

National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants – Radionuclide Emissions Calendar Year 2017

June 2018

Prepared for

U.S. Department of Energy,
National Nuclear Security Administration
Nevada Field Office
Under Contract Number
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Prepared by

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Nevada National Security Site
&
North Las Vegas Facility

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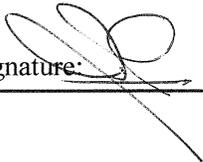
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Certification

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: Steven J. Lawrence,
Manager, NNSA/NFO

Signature: 

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2017 RADIOLOGICAL DOSE TO THE PUBLIC BELOW FEDERAL STANDARD

The U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO) operates the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) and the North Las Vegas Facility (NLVF). From 1951 through 1992, the NNSS was the continental testing location for U.S. nuclear weapons. The release of radionuclides from NNSS activities has been monitored since the initiation of atmospheric testing. After 1962, testing was limited to underground detonations, which greatly reduced radiation exposure to the public. Since nuclear testing ended in 1992, radiation monitoring focused on detecting airborne radionuclides from historically contaminated soils. These radionuclides are derived from re-suspension of soil (primarily by wind) and emission of tritium-contaminated soil moisture through evapotranspiration. Low amounts of legacy-related tritium are also emitted to air at the NLVF, an NNSS support complex in North Las Vegas.

To protect the public from harmful levels of man-made radiation, the Clean Air Act, National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) (Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 61 Subpart H) (CFR 2010a) limits the release of radioactivity from a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) facility to that which would cause 10 millirem per year (mrem/y) effective dose equivalent to any member of the public. This limit does not include radiation unrelated to NNSS activities. Unrelated doses could come from naturally occurring radioactive elements, from sources such as medically or commercially used radionuclides, or from sources outside of the United States, such as Japan’s Fukushima nuclear power plant, which was damaged in 2011.

NNSA/NFO demonstrates compliance with the NESHAP limit by using environmental measurements of radionuclide air concentrations at critical receptor locations on the NNSS (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] and DOE 1995). This method was approved by the EPA in 2001 (EPA 2001a) and has been the method used to demonstrate compliance with the 40 CFR 61.92 dose standard since 2005. Six locations on the NNSS have been established to act as critical receptor locations to demonstrate compliance with the NESHAP limit. These locations are actually pseudo-critical receptor stations because no member of the public resides at these onsite locations. Compliance is demonstrated if the measured annual average concentration is less than the NESHAP Concentration Level (CL) for Environmental Compliance listed in 40 CFR 61, Appendix E, Table 2 (CFR 2010a). For multiple radionuclides, compliance 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.

In 2017, the potential dose from radiological emissions to air from both current and past NNSS activities was well below the 10 mrem/y dose limit. This is demonstrated by air sampling data collected at the critical receptor air monitoring stations which had average concentrations of radioactivity that were a fraction of the CL values. Concentrations ranged from 0.2% to a maximum of 5.7% of the allowed NESHAP limit. Clean Air Package 1988 (CAP88) was used to model dose to the offsite public from all 2017 NNSS radionuclide emissions. The model showed the maximally exposed individual to be on the adjacent U.S. Air Force Nevada Test and Training Range; this individual received a dose of 0.07 mrem/y. The potential dose to the public from NLVF emissions was also very low at 0.0000098 mrem/y, over six orders of magnitude lower than the 10 mrem/y limit.

NESHAP Compliance for 2017

<u>NNSA: Compliance Demonstrated by the Sum of Fractions at Each Critical Receptor Sampler Being Less Than 1.0</u>		
Radionuclides Included: ³H, ¹³⁷Cs, ²³⁸Pu, ²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰Pu, ²⁴¹Am		
NNSS Operations Area	Critical Receptor Location	Sum of Fractions of CLs
6	Yucca	0.0092
10	Gate 700 S	0.0086
16	3545 Substation	0.0029
20	Schooner	0.057
23	Mercury	0.0018
25	Gate 510	0.0016
<u>NLVF: Compliance Demonstrated by the Highest Potential Offsite Dose Being Less Than 10 mrem/y</u>		
Estimated offsite dose from NLVF = 0.0000098 mrem/y		

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Table of Contents

Certification iii

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY v

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations ix

Report Information..... xi

SECTION I FACILITY INFORMATION 1

 Site Description 1

 Source Description 1

SECTION II AIR EMISSIONS DATA 7

SECTION III DOSE ASSESSMENTS..... 15

 Critical Receptor Air Monitoring 15

 CAP88-PC Dose Assessment 22

 Compliance Assessment 22

SECTION IV ADDITIONAL INFORMATION 25

 Dose Evaluations Conducted during CY 2017 25

 Periodic Confirmatory Measurements 26

 Unplanned Releases 27

REFERENCES 29

Appendix A Radionuclide Air Emission Sources A-1

Appendix B NNSA Tritium Emissions Estimated from Air Sampling Data B-1

Appendix C Emissions of Radionuclides from Diffuse Legacy Sites Based on Historical Soil Survey
 Data and Soil Re-suspension Model..... C-1

Appendix D Potential Radionuclide Emissions and Dose from the North Las Vegas Facility D-1

Appendix E Calculation of Tritium Emissions from Contaminated Groundwater Discharges E-1

Appendix F Identification and Justification for the Development of Meteorological Data Used as
 Input to Clean Air Package 1988 (CAP88-PC) F-1

Appendix G Supplemental Information G-1

List of Figures

Figure 1. NNSS and Surrounding Populated Area.....	3
Figure 2. Distribution of Elevated Exposure Rates from Radionuclides in NNSS Soils.....	4
Figure 3. Primary Facilities or Projects with Potential to Release Radionuclides to Air.....	6
Figure 4. Sources of Radiological Air Emissions and Critical Receptor Air Monitoring Stations on the NNSS in CY 2017	11
Figure 5. Air Sampling Network on the NNSS	17
Figure 6. Sampling locations near the Schooner Crater.....	19
Figure 7. Fraction of the 10 mrem/y Air Pathway Dose Limit for CAP88-PC Modeled MEI Dose and Highest Critical Receptor Station Monitoring Results	24
Figure F.1 Locations of MEDA Stations on the NNSS at end of CY 2017.....	F-2

List of Tables

Table 1. Inventory of Manmade Radionuclides in NNSS Surface Soil ^(a)	2
Table 2. CY 2017 Radionuclide Emission Sources and Distance to Offsite Locations.....	10
Table 3. Total Estimated NNSS Emissions for CY 2017	12
Table 4. Total Estimated NLVF Emissions for CY 2017	12
Table 5. Summary of CY 2017 Air Emissions Data by Source.....	13
Table 6. Distance Between Critical Receptor Air Monitoring Stations and Nearest Points of Interest.....	18
Table 7. Average Radionuclide Concentrations at NNSS Critical Receptor Stations and Fraction of Concentration Level (CL) for CY 2017.....	20
Table 8. Average Radionuclide Concentration Fraction of Concentration Level (CL) at all NNSS Air Stations, CY 2017.....	21
Table 10. NESHAP Dose Evaluations Conducted during CY 2017.....	26
Table A.1 Facilities or Areas from Which Radionuclides Were Released to Air in Calendar Year (CY) 2017	A-1
Table B.1 Tritium Emissions from Airborne Tritium Sampling Results during CY 2017	B-2
Table C.1 Emission Estimates from Inventories ^(a) of Manmade Radionuclides in NNSS Surface Soil...	C-2
Table D.1. Comparison of Tritium Emission Rates from Building A-01, NLVF from 2005 to 2017.....	D-2
Table E.1 Tritium Concentrations, Water Volumes, and Estimated 2017 Tritium Emissions from Contaminated Groundwater Brought to the Surface.....	E-2

