuclide inventory of the sources in laboratories, identifying any volatile radionuclides that were released to the environment; (3) the measurement of tritiated water concentrations in liquid effluents discharged to containment ponds and assuming all the effluent evaporates over the course of the year to become an air emission; (4) use of re-suspension calculations; and (5) a combination of environmental measurements and the Clean Air Package 1988 (CAP88-PC) air dispersion model (EPA, 2006) to calculate the emissions. According to Title 40 CFR 61.93 (b)(4)(ii) (CFR, 2002), no credit was taken for pollution control equipment in determining air emissions. The emissions for NESHAP reporting are listed in Table 2.0. These emissions are conservative (worst-case). Appendices A through E describe the methods used to determine the emissions from the sources listed in Table 2.0.

Table 2.0 Summary of Annual Air Emissions Data by Source^(a) (Multiply Ci by 37 to obtain gigabecquerels [GBq])

Source Type	Type of Emissions Control	Distance to Nearest Member of the Public	Nuclide	Annual Quantity (Ci)
Point Sources				
Building 650, Area 23	None	5.5 km (3.4 mi)	³ H	0.000014
Building A-1, NLVF ^(a)	None	0.1 km (328 ft)	³ H	0.020
Area Sources				
E Tunnel ponds	None	50 km (31 mi)	³ H ^(b)	17
RWMS-3	None	47 km (29 mi)	³ H ^(c)	57
RWMS-5	None	36 km (22 mi)	³ H ^(c)	8.9
SCHOONER	None	20 km (12 mi)	³ H ^(c)	40
SEDAN	None	50 km (31 mi)	³ H ^(d)	45
Well U-20n PS #1DD-H	None	49 km (30 mi)	³ H ^(b)	3.5
Area 5 Sewage Lagoon	None	36 km (22 mi)	³ H ^(b)	0.00037
Grouped Area Sources				
All NTS Areas	None	20-60 km (12-37 mi)	²⁴¹ Am ^(d)	0.047
All NTS Areas	None	20-60 km (12-37 mi)	²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰ Pu ^(d)	0.29

(a) All locations are at or near the NTS except Building A-1, which is in North Las Vegas.

(b) Emission based on tritiated water discharged into containment pond(s)

(c) Emission based on environmental surveillance results and CAP88-PC software

(d) Sum of emissions estimated from re-suspension model; see Table E.1 for individual area estimates

A summary of the NTS total CY 2005 emissions for NESHAP's reporting, by radionuclide, is provided in Table 3.0.

Table 3.0 Total Estimated NTS Emissions for CY 2005 (Multiply Ci by 37 to obtain GBq)

Radionuclide	2005 Total Quantity (Ci)	Range ^(a) in Total Quantity from 2000 to 2004 (Ci)
³ H	170	290 - 565
²⁴¹ Am	0.047	0.047 - 0.049
²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰ Pu	0.29	0.29 - 0.32

Note: This table includes most conservative point and diffuse source release estimates.

(a) Highest and lowest values for each radionuclide during those five years

RELATION OF EMISSIONS TO DOSE

Table 3.0 summarizes the total Ci of radioactive emissions identified as being released from all areas and activities on the NTS in 2005. To ensure that the public is protected from unsafe levels of radioactive emissions, public dose from these emissions must be assessed and then compared to the NESHAP limit of 10 millirem per year (mrem/yr) (this limit assumes this dose is over and above the public's dose from background radiation). In other words, quantifying emissions (shown in Table 3.0) does not tell one what the expected dose to the public would be from these emissions. Dose would depend on how far one lived from these emission sources and how far the airborne radionuclides traveled. Estimating the 2005 public dose is the next step, called "dose assessment," and is presented in Section III.

SECTION III DOSE ASSESSMENTS

DOSE ASSESSMENT METHOD

Estimating public dose from NTS emissions has been done by two methods since 2001. The most direct method involves taking continuous air samples near the NTS borders and areas of known potential sources of emissions. Beginning in July 2001, Bechtel Nevada (BN) established the following air sampling stations on the NTS (see Figure 2.0) which were approved by EPA Region IX (EPA, 2001) as “critical receptor locations” or “compliance stations”:

- Area 6, Yucca
- Area 10, Gate 700 South
- Area 16, Substation 3545
- Area 20, SCHOONER
- Area 23, Mercury Track
- Area 25, Gate 510

Although these compliance air sampling stations are on the NTS, they are used to conservatively represent offsite critical receptors, i.e., members of the public. Compliance with the NESHAP inhalation dose limit to the public of 10 mrem/yr is demonstrated if the measured concentration of each radionuclide at each of these locations is less than the NESHAP Concentration Levels for Environmental Compliance (CL). The CLs represent the annual average concentration of each radionuclide which would result in a committed effective dose equivalent (CEDE) of 10 mrem/yr (see Table 4.0 below). If multiple radionuclides are detected at a station, then compliance with NESHAP is demonstrated when the sum of the fractions (determined by dividing each radionuclide’s concentration by its CL and then adding the fractions together) is less than 1.0. The results of the 2005 air sampling method from the six compliance stations are presented below.

The second method of dose assessment is less direct. It uses all the estimates of annual emissions (as shown in Table 3.0), the use of detailed calculations, historic soil inventory data, NTS meteorological data, distances of communities from the NTS, and an atmospheric dispersion model. From 1992 through 2004, this method was used for NESHAP dose assessment using the EPA-approved Clean Air Package 1988 (CAP88-PC) software. Dose assessments from the individual emissions using CAP88-PC software were continued from 2001 through 2004 during the transition to the use of the critical receptor location (air sampling) method. The CAP88-PC model produces an estimate of the CEDE to the maximally exposed individual (MEI) and identifies in which community surrounding the NTS the MEI resides. The CEDE to the MEI has been consistently low over the years 1992 – 2004 (<0.2 mrem/yr) (Figure 3.0). The MEI has usually been identified as residing in Springdale or Cactus Springs, Nevada.

As mentioned in the Executive Summary, only the direct air sampling method was used in 2005. The use of this single method was approved by the EPA and by DOE Headquarters. Title 40 CFR Part 61.93(b)(5) allows the measurement of radionuclide air concentrations at EPA-approved critical receptor locations (i.e., compliance stations) to be an acceptable alternative to using air dispersion calculations with CAP88-PC software.

Therefore, only the 2005 results of air sampling at the critical receptor locations are presented in this section to assess compliance with NESHAP. The MEI, in a sense, may now be considered to hypothetically reside at the onsite critical receptor locations (the air sampling stations), which is a much more conservative assumption for public exposure to NTS radiation.