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

Am	americium
Ar	argon
ARL/SORD	Air Resources Laboratory, Special Operations and Research Division
Ba	barium
BEEF	Big Explosives Experimental Facility
Br	bromine
°C	degrees Celsius
CAP88-PC	Clean Air Package 1988 (EPA software program for estimating doses)
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
Ci	curie(s)
CL	Concentration Level
cm	centimeter(s)
Co	cobalt
Cs	cesium
CY	calendar year
d	day(s)
DAF	Device Assembly Facility
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
DPF	Dense Plasma Focus
DRA	Desert Rock Meteorological Observatory
DU	depleted uranium
E	east
EDE	effective dose equivalent
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Eu	europium
ft ³ /min	cubic feet per minute
h	hour(s)
³ H	tritium
HEPA	high efficiency particulate air
HTO	tritiated water in the form of ³ H ³ HO or ³ HHO
I	iodine if with atomic mass superscript
JASPER	Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research
K	potassium
km	kilometer(s)
km ²	square kilometer(s)
Kr	krypton
L	liter(s)
LLW	low-level waste
m	meter(s)
mCi	millicurie(s)
mCi/y	millicurie(s)/year
MEDA	Meteorological Data Acquisition
MEI	maximally exposed individual
MIDNET	Meteorological Integrated Data Network
min	minute(s)
mrem/y	millirem per year

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations (continued)

µrem/y	microrem per year
m/s	meter(s) per second
N	north or nitrogen (nitrogen if with atomic mass superscript)
Na	sodium
NCERC	National Criticality Experiments Research Center
NESHAP	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants
NLVF	North Las Vegas Facility
NNSA/NFO	U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office
NNSS	Nevada National Security Site
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPTEC	Nonproliferation Test and Evaluation Complex
NTTR	Nevada Test and Training Range
O	oxygen
P	phosphorus
pCi	picocurie(s)
pCi/L	picocurie(s) per liter
pCi/m ³	picocurie(s) per cubic meter
Pr	praseodymium
Pu	plutonium
RIDP	Radionuclide Inventory and Distribution Program
rem	roentgen equivalent man
Rh	rhodium
RNCTEC	Radiological/Nuclear Countermeasures Test and Evaluation Complex
RWMC	Radioactive Waste Management Complex
RWMS	Radioactive Waste Management Site
s	second(s)
S	south
Sb	antimony
Sm	samarium
Sr	strontium
STAR	Stability Array (grouping of meteorological data)
Te	tellurium
TRU	transuranic (nuclides with atomic numbers greater than uranium)
UCC	Yucca Flat Meteorological Observatory
UGTA	Underground Test Area
UNESE	Underground Nuclear Explosion Signatures Experiment
W	west
Xe	xenon
y	year(s)

Report Information

**U.S. Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Nevada Field Office
Air Emissions Annual Report
(under Subpart H, Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 61.94)
Calendar Year (CY) 2017**

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SECTION I FACILITY INFORMATION

SITE DESCRIPTION

The Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) is operated by the U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO) as the site for maintaining and enhancing the safety, security, reliability, and performance of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile; reducing global danger from weapons of mass destruction; and responding to nuclear and radiological emergencies in the U.S. and abroad. The NNSS is also an operational site for environmental restoration, low-level radioactive waste management, and groundwater characterization activities. Located in Nye County, Nevada, the site's southeast corner is about 105 kilometers (km) northwest of the major population center, Las Vegas, Nevada. The NNSS covers about 3,523 square kilometers (km²) and is 46 to 56 km east to west and 64 to 88 km north to south. The NNSS is surrounded, except on the south side, by the Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR), a public exclusion area that provides another 24 to 104 km between the NNSS and publicly accessible land (Figure 1).

The NNSS is characterized by desert valley and Great Basin mountain topography, with climate, flora, and fauna typical of the southwest deserts. Based on the most recent population estimates (Clark County Department of Comprehensive Planning, 2017; Nye County Planning Department, 2015) there were 497,700 people residing within 80 km of the NNSS boundary. The distribution of this population is concentrated in the metropolitan areas of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas (89 %) to the southeast and in the town of Pahrump (8%) to the south (Figure 1). These more populated areas drive the overall average population density up to about 11.0 person/km², but the vast majority of the area within 80 km of the NNSS is uninhabited. The nearest populated location to the NNSS boundary is the north end of Amargosa Valley, which extends to within 3.4 km of the southwest corner of the NNSS. Two mines are also relatively near the boundaries of the NNSS: the American Silica mine, 2.7 km east from the southeast edge of the NNSS, and the Cinder Cone Pit mine, 5.5 km west of the southwest corner of the NNSS. The American Silica mine was not in operation in 2017 but was still identified on maps for reference.

One dairy operated within 80 km of the NNSS in 2017. It is located in Amargosa Valley at a distance of about 16.1 km from the NNSS boundary. Agriculture around the NNSS is sparse and consists primarily of alfalfa fields, which are found mainly in Amargosa Valley, Pahrump, Penoyer Farm, Reed's Ranch, and locations between Alamo and Hiko. There were also one honey production and two winery businesses operating in Pahrump in 2017. These are about 44 km south of the NNSS boundary. One 60-acre orchard/farm in Las Vegas, 73.3 km east-southeast of the NNSS, operated in 2017. This orchard sells produce directly to the public. Sparse livestock production may occur throughout the area around the NNSS but on a relatively small scale.

The NLVF is an 80-acre complex composed of buildings that house much of the NNSS project management; diagnostic development; and testing, design, engineering, and procurement operations. This facility is located along Losee Road in the city of North Las Vegas and is surrounded on the north, south, and east by general industrial zoning. The western border separates the property from fully developed, single-family residential-zoned property.

SOURCE DESCRIPTION

In 1950, the now-named NNSS was established as the primary location for testing the nation's nuclear explosive devices. Such testing took place from 1951 to 1992. Historical testing 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 between 1959 and 1973. No nuclear tests have been conducted since September 23, 1992 (U.S. Department of Energy [DOE] 2013). The environmental legacy of nuclear weapons and other testing on the NNSS is a major source of radionuclides that are released into the air. They are characterized as non-point (diffuse) sources and include (1) areas of radioactively contaminated surface soils, (2) contaminated groundwater

that is pumped or flows naturally to the surface, (3) radioactive waste storage and burial sites, and (4) radiologically contaminated structures and materials being decommissioned, demolished, and/or managed.

Surfaces contaminated with plutonium (Pu), americium (Am), tritium (³H), and fission and activation products from past nuclear device safety, atmospheric, or cratering test activities could become sources of radionuclide exposure to the public if the radionuclides were to be re-suspended, for example, through evaporation or transpiration of ³H in water, by windy conditions, surface cleanup, construction, vehicular travel, or similar activities for radionuclides associated with particulates. In 1981, DOE began a project known as the Radionuclide Inventory and Distribution Program (RIDP). After 5 years of field work and 3 years of data analysis, the result was a report that identified the inventory and described the distribution of radionuclides in the soil in parts of the NNSS affected by NNSS operations (DOE 1991) (Table 1). The inventory includes an estimate of the curies (Ci) of the manmade radionuclides detected and reported by the RIDP. Though the inventory includes cobalt-60 (⁶⁰Co), strontium-90 (⁹⁰Sr), cesium-137 (¹³⁷Cs), and the europium (Eu) isotopes ¹⁵²Eu, ¹⁵⁴Eu, and ¹⁵⁵Eu, their concentrations in air samples are generally below detection levels and collectively contribute less than 10% to total dose, which is the threshold for required measurement per 40 CFR 61.93(b)(4)(i). Figure 2 shows areas of elevated exposure rates due to radionuclides in NNSS soils as measured by an aerial survey conducted in 1994 (Hendricks and Riedhauser 1999).

Table 1. Inventory of Manmade Radionuclides in NNSS Surface Soil^(a)

Area	Radionuclide inventory (Ci) ^(b)								
	⁶⁰ Co	⁹⁰ Sr	¹³⁷ Cs	¹⁵² Eu	¹⁵⁴ Eu	¹⁵⁵ Eu	²³⁸ Pu	²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰ Pu	²⁴¹ Am
1	0.0	7.7	4.7	3.7	0.0	0.0	5.2	24.0	6.0
2	0.0	23.7	12.8	3.4	0.0	0.0	6.9	22.0	4.6
3	0.0	17.0	6.4	4.4	0.0	0.0	2.5	37.0	7.5
4	0.0	6.7	6.4	2.2	0.0	0.0	10.5	40.0	9.6
5	0.0	0.5	0.2	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	4.8	1.0
6	0.0	1.8	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	8.4	2.3
7	0.0	4.7	2.8	5.4	0.0	0.0	0.5	16.0	3.4
8	0.2	12.9	22.3	1.1	0.0	0.0	6.4	109.9	25.4
9	0.0	6.7	4.6	5.6	0.0	0.0	1.8	88.9	11.4
10	0.3	28.4	44.6	0.5	0.0	0.1	15.3	109.9	27.3
11	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	29.0	5.6
12	0.0	8.8	10.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.8	39.0	8.7
15	0.0	11.3	10.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.3	63.0	12.9
16	0.0	1.9	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	3.7	1.0
17	0.0	9.8	8.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.6	18.0	4.2
18	0.0	8.8	5.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	4.5	99.9	26.5
19	0.0	16.0	19.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.7	139.9	31.7
20	0.2	2.2	2.9	3.2	0.2	0.1	24.1	41.0	25.4
25	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
26	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
30	0.0	0.7	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	3.6	14.0	4.2

(a) Source of inventory from DOE (1991) and includes radionuclides in soil within 0–30 centimeters (cm) of the surface with most activity in the top 5 cm.

(b) Decay corrected to the middle of calendar year 2017 (July 2, 2017), with ingrowth of ²⁴¹Am from ²⁴¹Pu included.