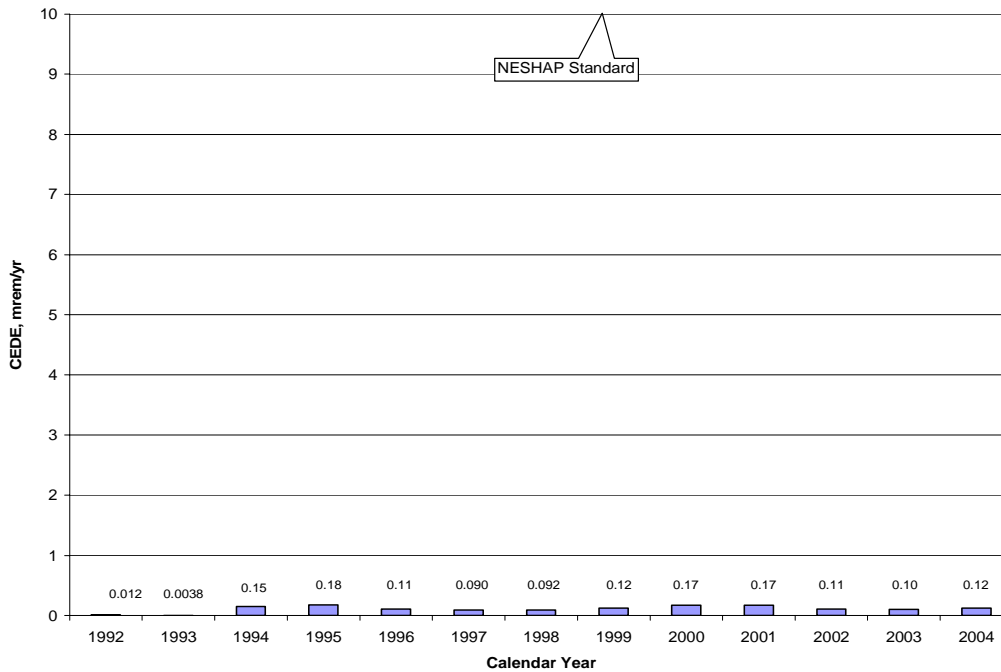


Figure 3.0 CEDEs to MEI from CYs 1992 to 2004

COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT

Table 4.0 lists the average radionuclide concentrations and their percentage of the NESHAP compliance level for each of the compliance stations. All concentration averages were below 1.1 percent of the compliance levels except for the tritium average at the SCHOONER sampler station, which was 23 percent. The average concentration of tritium is high at SCHOONER because the air sampler is only 269 meters (m) from the center of the crater and located within the area that received ejecta from the cratering experiment (Figure 4.0). At the SCHOONER station, the highest sum of the ratios of measured annual concentrations divided by the NESHAP CL for each radionuclides was 0.23, well below 1.0 and therefore, in compliance with NESHAP. This means that the measured equivalent dose from air emissions for an individual who lives year-round at this station would be only 2.3 mrem/yr. Even if one added the measured equivalent doses across all six of the critical receptor sites, it would be only 3.0 mrem/yr. No one resides at SCHOONER or along the borders near the air sampling stations. The dose at offsite populated locations 20-80 km (12-50 mi) from the SCHOONER stations would be much lower due to wind dispersion, most probably much less than 1 mrem/yr, similar to the doses estimated since 1992 (see Figure 3.0).

Table 4.0 Measured Radionuclide Concentrations at Compliance Air Sampling Stations

Location	Radionuclide	Average Concentration (pCi/m ³)	CL (pCi/m ³) ^(a)	Average Concentration as Fraction of CL
Yucca	³ H	0.49 x 10 ⁰	1500	0.00033
Gate 700 South		0.72 x 10 ⁰		0.00048
Substation 3545		0.29 x 10 ⁰		0.00019
SCHOONER		3.30 x 10 ⁻²		0.22000
Mercury		0.42 x 10 ⁰		0.00028
Gate 510		0.28 x 10 ⁰		0.00019
Yucca	²⁴¹ Am	4.43 x 10 ⁻⁶	0.0019	0.00233
Gate 700 South		3.18 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.00167
Substation 3545		1.50 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.00079
SCHOONER		4.76 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.00250
Mercury		1.64 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.00086
Gate 510		4.01 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.00211
Yucca	²³⁸ Pu	1.54 x 10 ⁻⁶	0.0021	0.00096
Gate 700 South		0.99 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.00047
Substation 3545		2.87 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.00137
SCHOONER		2.79 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.00133
Mercury		-1.28 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.00000
Gate 510		1.08 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.00052
Yucca	²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰ Pu	16.1 x 10 ⁻⁶	0.0020	0.00805
Gate 700 South		21.0 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.01050
Substation 3545		3.23 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.00160
SCHOONER		2.56 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.00128
Mercury		0.30 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.00015
Gate 510		2.99 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.00150
Yucca	Sum of Fractions by Location			0.01200
Gate 700 South				0.01300
Substation 3545				0.00400
SCHOONER				0.23000
Mercury				0.00200
Gate 510				0.00400

(a) Source: Table 2 in Title 40 CFR 61, Appendix E (Compliance Procedures Methods for Determining Compliance with Subpart I)