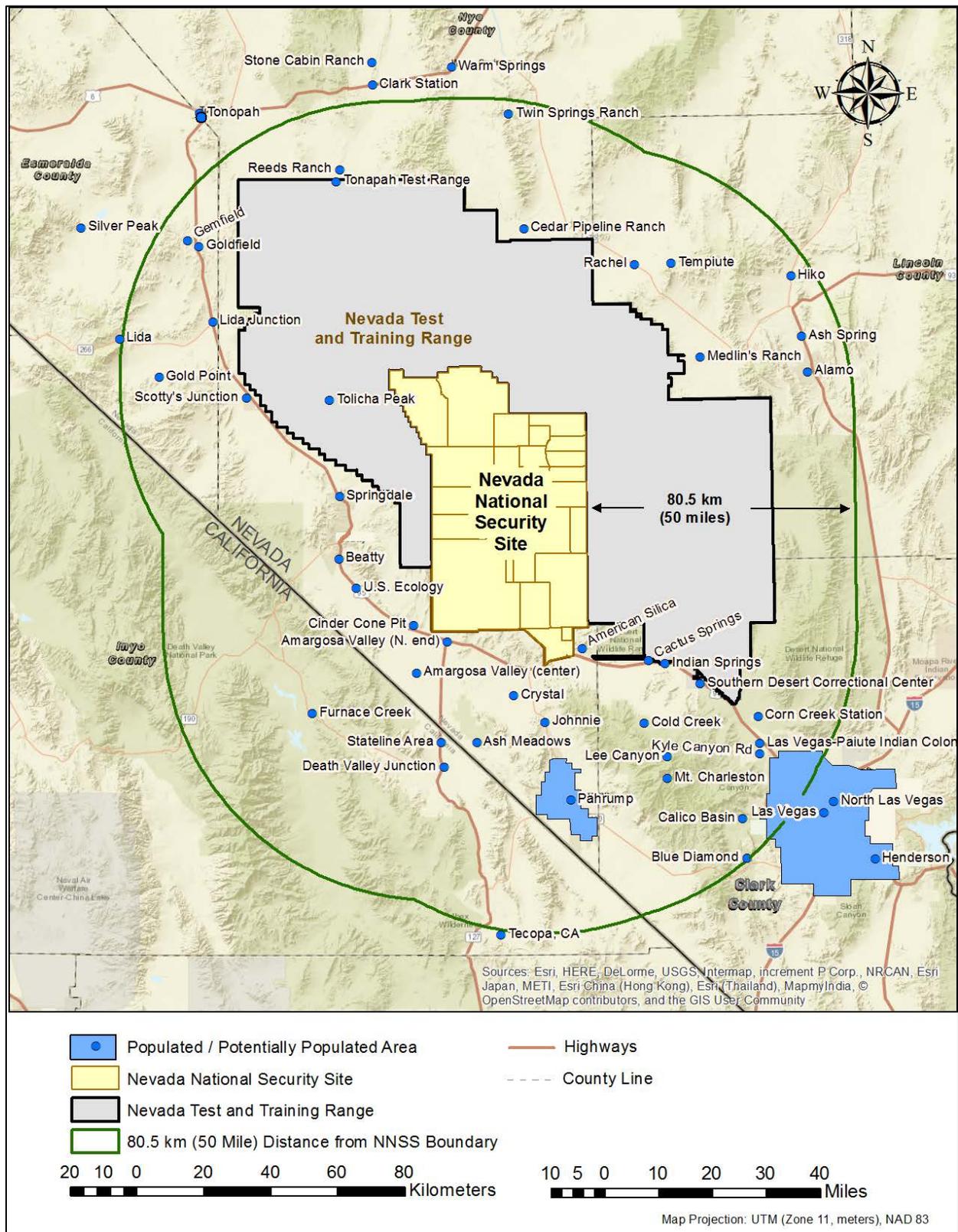


Figure 1. NNSS and Surrounding Populated Area

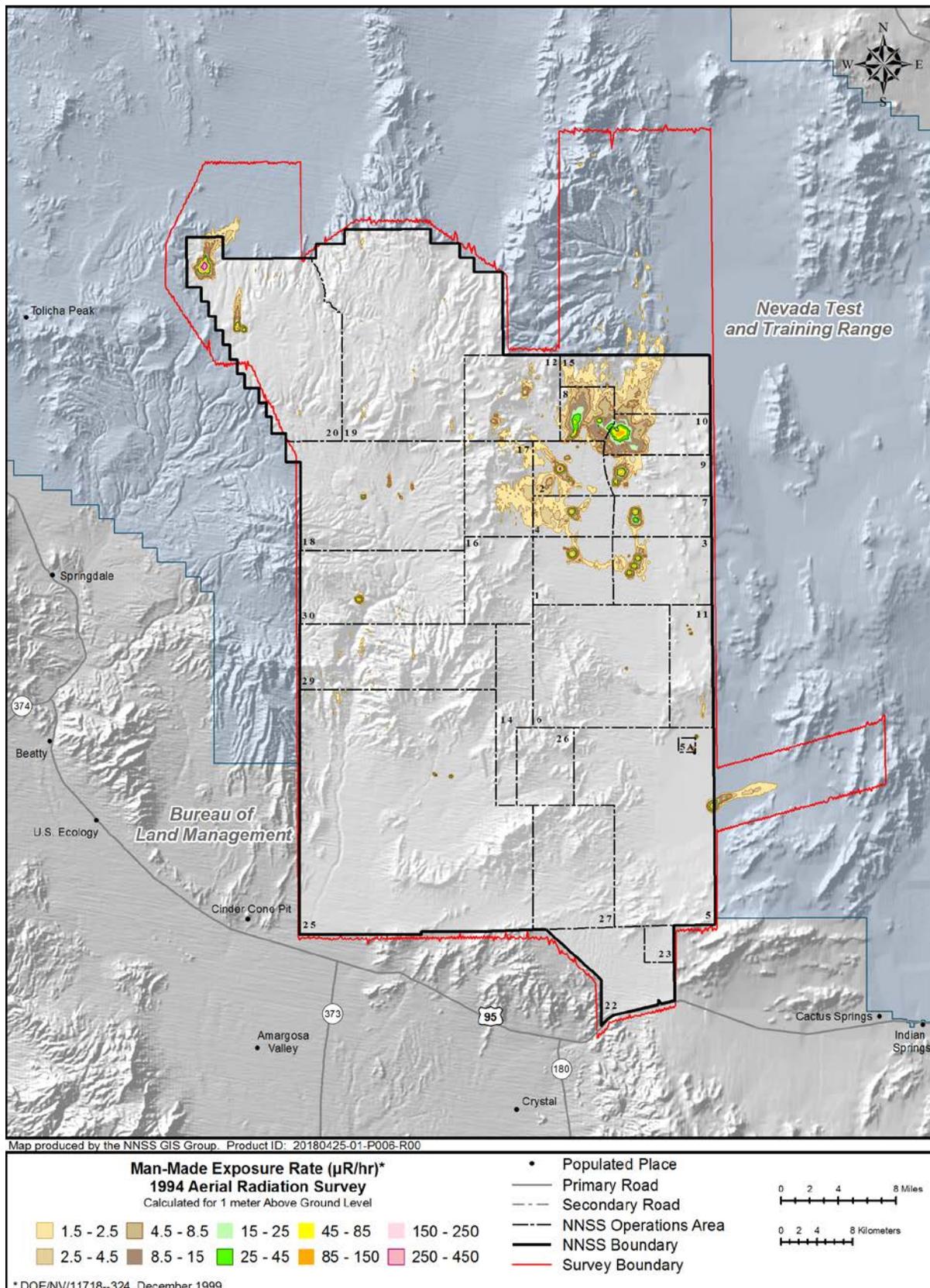


Figure 2. Distribution of Elevated Exposure Rates from Radionuclides in NNSS Soils

Current missions of the NNSS are to help ensure the security of the United States and its allies by supporting the stewardship of the nuclear deterrent stockpile, providing emergency response capability and training, and contributing to key nonproliferation and arms control initiatives. Activities include (1) conducting high-hazard operations in support of defense-related nuclear and national security experiments; (2) providing support for homeland security activities, national security, and nonproliferation technology development and research; (3) characterizing and remediating the environmental legacy of past nuclear testing; and (4) managing and disposing of radioactive wastes. A few programs and experiments at the NNSS use or handle radioactive materials in specific facilities. In all such facilities, radioactive materials are controlled in accordance with Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 835, “Occupational Radiation Protection” (CFR 2010b). The primary facilities that have key NNSA/NFO missions that have unsealed radioactive material and are potential sources for radiological air emissions are shown in Figure 3. Radionuclides potentially present at these facilities include various isotopes of Pu, Am, and U, as well as ^3H , ^{60}Co , ^{137}Cs , and various short-lived activation and fission products. Radioactive emissions are not necessarily produced from these facilities in a given year, but all have the potential for radioactive emissions. The key facilities and programs that are potential NNSS sources are listed by general organization category below.

- Stockpile Stewardship, Science, and Experimentation
 - Device Assembly Facility (DAF)
 - National Criticality Experiments Research Center (NCERC)
 - Dense Plasma Focus (DPF) Facility
 - High Explosive Facilities
 - Big Explosives Experimental Facility (BEEF)
 - Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research (JASPER)
 - U1A Complex
- Environmental Restoration and Waste Operations
 - Environmental Restoration
 - Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC)
 - Area 3 Radioactive Waste Management Site (RWMS)
 - Area 5 RWMC
 - Underground Test Area (UGTA) Activity
- Nonproliferation, Counterterrorism, and Incident Response
 - Nonproliferation Test and Evaluation Complex (NPTEC)
 - Radiological/Nuclear Countermeasures Test and Evaluation Complex (RNCTEC)
 - T1 Training and Exercise Area
 - Tumbleweed Test Range
 - Underground Nuclear Explosion Signatures Experiment (UNESE)
- Mission Support
 - Buildings housing support activities where radioactive material may be surveyed, processed, and/or analyzed include 23-180, 23-600, 23-650, 23-652, and 23-703. All of these are in Mercury in Area 23 (Figure 3). Handling of radioactive material in these buildings is limited and consists primarily of handling environmental samples and laboratory standards containing radioactive material. Although the amounts of radioactive material in the environmental samples and laboratory standards are low, and therefore the potential emissions from them are also very low, they are still included as sources.

All facilities and activities from which radionuclides were known to be released to air in calendar year (CY) 2017 are listed in Section II, Table 2, and their source information is listed in Appendix A, Table A.1.

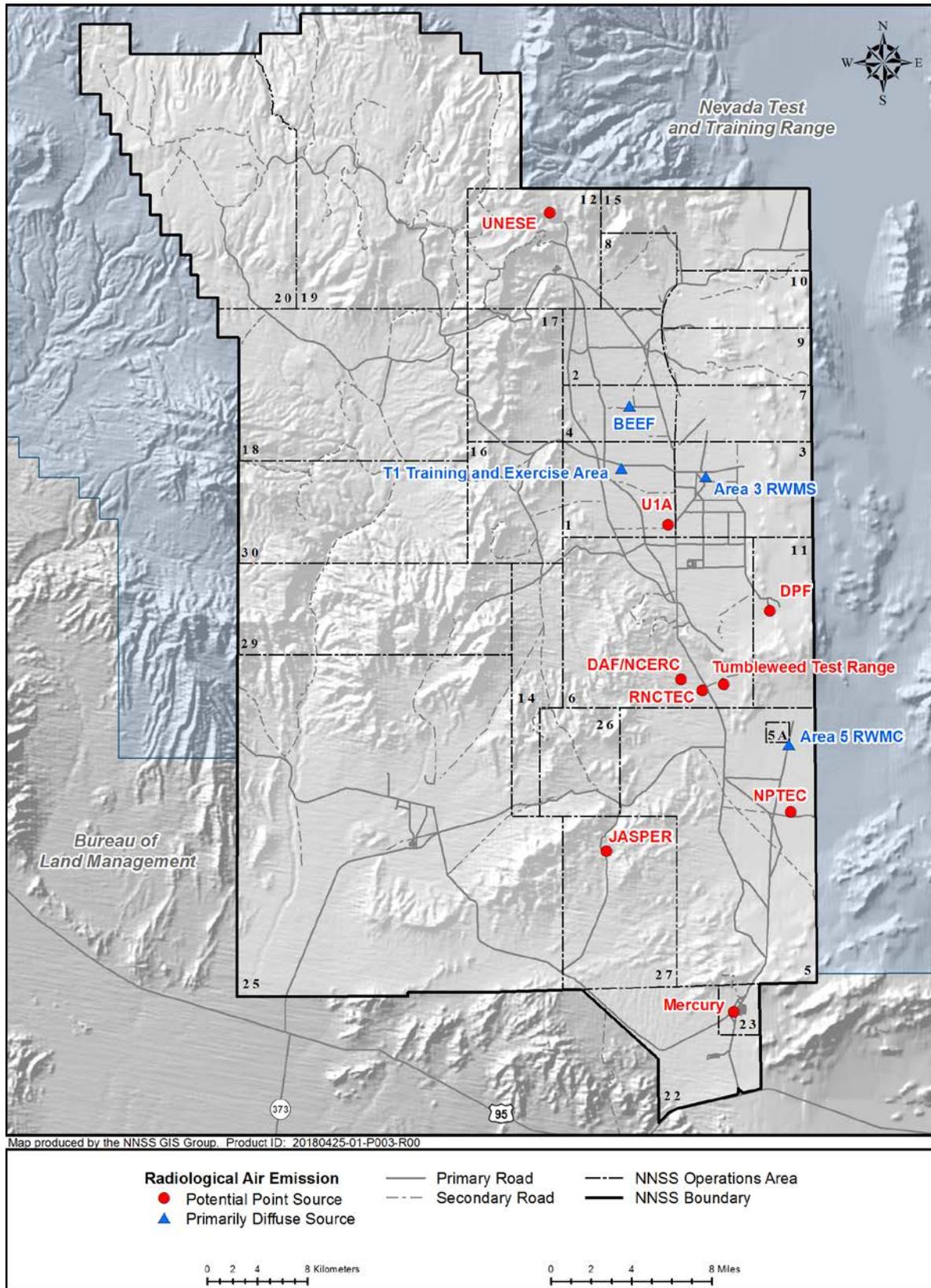


Figure 3. Primary Facilities or Projects with Potential to Release Radionuclides to Air

SECTION II AIR EMISSIONS DATA

Facilities and operations from which radionuclides were released to the atmosphere during CY 2017 are listed in Table 2, and their source information is listed in Appendix A. Their locations are displayed in Figure 4. Releases for the year are grouped into five general source categories: (1) Legacy Contamination Sites; (2) Stockpile Stewardship, Science, and Experimentation; (3) Environmental Restoration and Waste Operations; (4) Nonproliferation, Counterterrorism, and Incident Response; and (5) Mission Support. CY 2017 emission sources by category are described below.

Legacy Contamination Sites

The environmental legacy of nuclear weapons and other testing on the NNSS is a major source of radionuclides that are released into the air. They are generally characterized as non-point (diffuse) sources and include:

Weapon Test and Plowshare Soil Contamination Sites

Three general soil contamination locations are listed for emission sources in this category. Two of them, Sedan and Schooner, are craters from the Plowshare program, which used nuclear devices to demonstrate their ability to excavate large amounts of earth. They are specifically listed separately from other test locations because they dominate the legacy contamination sites for ^3H emissions. The derivation of ^3H emission estimates from these locations is described in Appendix B. The third general location, referred to as “Grouped Area Sources,” is a grouping of all large areas impacted by past nuclear testing on the NNSS. This grouping is used to report emissions of radionuclides in particulate form due to soil resuspension caused by wind. The derivation of this emission is described in Appendix C.

Emanation from Building Materials

At the NLVF, parts of the Building A-01 basement were contaminated with ^3H in 1995. Emanation of tritiated water in the form of $^3\text{H}^3\text{HO}$ or ^3HHO (collectively referred to as HTO) from these building materials has persisted at continually decreasing levels. These emissions are exhausted from the building through the ventilation system. A description of the incident and the potential effective dose equivalent (EDE) for offsite exposure during CY 2017 are presented in Appendix D.

The 1995 ^3H contamination of the NLVF Building A-01 basement also affected an inactive radiation source well that had since been filling with water due to the soil bottom in the well and a rise in groundwater. This source well was sealed in 2001 and a pump was installed to remove the residual ^3H contaminated water. The State of Nevada approved disposing of the contaminated water near the Area 23 Sewage Lagoons at the NNSS. No tritium was detected in this water during CY 2017, so no tritium emission is calculated from this source for CY 2017.

Stockpile Stewardship, Science, and Experimentation

The NNSS provides unique resources to maintain the integrity of the United States’ nuclear weapons stockpile through weapons testing without nuclear detonation. Nuclear Asset Operations supports this mission through its nuclear and high-hazard facility management.

Certain experiments have the potential for radioactive emissions. Primary facilities for such emissions are DAF in Area 6, NCERC (located within the DAF) in Area 6, DPF in Area 11, U1A in Area 1, BEEF in Area 4, and JASPER in Area 27.

During CY 2017 the BEEF and DPF were the only facilities known to have radioactive emissions. Also, conservatively calculated potential air emissions from the NCERC are also included as a source for CY 2017.

Environmental Restoration and Waste Operations

Environmental Restoration

Environmental Restoration Corrective Action Site 12-59-01, E-Tunnels, has a component consisting of water contaminated from historical nuclear weapons testing flowing into collection ponds (E-Tunnel Ponds) in Area 12. The only radiological contaminant that produces a measurable air emission is ^3H evaporating as HTO. Calculation of this emission source for CY 2017 is described in Appendix E.

An Environmental Restoration cleanup project was started during CY 2017 at the Clean Slate site on the Tonopah Test Range. Environmental monitoring / reporting is conducted by Sandia National Laboratories (http://www.sandia.gov/news/publications/environmental_reports/).

There were no Environmental Restoration demolitions or cleanup projects conducted on the NNSS during CY 2017 that had a potential for radionuclide emissions to air.

Underground Test Area (UGTA) Activity

UGTA activities include the task of characterizing the aquifers at sites of past underground nuclear tests. To characterize the groundwater regime, suitable wells are drilled and existing wells re-completed and sampled as determined by hydrologists. During these drilling and sampling operations, water is pumped to the surface. This water is then available for evaporation. Again, the only contaminant producing a measurable air emission from this evaporating water is ^3H as HTO. During CY 2017, water containing ^3H was pumped from the following wells:

- U-3cn-5
- RNM #2s
- UE-5n
- ER-20-11
- ER-20-12
- ER-20-6-2
- ER-20-7
- ER-20-8
- ER-20-8-2
- ER-EC-11

These well locations are displayed in Figure 4. Calculation of the ^3H emission from water pumped from them is described in Appendix E.

Waste Operations

The Area 3 RWMS and the Area 5 RWMC are used for the disposal of packaged, dry, low-level waste in pits and trenches. The Area 5 RWMC also has facilities for waste examination and repackaging activities, the accumulation of mixed waste, and the storage of transuranic (TRU) and mixed TRU wastes. Concrete pads are used for temporary storage of these wastes. The only radioactive emission detected by the various types of samplers located downwind of these sites and attributed to waste operations was ^3H as HTO in atmospheric moisture. The calculation of the ^3H source term for these emissions in CY 2017 is described in Appendix B.