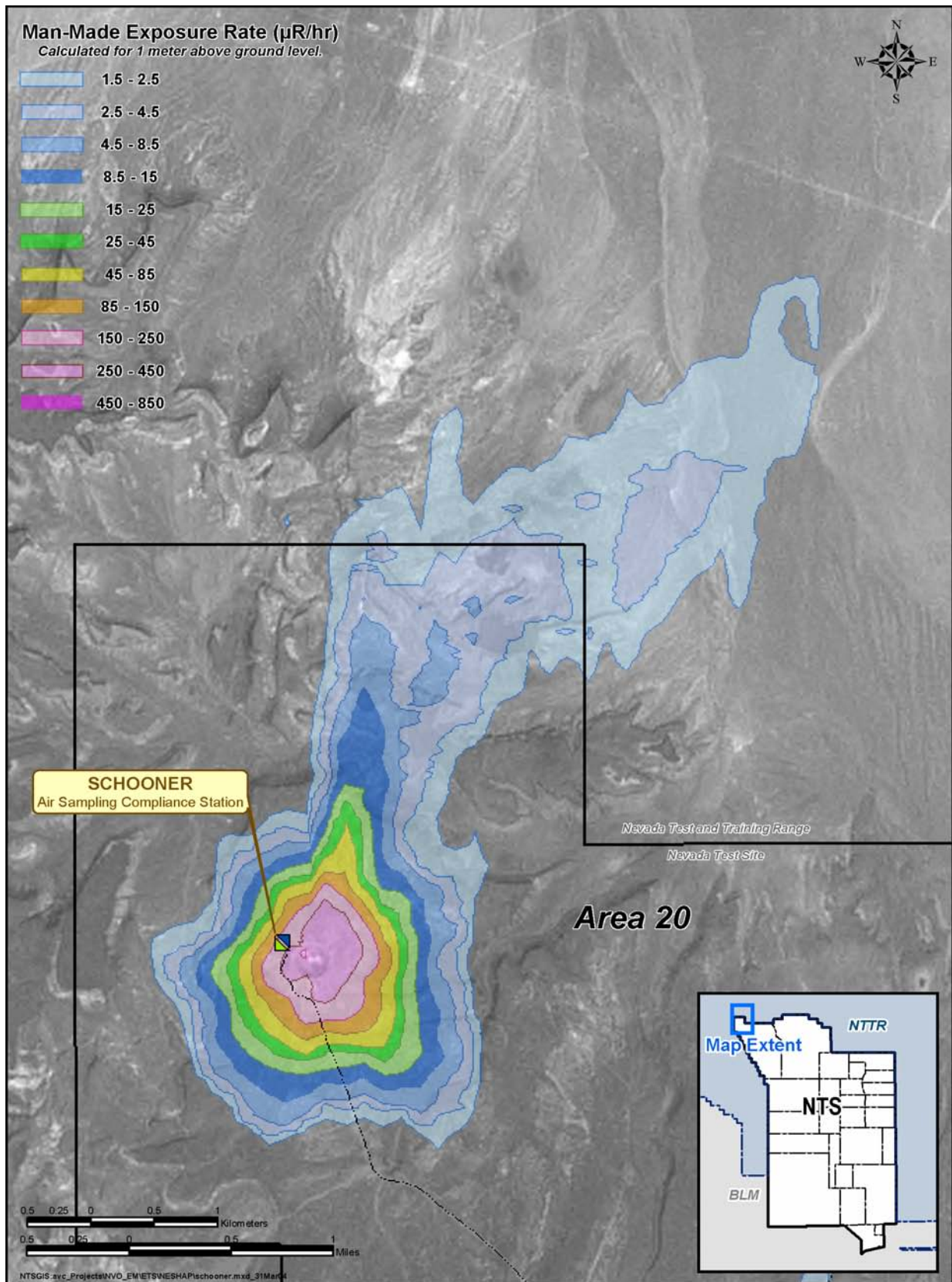


Figure 4.0 SCHOONER Air Sampling Compliance Station

SECTION IV ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

UNPLANNED RELEASES DURING CY 2005

During the month of June 2005, 31 wild fires were started by lightning strikes on the NTS in portions of Areas 14, 25, 27, 29, and 30 (DOE, 2006). High-volume air samplers were deployed at appropriate areas to supplement the routine air sampling network. No man-made radionuclides were detected in any of the air samples above concentrations normally observed. As these fires did not occur in areas with the highest concentrations of legacy radioactivity in soil, an evaluation was performed of the onsite and offsite radiation doses that could occur if the fires spread into an area of high surface contamination, such as the SMOKY site in Area 8. The evaluation found that the radiation dose 4 km (2.5 mi) downwind of the SMOKY site would be 1 mrem, and the highest offsite dose would only be around 0.1 mrem at 40 km (24.8 mi) from SMOKY site. This finding helps confirm that radioactivity released from wild fires on the NTS would not result in hazards offsite.

SOURCES OF DIFFUSE OR FUGITIVE EMISSIONS

In summary, all sources of radionuclide emissions from the NTS identified and characterized in 2005 included the following:

- Evaporation of tritiated water from the Building A-1 basement at NLVF (see Appendix A)
- Evaporation of tritium from Area 5 Sewage Lagoon which received liquid effluents from the Building A-1 basement at NLVF, E Tunnel in Area 12, and a containment pond for one UGTA well (see Appendix B)
- Release of tritium gas during the calibration of analytical equipment in Building 650 in Mercury (see Appendix C)
- Evapotranspiration of tritium from the SEDAN and SCHOONER craters and from low-level radioactive waste packages buried at the Area 3 and Area 5 RWMSs (see Appendix D)
- Re-suspension of ^{241}Am and $^{239+240}\text{Pu}$ from soil deposits on the NTS areas (see Appendix E)

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CERTIFICATION

I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted herein and based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the submitted information is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information including the possibility of fine and imprisonment. See 18 U.S.C. 1001.

Name: Jay H. Norman, Acting Manager, NNSA/NSO

Signature:



Date: 6/23/06

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APPENDICES

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APPENDIX A

PUBLIC DOSE CALCULATIONS FOR THE RELEASE OF TRITIUM FROM THE A-1 BUILDING, NLVF

As reported in the 1995 National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) report (DOE, 1996b), a container of tritium-aluminum foils was opened in the Atlas Facility at the North Las Vegas Facility (NLVF) area and emitted at least 1 Curie (Ci) of tritium into a basement area used as a fixed radiation source range. Environmental surveillance began on Friday, July 14, 1995, the day notification of the tritium leak occurred. Environmental tritiated water (HTO) samplers were installed at three locations outside the facility. Later, an HTO sampler was installed in the basement and operated continuously so that progress on cleanup of the spill could be monitored. After cleanup began, the environmental samplers were removed, but the basement air sampler continued operation through January 5, 1998, at which time, samples were collected once each quarter. The 1996, 1997, and 1998 results and effective dose equivalent (EDE) to the maximally exposed individual (MEI) offsite at the perimeter fence were reported in the annual NESHAP reports.

During the years 1999 through 2005, air sampling for HTO in the basement was conducted intermittently. For calendar year (CY) 2005, the results of two atmospheric moisture samples collected April 4 to April 18, 2005 (2,970 picocuries per cubic meter [pCi/m³]), and September 13 to September 21, 2005 (920 pCi/m³), and the basement ventilation rate of 673 cubic feet per minute (ft³/min), were used to estimate the annual tritium emission: $(2,970 + 920)/2 \text{ pCi/m}^3 \times 673 \text{ ft}^3/\text{min} \times 0.02832 \text{ m}^3/\text{ft}^3 \times 525,600 \text{ min/year}(\text{yr}) \times 10^{-9} \text{ milli-curies (mCi)/pCi} = 19.5 \text{ mCi/yr}$. An additional 0.3 mCi of tritium was released from Building A-1 by evaporating water from the radiation source well, resulting in a total emission of 19.8 mCi. The Clean Air Package 1988 (CAP88-PC) dose factor ($4.8 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mrem/yr/Ci}$) used during the 1995 dose assessment was multiplied times this emission to obtain the effective dose equivalent (0.10 $\mu\text{rem/yr}$) to the nearest member of the public outside the perimeter fence of Building A-1. A comparison of the past and current emission rates and radiation dose to the MEI are presented in Table A.1.