Nonproliferation, Counterterrorism, and Incident Response

This category can be generally described as global security activities conducted to strengthen national security by providing real-world testing, evaluation, and training venues. Certain activities have the potential for radioactive emissions. The primary facilities for this are the T1 Training and Exercise Area

in Area 1, RNC TEC in Area 6, NPTEC in Area 5, the Tumbleweed Test Range in Area 6, and tunnel facilities primarily in Area 12. Certain experiments using radioactive materials may also be conducted in remote locations of the NNSS.

The only facility in this category from which radionuclides were released during CY 2017 was the NPTEC in Area 5.

Mission Support

Facilities with laboratories as described in Section I have the potential to emit low quantities of radionuclides from handling or processing contaminated material (primarily samples) or from the preparation of ³H standards that are used for quality assurance purposes. Also, the Radiological Control Department has the responsibility of conducting receipt surveys of any radioactive materials arriving at the NNSS. If packaging is damaged, materials must be handled during repackaging, which creates the potential for low-level air emissions. These activities generally take place at Radioactive Materials Control, Building 23-180. Of these support facilities, only operations in Building 23-652 were known to use unsealed radioactive materials in CY 2017; therefore, it was the only facility in this category listed as being an emission source in CY 2017.

Radionuclide emissions from each CY 2017 source were characterized by one of the following methods:

- Facility or project reported radionuclide emissions based on operations
- Identifying the radionuclide inventory and determining losses of radionuclides that were released to the environment using 40 CFR 61 Appendix D emission factors
- Measuring the HTO concentrations in liquid effluents discharged and proceeding as if all the effluent evaporates over the course of the year to become an air emission
- Using re-suspension calculations
- Using a combination of environmental measurements and the Clean Air Package 1988 (CAP88-PC) air dispersion model (EPA 2014) to calculate the emissions

Distances and directions from all CY 2017 emission sources to the nearest offsite locations of interest are listed in Table 2. Distances ranged from 20 to 72 km from NNSS emission sources and from 0.1 to 0.85 km from the NLVF emission source.

Total CY 2017 emissions, by radionuclide, are shown in Table 3 for the NNSS and in Table 4 for the NLVF. Radionuclide emissions by source are shown in Table 5. The source type, emission control (for example, high efficiency particulate air [HEPA] filters), and description of the nature of each emission are listed in Table A.1 of Appendix A. Appendices B through E describe the methods used to determine the CY 2017 emissions.

Radionuclides making up about 52% of the total activity emitted from the NNSS in CY 2017 have very short half-lives. These range from 7 seconds for nitrogen-16 to 17.3 minutes for praseodymium-144. Due to these short half-lives, much of the activity is lost due to physical decay over the time it takes to travel the long distances to offsite receptors (Table 2).

Table 2. CY 2017 Radionuclide Emission Sources and Distance to Offsite Locations

Distance^(a) and Direction^(b) to Nearest Offsite Locations				
Emission Source	Offsite Residence	Offsite Business/Office	Offsite School	
Legacy Contamination Sites	Sedan	51 km ENE (Medlin's Ranch)	58 km NNE (Rachel)	72 km WSW (Beatty)
	Schooner	36 km WSW (Sarcobatus Flat)	20 km WSW (Tolicha Peak)	55 km SSW (Beatty)
	Grouped Area Sources – All NNSS Areas	Various locations ranging from 20 to 74 km		
	Building A-01, basement, NLVF	0.6 km W (N Las Vegas) ^(c)	0.1 km (at north fence of NLVF)	0.85 km W (N Las Vegas) ^(c)
Stockpile Stewardship, Science, and Experimentation	DPF	35 km NNE (NTTR)	35 km NNE (NTTR)	49 km SSE (Indian Springs)
	NCERC	42 km SW (Amargosa Valley)	42 km SW (Amargosa Valley)	49 km SE (Indian Springs)
	BEEF	29 km ENE (NTTR)	29 km ENE (NTTR)	64 km WSW (Beatty)
Nonproliferation, Counterterrorism, and Incident Response	NPTEC	34 km SE (Cactus Springs)	23 km S (American Silica)	38 km SE (Indian Springs)
Environmental Restoration and Waste Operations	E-Tunnel Ponds	53 km WSW (Springdale)	55 km WNW (Tolicha Peak)	62 km SW (Beatty)
	UGTA Wells	27 km NE (NTTR)	27 km NE (NTTR)	37 km SE (Indian Springs)
	Area 3 RWMS	56 km SW (Amargosa Valley)	56 km SW (Amargosa Valley)	61 km SSE (Indian Springs)
	Area 5 RWMC	36 km SE (Cactus Springs)	40 km SE (Indian Springs)	40 km SE (Indian Springs)
Support Facility Operations	Building 23-652	24 km SW (Crystal)	24 km SW (Crystal)	30 km (Indian Springs)

- (a) Distance is shown in km. For miles, multiply by 0.62.
- (b) N=north, S=south, E=east, W=west in all direction combinations shown
- (c) City of North Las Vegas

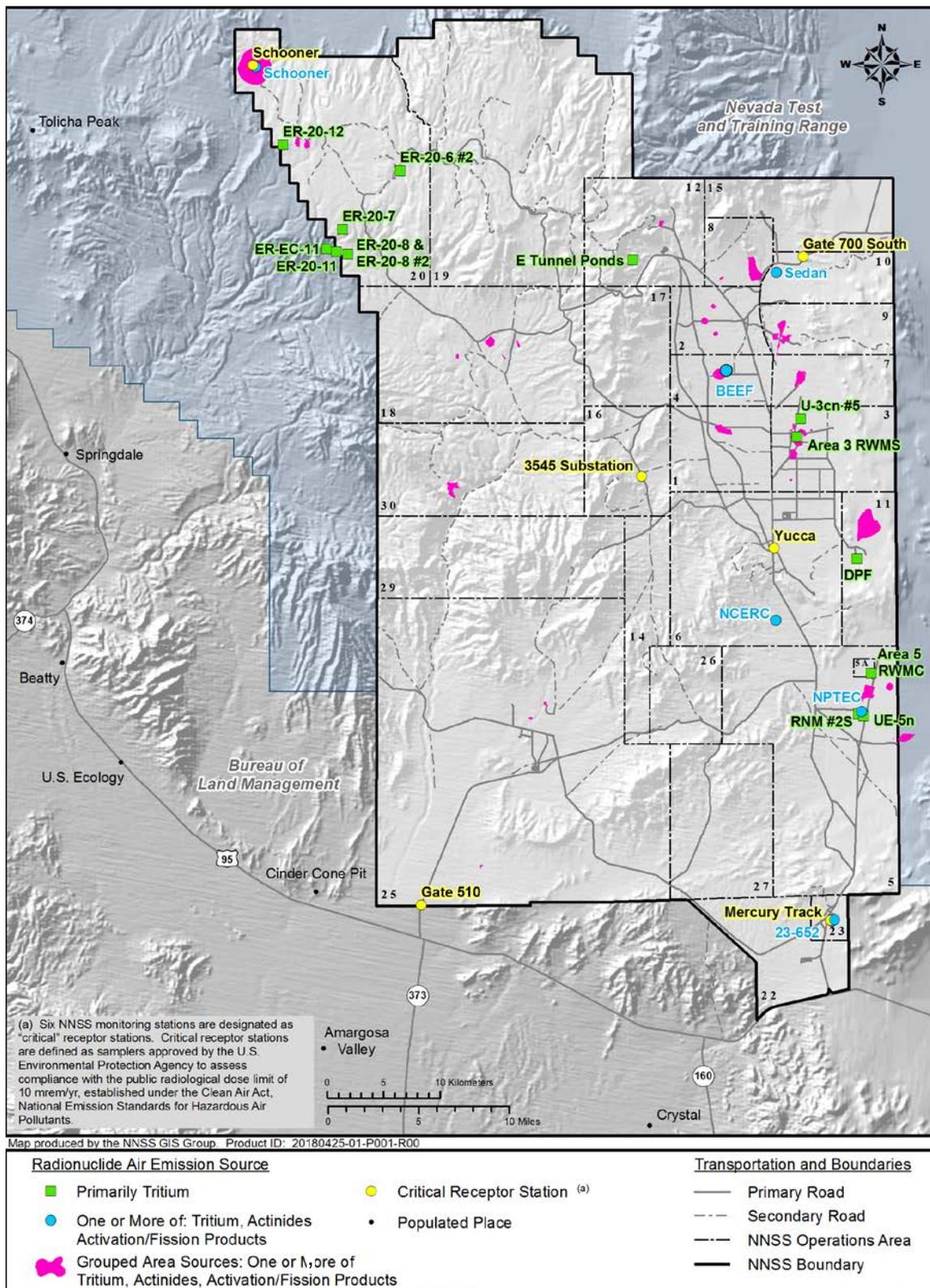


Figure 4. Sources of Radiological Air Emissions and Critical Receptor Air Monitoring Stations on the NNS in CY 2017

Table 3. Total Estimated NNSS Emissions for CY 2017

Radionuclide^(a)	Symbol	Half-life	Total Quantity (Ci)
Tritium	³ H	12.32 years (y)	1312
Nitrogen-16	¹⁶ N	7.13 seconds (s)	0.00016
Oxygen-19	¹⁹ O	26.46 s	0.00000021
Argon-41	⁴¹ Ar	109.61 minutes (min)	0.00000026
Bromine-85	⁸⁵ Br	2.9 min	1322
Krypton-85	⁸⁵ Kr	10.76 y	0.00016
metastable Krypton-85	^{85m} Kr	4.48 hours (h)	15
Cobalt-60	⁶⁰ Co	5.27 y	0.00030
Strontium-90	⁹⁰ Sr	28.79 y	0.055
Rhodium-106	¹⁰⁶ Rh	29.80 s	0.000020
Antimony-124	¹²⁴ Sb	60.20 days (d)	0.0000040
Antimony-125	¹²⁵ Sb	2.76 y	0.00014
Tellurium-132	¹³² Te	3.20 d	3.14
Iodine-131	¹³¹ I	8.02 d	0.91
Iodine-133	¹³³ I	20.8 h	17
Iodine-135	¹³⁵ I	6.57 h	51
metastable Xenon-131	^{131m} Xe	11.84 d	0.0067
Xenon-133	¹³³ Xe	5.24 d	2.73
metastable Xenon-133	^{133m} Xe	2.19 d	0.19
Xenon-135	¹³⁵ Xe	9.14 h	38
metastable Xenon-135	^{135m} Xe	15.29 min	248
Cesium-137	¹³⁷ Cs	30.17 y	0.053
Barium-140	¹⁴⁰ Ba	12.75 d	1.07
Praseodymium-144	¹⁴⁴ Pr	17.28 min	0.0000098
Samarium-151	¹⁵¹ Sm	90 y	0.000028
Samarium-153	¹⁵³ Sm	46.50 h	0.17
Europium-152	¹⁵² Eu	13.54 y	0.010
Europium-154	¹⁵⁴ Eu	8.59 y	0.000099
Europium-155	¹⁵⁵ Eu	4.76 y	0.00013
Depleted Uranium	DU	>150,000 y	0.0043
Plutonium-238	²³⁸ Pu	87.7 y	0.040
Plutonium-239+240	²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰ Pu	24,110 y	0.29
Americium-241	²⁴¹ Am	432 y	0.069

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

- (a) Includes all radionuclides with reasonable emission estimates available. Not all of these radionuclides would contribute $\geq 10\%$ of the potential EDE [threshold for required measurement per 40 CFR 61.93(b)(4)(i)].

Table 4. Total Estimated NLVF Emissions for CY 2017

Radionuclide	Total Quantity (Ci)
³ H	0.0020

Table 5. Summary of CY 2017 Air Emissions Data by Source

Emission Source ^(a)	Emissions Control	Radionuclide	Quantity (Ci/y)	
Legacy Contamination Sites	Sedan ^(b)	None	³ H 14	
	Schooner ^(b)	None	³ H 14	
	Grouped Area Sources – All NNSS Areas ^(c)	None	⁶⁰ Co	0.00030
			⁹⁰ Sr	0.054
			¹³⁷ Cs	0.052
			¹⁵² Eu	0.010
			¹⁵⁴ Eu	0.000099
			¹⁵⁵ Eu	0.000078
			²³⁸ Pu	0.040
	²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰ Pu	0.29		
²⁴¹ Am	0.069			
Building A-01, NLVF ^(d)	None	³ H	0.0020	
Stockpile Stewardship, Science, and Experimentation	DPF ^(e)	None	³ H 1269	
			¹⁶ N 0.00016	
	NCERC ^(e)	HEPA filter	¹⁹ O	0.00000021
			⁴¹ Ar	0.00000026
			³ H	0.0000052
			⁸⁵ Br	1322
			⁸⁵ Kr	0.00016
			^{85m} Kr	15
			⁹⁰ Sr	0.0012
			¹⁰⁶ Rh	0.000020
			¹²⁴ Sb	0.0000040
			¹²⁵ Sb	0.00014
			¹³² Te	3
			¹³¹ I	0.91
			¹³³ I	17
			¹³⁵ I	51
			^{131m} Xe	0.0067
			¹³³ Xe	3
			^{133m} Xe	0.19
			¹³⁵ Xe	38
			^{135m} Xe	248
	¹³⁷ Cs	0.0012		
	¹⁴⁰ Ba	1		
¹⁴⁴ Pr	0.0000098			
¹⁵¹ Sm	0.000028			
¹⁵³ Sm	0.17			
¹⁵⁵ Eu	0.000055			
BEEF ^(e)		DU	0.0043	
Nonproliferation, Counterterrorism, and Incident Response	NPTEC ^(e)	None	DU 0.000020	
Environmental Restoration and Waste Operations	E-Tunnel Ponds ^(f)	None	³ H 5	
	UGTA Wells ^(f)	None	³ H 2	
	Area 3 RWMS ^(b)	Soil cover over waste	³ H 7	
	Area 5 RWMC ^(b)	Soil cover over waste	³ H 3	
Support Facility Operations	Building 23-652 ^(g)	None	³ H 0.0000069	

- (a) All locations are on the NNSS except for Building A-01.
- (b) Emission based on sample results and CAP88-PC software; see Appendix B.
- (c) Sum of emissions estimated from soil re-suspension model; see Table C.1 for individual area estimates
- (d) Based on air concentrations and ventilation system flow rate; see Appendix D.
- (e) Emission based on potential release reported by project personnel.
- (f) Emission based on HTO discharged into containment pond(s) or onto the ground; see Appendix E.
- (g) Based on concentrations in samples and standards used in Building 23-652 lab during 2017.

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SECTION III DOSE ASSESSMENTS

CRITICAL RECEPTOR AIR MONITORING

The NNSS demonstrates compliance with dose limits using environmental measurements of radionuclide air concentrations near the NNSS borders and near the center of the NNSS. This critical receptor method [40 CFR 61.93(g)] was approved by EPA Region 9 for use on the NNSS in 2001 (EPA 2001a) and has been used to demonstrate compliance with the 40 CFR 61.92 dose standard since 2002. The six approved critical receptor locations are listed below and displayed in Figure 4 with NNSS emission locations and in Figure 5 along with the entire NNSS air sampling network.