Table A.1 Comparison of Tritium Emission Rates from 1995-2005

Year	Tritium Emission Rate (mCi/yr)	EDE to MEI ($\mu\text{rem/yr}$)
1995	123	0.96
1996	52	0.25
1997	110	0.53
1998	16	0.08
1999	301	1.4
2000	370	1.8
2001	200	0.96
2002	(not sampled)	-
2003	9.3	-
2004	11	-
2005	20	0.10

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APPENDIX B

CALCULATION OF TRITIUM EMISSIONS FROM NTS PONDS

During calendar year 2005, the air emissions of tritium as tritiated water from ponds containing tritium were conservatively estimated from the product of the volume of water discharged into the ponds and measurements of the tritium content of the water. The following table lists the estimates and the values used in the estimates.

Location	Tritium Concentration	Water Volume	Tritium Emission
	(pCi/L)	(gal)	(Ci)
E Tunnel Ponds	6.56×10^5	6,636,289	16.5
U-20n PS #1DD-H	3.71×10^7	24,700	3.47
Area 5 Sewage Lagoon	1.89×10^3	52,070	0.00037

Water continues to drain from the E Tunnel into several ponds after attempts failed in the past to seal the tunnel.

Water pumped from Well U-20n PS #1DD-H by the Underground Test Area program was discharged into a lined containment pond.

The water discharged into the Area 5 Sewage Lagoon was removed from the basement of Building A-1, North Las Vegas Facility, where water in a source well containing tritium attributed to the contaminating event referred to in Appendix A, was rising due to changes in the groundwater level.

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APPENDIX C

POTENTIAL RADIONUCLIDE EMISSIONS FROM RADIOANALYTICAL LABORATORIES

Building 650 Source Storage Room

Following the closure of the Analytical Services Laboratory in Area 23 at Building 650, all of the standards, check sources, and tracer solutions were stored in a basement room until all items could be properly disposed. From an inventory of these radioactivity sources, only three of them, listed below with their curie (Ci) content assessed during calendar year (CY) 2002, are volatile and could become sources of air emissions.

Tritium (^3H) (as tritiated water)	3.0×10^{-4} Ci
Krypton-85 (^{85}Kr)	8.7×10^{-2} Ci
Iodine-129 (^{129}I)	5.4×10^{-7} Ci

All of the standards and solutions were maintained in accordance with 10 Code of Federal Regulations 835. No portion of these sources were released or consumed during CY 2005, therefore no emissions from these sources was estimated. However, about 14 micro-curies (μCi) of tritium gas from a pressurized tank at Building 650 was consumed during the calibration of analytical equipment.

Los Alamos National Laboratory Building CP-95A – Area 6 Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Device Assembly Facility– Area 6

In previous years, the laboratories in these facilities maintained standards of radioactivity containing xenon-133 (^{133}Xe), iodine-131 (^{131}I), and ^3H . Due to the test moratorium that began in 1992, the need for standards was reduced. The use of the standards during the year did not result in any release to the atmosphere.

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APPENDIX D

TRITIUM EMISSIONS ESTIMATED FROM AIR SAMPLING DATA

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Environmental monitoring for tritium in atmospheric moisture was conducted at ten locations on the Nevada Test Site until July 2001, when the number of monitoring locations was increased to 14 and when some of the locations were changed to conform to a change in strategy for demonstrating compliance with National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (see Compliance Assessment in Section III). There were four air samplers around the perimeter of the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Site (RWMS) where many curies of tritium are buried at that facility; however, all four samplers were removed because they were too close to the sources for them to be used with the Clean Air Package 1988 computer program (CAP88-PC) software in estimating the tritium emissions. Instead, air samplers identified as U. S. Department of Defense (DoD) and Sugar Bunker North were added 1,590 meters (5,216 feet) north and 970 meters (3,182 feet) south, respectively, of the compound within the prevailing downwind sectors of the facility. Other air samplers were operated at the E Tunnel ponds area, near SEDAN crater, and near SCHOONER crater. In November 2004, tritium samplers were installed at U-3bh N and U-3ah/at S near the Area 3 RWMS to monitor tritium emissions from waste disposal operations and vicinity.

SOURCE TERM ESTIMATES

The estimating of the tritium emissions as tritiated water (HTO) from air sampling data requires a CAP88-PC estimate of the air concentration at the location of each air sampler for a 1 Curie (Ci) release from the center of each source location. The total annual emission was then calculated by dividing the annual average concentration of HTO measured at each sampling location by the predicted CAP88-PC concentration for a 1 Ci release. An estimate of the emissions based on vegetation samples was not made this year.

Table D.1 lists the estimated emissions for each emission source location. Tritium emission from E Tunnel ponds was not estimated from air sampling data because the estimate from the total water pond influent and measured tritium concentrations, as described in Appendix B, was more conservative.

Table D.1 Tritium Emissions from Airborne Tritium Sampling Results During 2005

Emission Source	Air Sampler	Tritium Concentration (pCi/m³)	CAP88-PC Conc. For 1 Ci Emission	Tritium Emission (Ci)^(a)
Area 3 RWMS	BJY	1.23	0.0215	57
	U-3ah/at S	1.59	0.331	4.8 ^(b)
Area 5 RWMS	DoD	3.25	0.315	10 ^(c)
	Sugar Bunker N	2.70	0.362	7.5 ^(c)
Area 10 SEDAN	SEDAN North	9.20	0.242	38 ^(b)
	Gate 700 South	0.72	0.0159	45
Area 20 SCHOONER	SCHOONER	330	0.634	520 ^(b)
	Gate 20-2p	0.37	0.00917	40

(a) 1 Ci = 37 mega-becquerels (MBq)

(b) Emission estimate too high or low due to sampler within area of tritium contamination

(c) An average (8.9 Ci) of these two emissions was used for this location

APPENDIX E

EMISSIONS OF AMERICIUM AND PLUTONIUM FROM LEGACY SITES BASED ON HISTORIC SOIL SURVEY DATA AND SOIL RE-SUSPENSION MODEL

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Areas 1 through 12 and Areas 15 through 30 on the Nevada Test Site (NTS) contain diffuse sources of radionuclides. Historic soil surveys have identified the location of these sources on the NTS and provided estimates of the amounts of radionuclides which remain in the surface soils (DOE, 1991; see Table 1.0). Due to occasional high winds, some contaminated soil becomes airborne. Results from the air samplers in these areas indicate that americium-241 (^{241}Am) and plutonium-239+240 ($^{239+240}\text{Pu}$) are routinely detected, but only in concentrations slightly above the minimum detectable concentration (MDC). The total emissions (in curies [Ci]) produced each year from all known soil legacy sites on the NTS is estimated. This appendix describes all the calculations involved in producing the emission estimates.

RE-SUSPENSION CALCULATIONS

These calculations are needed to estimate how much of the radionuclides in surface soils could actually become airborne (re-suspended) and therefore become an emission. A conservative estimate of americium and plutonium emissions from diffuse sources is obtained by the use of a re-suspension equation with parameters derived from actual studies at the NTS. In NUREG/CR-3332 (NRC, 1983), page 5-30, an equation for calculating a suspension rate (fraction re-suspended per second) is given as follows:

$$S = K \times V_g$$

where: S = fractional re-suspension rate (curies per second [Ci/s]), or the fraction of the inventory which is re-suspended per second
K = re-suspension factor (per meter [m])
 V_g = deposition velocity (meters per second [m/s])

The values of K and V_g used in this re-suspension equation are taken from DOE (1992). On page 75 of DOE (1992), values of K are given for the NTS. An average of the values is $2 \times 10^{-10}/\text{m}$. Ranges in the deposition velocity (V_g) of 0.01 to 0.05 m/s, presented in DOE (1992), are used as conservative estimates. When these values are put into the above equation, S is between 2×10^{-12} and $1 \times 10^{-11}/\text{s}$. To be conservative, the higher fractional re-suspension rate of $1 \times 10^{-11}/\text{s}$ is used. For Area 3, the emission rate for $^{239+240}\text{Pu}$ is then calculated from the product of the $^{239+240}\text{Pu}$ inventory (37 Ci from Table 1.0) and S (and then converted to pCi/s) as follows:

$$(37 \text{ Ci}) \times (1 \times 10^{-11}/\text{s}) \times (10^{12} \text{ pico-curies (pCi)/Ci}) = 370 \text{ pCi/s}$$

Since 1 year (yr) = 3,600 s/hour x 24 hour/day x 365 days/yr = 3.15×10^7 s/yr, the annual emission rate becomes:

$$370 \text{ pCi/s} \times 3.15 \times 10^7 \text{ s/yr} = 1.17 \times 10^{10} \text{ pCi/yr or 12 milli-curies (mCi)/yr}$$

This method was used for calculating the ^{241}Am and $^{239+240}\text{Pu}$ emissions from all other areas. The results are shown in Table E.1.

Table E.1 Calculated Emissions from Inventories^(a) of Plutonium and Americium in NTS Areas

Inventory, Re-suspension Factors, and Calculated Emissions by Area						
Area	²⁴¹ Am (Ci)	²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰ Pu (Ci)	K (m ⁻¹)	Vg (m/s)	Emissions of ²⁴¹ Am (mCi/yr)	Emissions of ²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰ Pu (mCi/yr)
1	4.2	24	2.E-10	5.E-02	1.32	7.6
2	2.9	22	2.E-10	5.E-02	0.91	6.9
3	4.6	37	2.E-10	5.E-02	1.45	11.7
4	6.6	40	2.E-10	5.E-02	2.08	12.6
5	0.6	4.8	2.E-10	5.E-02	0.19	1.5
6	1.7	8.4	2.E-10	5.E-02	0.54	2.6
7	2.2	16	2.E-10	5.E-02	0.69	5.0
8	17	110	2.E-10	5.E-02	5.36	34.7
9	4.2	89	2.E-10	5.E-02	1.32	28.0
10	19	110	2.E-10	5.E-02	5.99	34.7
11	3.3	29	2.E-10	5.E-02	1.04	9.1
12	5.7	39	2.E-10	5.E-02	1.80	12.3
15	8.0	63	2.E-10	5.E-02	2.52	19.8
16	0.7	3.7	2.E-10	5.E-02	0.22	1.2
17	2.8	18	2.E-10	5.E-02	0.88	5.7
18	19	100	2.E-10	5.E-02	5.99	31.5
19	21	140	2.E-10	5.E-02	6.62	44.1
20	23	41	2.E-10	5.E-02	7.25	12.9
30	3.2	14	2.E-10	5.E-02	1.01	4.4
TOTAL	140	910			47	290

(a) Radioactive inventories from Table 5 in DOE/NV/10845--02 (DOE, 1991)

As shown in Table E.1, the estimated total emissions of ²⁴¹Am and ²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰Pu from historic soil inventory data and from the re-suspension model were 47 and 290 mCi/yr, respectively. These are shown in Table 2.0 (as 0.047 and 0.29 Ci/yr), which summarizes all measured or computed emissions from the NTS in 2005.

OTHER ISOTOPES

The other predominant isotopes that have been found in soil samples in the various areas on the NTS are strontium-90 (Sr90), cesium-137 (137Cs), and plutonium-238 (238Pu); however, their concentrations in air samples contribute less than 10 percent to the National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) dose limit and therefore they have not been included in evaluations for NESHAP compliance.

APPENDIX F

IDENTIFICATION AND JUSTIFICATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF METEOROLOGICAL DATA USED AS INPUT TO CLEAN AIR PACKAGE 1988 (CAP88-PC)

SITE CHARACTERISTICS

The Nevada Test Site (NTS) is located in southern Nevada, approximately 105 kilometers (km) (65 miles [mi]) northwest of Las Vegas, Nevada, and encompasses an approximate rectangular area of 3,561 square kilometers (km²) (1,375 square miles [mi²]). Topography is complex with generally north-south oriented ridges and valleys typical of Nevada. Terrain elevations range from almost 823 meters (m) (2,700 feet [ft]) in the extreme southwest corner of the NTS (Area 25) to almost 2,347 m (7,700 ft) on Rainier Mesa in the northern part of the NTS (Area 12).

In general, terrain slopes gently into broad valleys. In the few areas where steep canyons or cliffs exist, adequate wind and temperature data have been collected and analyzed to provide thorough documentation of the existence of typical up-slope and down-slope wind regimes as a function of time of day.

Meteorological support, observations, and climatological services for the NTS are provided to the U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office (NNSA/NSO) by the Air Resources Laboratory, Special Operations and Research Division (ARL/SORD). The ARL/SORD is a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) office and supports NNSA/NSO programs under the authority of an Interagency Agreement between NOAA and NNSA/NSO.

An arid climate exists over the NTS. Annual precipitation ranges from 12.4 centimeters/year (cm/yr) (4.9 inches/year [in/yr]) at Station No. 5, to 16.8 cm/yr (6.6 in/yr) at Yucca Flat (Station No. 6), to 14.7 cm/yr (5.8 in/yr) at Desert Rock, to 32.5 cm/yr (12.8 in/yr) on Rainier Mesa (Station No. 12).

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

The ARL/SORD manages, operates, and maintains a meteorological monitoring program that is designed and used to support the NNSA/NSO authorized activities on the NTS. This vital program consists of many meteorological monitoring systems that have been brought together under the Meteorological Integrated Data Network (MIDNET). The MIDNET includes a Meteorological Data Acquisition (MEDA) network of approximately 30 mobile meteorological towers located primarily on the NTS (Figure F.1). MIDNET has been operated on the NTS for more than 40 years, has undergone several modernizations and upgrades, and serves as a solid basis for deriving climatological information.

The MIDNET consists of communications systems, local area networks, upper-air sounding stations, and surface based instrumentation used to measure wind direction and speed, temperature, relative humidity, pressure, and precipitation. Routine and special surface observations are collected by trained ARL/SORD personnel 16 hour/day, 365 days/year at the Desert Rock Meteorological Observatory (DRA; elevation 1,007 m [3,304 ft]) located 4.8 km (3 mi) southwest of Mercury, Nevada (Station No. 23) (Figure F.1). Upper-air observations (radiosondes) are taken twice daily from DRA. DRA has been in operation since May 1978.

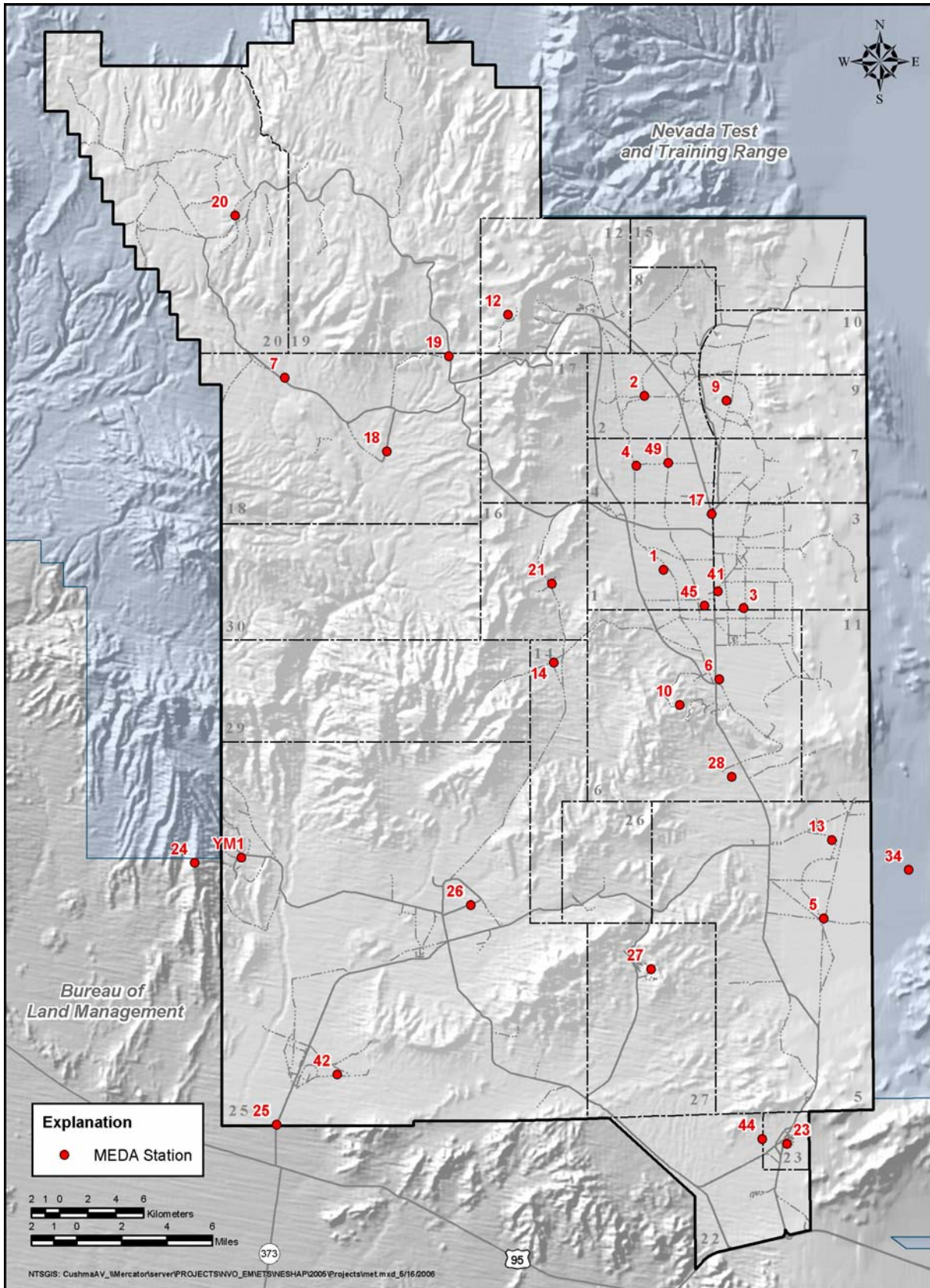


Figure F.1 Locations of MEDA Stations on the NTS in 2005

DRA was built to replace a similar observatory that was located at the Yucca Flat Meteorological Observatory (UCC; elevation 3,924 ft, Station No. 6) from January 1962 through mid-May 1978. Consequently, surface and upper-air observations are also available from UCC for 1962-1978.

A key component of the MIDNET system is the MEDA. A MEDA station consists of an enclosed trailer, a portable 10 m (32.8 ft) tower, an electric generator (where needed), a microprocessor, and a microwave radio transmitter. Wind speed and direction sensors are located on booms oriented into the prevailing wind direction and at a minimum distance of two tower widths from the tower. Wind sensors are located 10 m above the ground.

Wind and temperature data have been collected on the NTS for more than 40 years. These and other meteorological data have been compiled into a comprehensive climatological database for the NTS. The MEDA data are especially useful in assessing boundary layer flow regimes on the NTS. MEDA station distribution and density (Figure F.1) are sufficient to document individual basin flow regimes and potential inter-basin air exchanges.

Ambient temperature and relative humidity sensors are located at 3 m (9.8 ft) above ground level. A total of 30 MEDA stations are located on or around the NTS (Figure F.1) to ensure that meteorological conditions are thoroughly documented for the complex terrain environment found on the NTS.

Wind direction is measured to two degrees of azimuth, and wind speed is accurate to 0.85 miles per hour (mph). Wind data are collected as 5 minute averages and are transmitted via microwave to a central processor every 15 minutes. These data are checked operationally by the duty forecaster and quality control is assured by the ARL/SORD climatologist. Plotted wind products are generated every 15 minutes for operational use. The data are stored and archived for climatological purposes.

MEDA temperature is accurate to 1 degree Fahrenheit (°F) between 0 °F and 110 °F (absolute range for the NTS is -20 °F to 115 °F). Temperature measurements are instantaneous and are taken every 15 minutes at all MEDA stations. These data are also transmitted via microwave to a computer for processing, displaying, and archiving.

To utilize the most representative meteorological data available for NTS sources, cloud observations from DRA were melded with the concomitant MEDA winds from Mercury and Pahute Mesa. Similarly, the cloud observations from UCC were melded with MEDA wind data from Yucca and Frenchman Flats. The straight-line distance from DRA to Mercury is 4.8 km (3 mi); from UCC to Frenchman Flat is 19.3 km (12 mi); and from DRA to Pahute Mesa is 64.4 km (40 mi).

Cloud cover observations needed as input to the Stability Array (STAR) program are available from DRA (1978-present) and from UCC (1962-1978). Based on the available data, the cloud cover climatology from DRA and UCC are quite compatible. For example, UCC experiences 192 clear days annually, while DRA has 191 days. In addition, the average annual sky cover from sunrise to sunset for both stations is 3.9 tenths daily. The total number of cloudy days for UCC is 81 days and 82 days for DRA, annually. Therefore, the cloud cover observations from DRA and UCC can be considered as representative for most of the NTS.

APPLICATION TO CAP88-PC INPUT

Based on the above considerations and on the limitations of the Clean Air Package 1988 computer program (CAP88-PC), the cloud cover data from DRA were considered to be representative of Pahute Mesa. Therefore, atmospheric soundings and cloud cover observations from DRA were melded with MEDA surface wind data from Pahute Mesa for input to the STAR program to provide the very best data for calculating transport and dispersion processes. For sources in Yucca Flat and Frenchman Flat, the cloud cover data from UCC were considered to be the most representative. Yucca Flat and Frenchman Flat are adjoining valleys of similar soil and vegetation types and similar meteorological and climatological conditions.

For sources at Mercury, the cloud observations from DRA are representative. DRA is only 4.8 km (3 mi) from Mercury.

The STAR file is a matrix that includes seven Pasquill stability categories (A through G), six wind speed categories, and 16 wind sectors from wind roses calculated for each specified MEDA station on the NTS. Beginning in 2002, only weather data for the current year were used in creating the STAR files for the CAP88-PC calculations. Calendar year 2005 data from the MEDA stations for the NTS areas were used by ARL/SORD personnel to prepare the following STAR files:

<u>STAR File</u>	<u>NTS Area(s)</u>
meda01.str	1
meda02.str	2, 8
meda04.str	4
meda06.str	6, 11
meda09.str	9, 10, 13, 15
meda12.str	12, 19
meda13.str	5
meda17.str	3, 7
meda18.str	17, 18, 30
meda20.str	20
meda21.str	16
meda23.str	23
meda34.str	5

APPENDIX G

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

COLLECTIVE EFFECTIVE DOSE EQUIVALENT

As discussed in Section III, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has approved the use of critical receptor monitoring locations on the Nevada Test Site (NTS) to demonstrate National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) compliance in lieu of using the Clean Air Package 1988 computer software (CAP88-PC) to calculate the radiation doses received by off-site residents within 80 km (50 mi) of the NTS emission sources. Since the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) agreed that there is little benefit in doing CAP88-PC calculations just for the collective effective dose equivalent (DOE, 2004a), this calculation is not performed for CY 2005. As shown in Figure G.1, the collective effective dose equivalent has been consistently below 0.6 person-rem/year (yr) (rem is roentgen equivalent man) for the years 1992 to 2004, indicating that it is unlikely that the collective effective dose equivalent (CEDE) will exceed 1 person-rem/yr. However, if operations at the NTS change whereby this is exceeded, this change will be reconsidered.

ESTIMATING TRITIUM EMISSIONS FROM SCHOONER AND SEDAN

Prior to 2002, the areas of diffuse tritium emissions from the SEDAN and SCHOONER sites were assumed to be the sizes of their craters. From the measurement of tritium in vegetation samples collected in 2002 and 2004 at these sites, the areas of emissions appeared to be much larger. Current estimates for these areas are $3.8 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^2$ for SEDAN and $3.6 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^2$ for SCHOONER. As this places the SCHOONER and SEDAN air sampling locations within the source term area, CAP88-PC concentration estimates at these sampler locations for a 1 curie/year (Ci/yr) release has high uncertainty (Figure G.2).

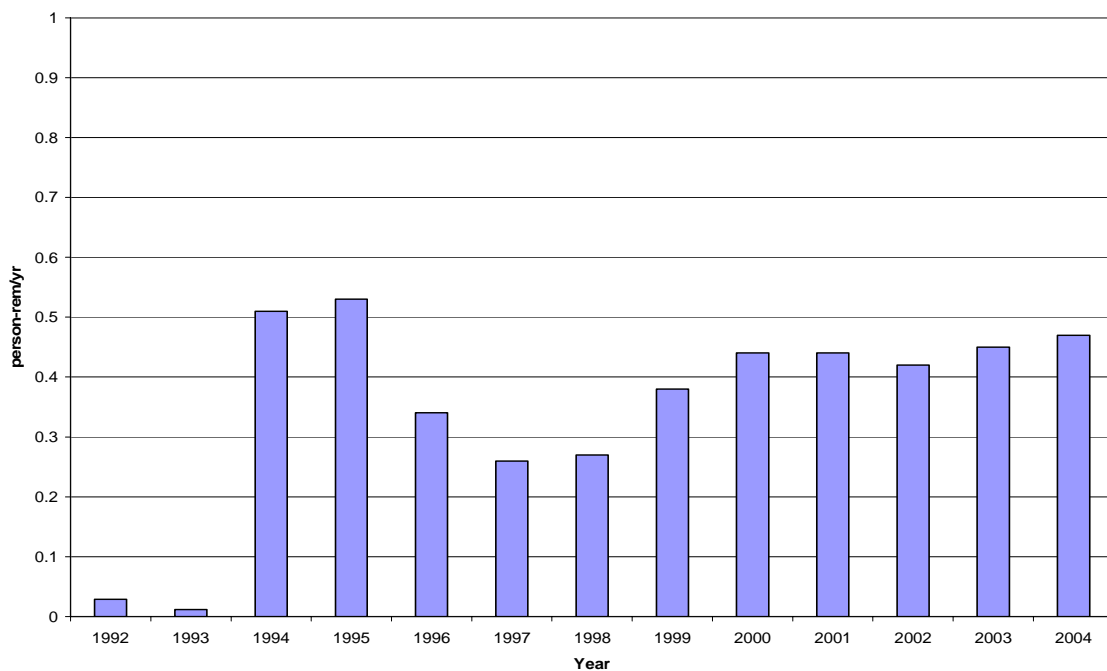


Figure G.1 CEDE to Populations within 80 km (50 mi) of Emission Sources

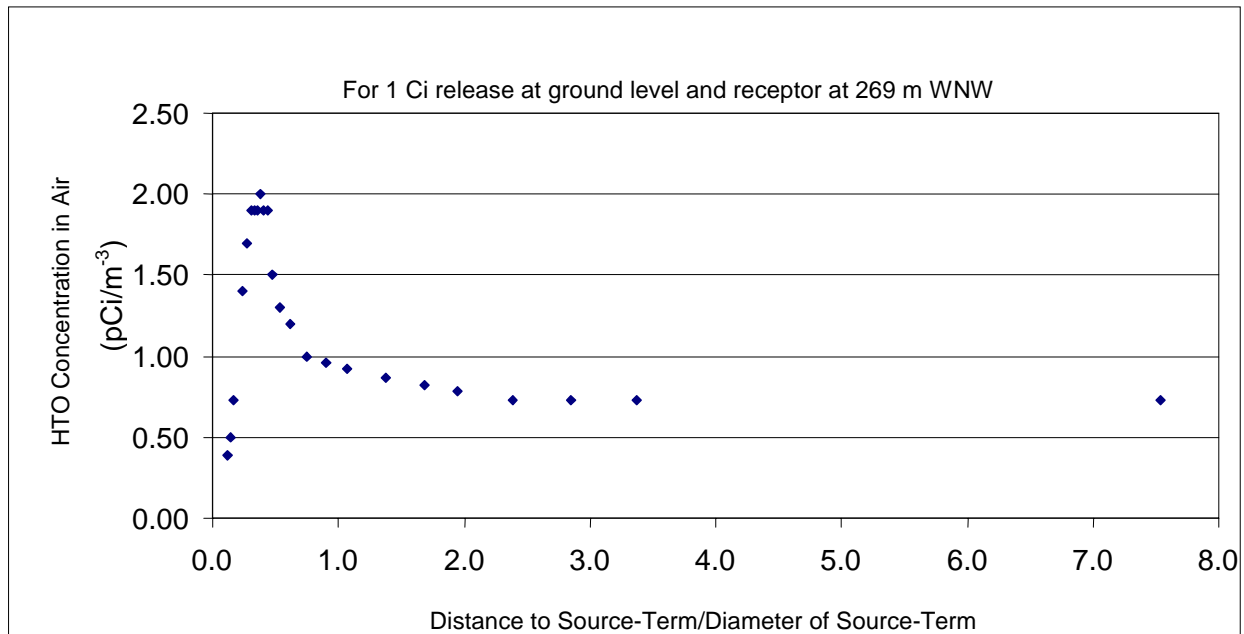


Figure G.2 CAP88 Predicted Air Concentration versus Ratio of Distance-to-Source/ Diameter of Source

According to CAP88-PC documentation, the software estimates for area sources is reliable only for locations where the ratio (distance between the sampling location and source) / (source diameter) is between 1.3 and 2.5. At a ratio greater than 2.5, the source is assumed to be a point source instead of an area source. To increase the reliability of tritium emission estimates, air samplers at further distances from the center of the source terms are included in making the release estimates such as the air sampler positioned at Gate 20-2p, which is 4,790 meters south-southeast of the SCHOONER crater. At this distance, area source is treated by CAP88-PC as a point source (ratio of 13). See Appendix D for a description of the method and results.

COMPLIANCE WITH SUBPARTS Q AND T, Title 40 CFR 61

The NTS is regulated by Subpart H (National Emission Standards for Emissions of Radionuclides Other Than Radon from DOE Facilities), but not Q (National Emission Standards for Radon Emissions from DOE Facilities) and T (National Emission Standards for Radon Emissions from the Disposal of Uranium Mill Tailings). However, Bechtel Nevada (BN) includes Subpart Q in its Work Smart Standards. Therefore, radon flux measurements were made during this report period at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Site (RWMS) to confirm inventory records that only trace amounts of radium were disposed of in these areas and to make sure that the radon fluxes are well below the standard of 20 pico-curies per square meter per second (pCi/m²/s) required by Subpart Q. The results of the most recent study (BN, 2006) showed that the airborne concentrations of radon and the flux measurements of radon were both at background levels. An assessment of the potential risks posed by the Area 5 RWMS to the public projected that the in-growth of radon-222 (²²²Rn) from the decay of thorium-230 (²³⁰Th) in thorium wastes would not exceed the standard for approximately 30,000 years (Shott et al., 1998).

RADON EMISSIONS FROM ²³⁸U AND ²³²Th SOURCES

None of these sources exist on the NTS.

NON-DISPOSAL/NON-STORAGE SOURCES OF RADON EMISSIONS

None of these sources exist on the NTS.

QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM FOR NESHAP COMPLIANCE

The quality assurance program for samples collected and analyzed for NESHAP compliance is documented in an environmental monitoring plan (DOE, 2003). The applicable requirements of 40 CFR 61, Appendix B, Method 114, "Test Methods for Measuring Radionuclide Emissions from Stationary Sources" (EPA, 2001) and of DOE Order 414.1B, "Quality Assurance" (DOE, 2004b) have been implemented in this plan.

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