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

No changes to the critical receptor air monitoring locations occurred during CY 2017 but one station (U-20U South) was removed from service on May 31, 2017, and one station (North Schooner) was installed and began sampling on April 19, 2017 (Figure 5). Both of these only sampled atmospheric moisture with the purpose to estimate tritium emissions from the Schooner Crater. Due to the predominance of wind from the south during the summer when most tritium is emitted, tritium was rarely detected in samples from the U-20U South sampler. The North Schooner sampler was established to sample in a more downwind location. Tritium concentrations were measured at levels greater than the sample specific minimum detection limit in over 87% of samples from the North Schooner location.

The six critical receptor locations can be thought of as worst case for an offsite receptor because these samplers are much closer to emissions sources. Table 6 displays the distances between the critical receptor monitoring stations and points where members of the public potentially live, work, and/or go to school. The distance between the sampling location and the closest onsite emission location is also listed. The shortest distance between where a member of the public resides and a critical receptor monitoring station is 4 km. This is between the Gate 510 sampler, in the SW corner of the NNSS, and the northern edge of the community of Amargosa Valley. The shortest distance between an NNSS radionuclide emission source and a critical receptor monitoring station is 0.2 km. This is between the Schooner sampler, in the NW corner of the NNSS, and Schooner Crater. Because this sampler is actually within the area physically affected by the nuclear test (Figure 6), it generally has the highest radionuclide concentrations of the six critical receptor stations. The distance from the Schooner sampler to the closest member of the public (Tolicha Peak) is 20 km, which is 100 times farther than it is from the emission source.

Compliance with the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) public air pathway dose limit of 10 mrem/y is demonstrated if the measured annual average concentration of each detected radionuclide at each of these six critical receptor locations is less than the NESHAP Concentration Level (CL) for Environmental Compliance (40 CFR 61, Appendix E, Table 2). The CL represents the annual average concentration of each radionuclide that would result in an EDE of 10 mrem/y (see Table 7). For multiple radionuclides, 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 CY 2017 air sampling results from the six compliance stations are presented in Table 7. Concentration ratios for all NNSS air samplers are listed in Table 8. Presentation of air monitoring results in relation to the CL for non-critical receptor locations in Table 8 is provided as information only. These stations are not used to demonstrate compliance.

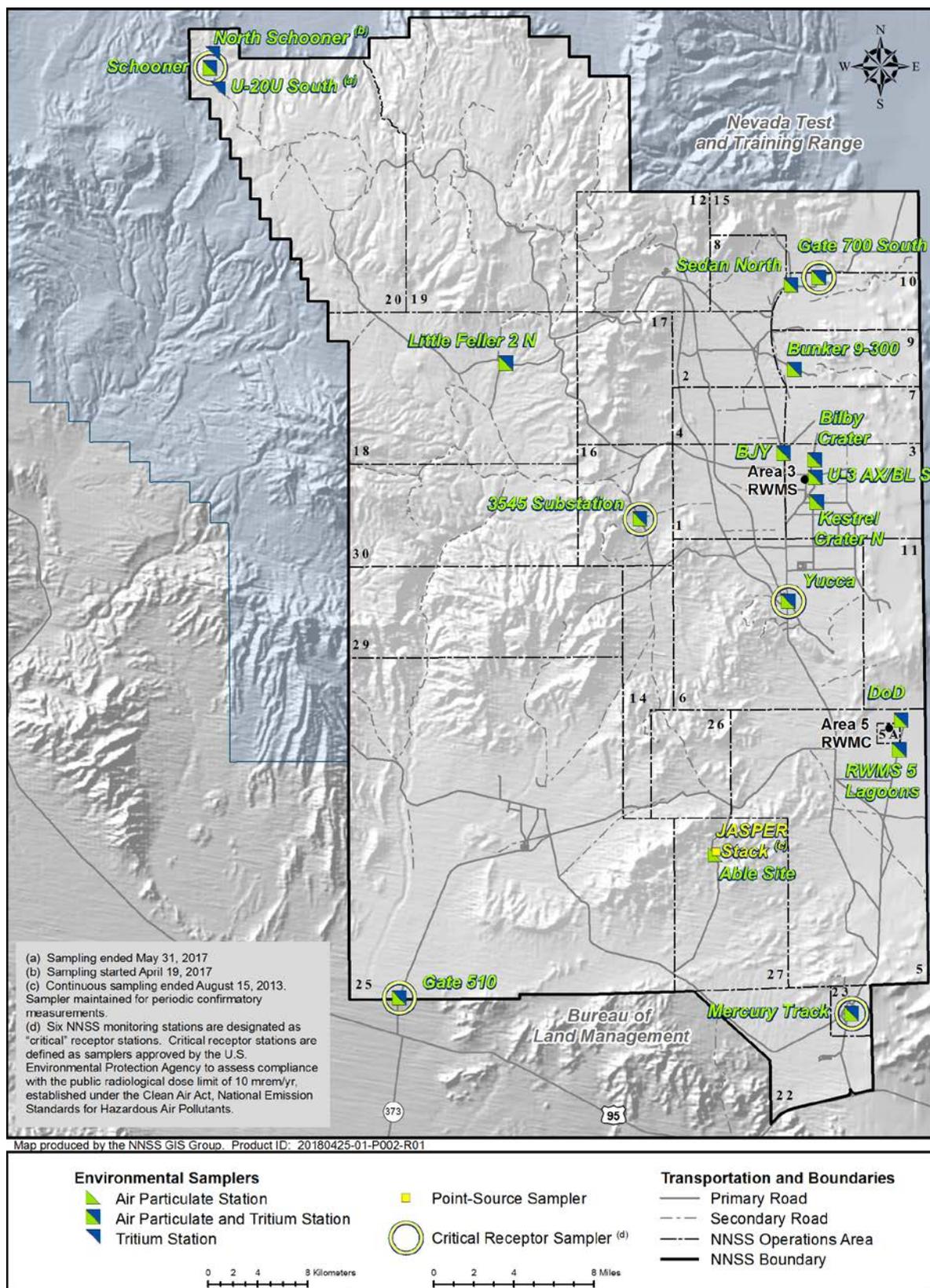


Figure 5. Air Sampling Network on the NNSS

Table 6. Distance Between Critical Receptor Air Monitoring Stations and Nearest Points of Interest

Critical Receptor Station	Distance ^(a) and Direction ^(b) to Nearest Offsite Locations and Onsite Emission Location			
	Offsite Residence	Offsite Business/ Office	Offsite School	NNSS Emission Source
Area 6, Yucca	47 km SW (Amargosa Valley)	38 km SSE (American Silica)	54 km SE (Indian Springs)	6.3 km S (Area 6, NCERC)
Area 10, Gate 700	49 km ENE (Medlin's Ranch)	56 km NNE (Rachel)	75 km SSE (Indian Springs)	2.4 km WSW (Area 10, Sedan Crater)
Area 16, 3545 Substation	46 km SSW (Amargosa Valley)	46 km SSW (Amargosa Valley)	58 km SSW (Amargosa Valley)	14 km ENE (Area 3 Radioactive Waste Management Site)
Area 20, Schooner	36 km WSW (Sarcobatus Flat)	20 km WSW (Tolicha Peak)	56 km SSW (Beatty)	0.2 km SE (Area 20, Schooner Crater)
Area 23, Mercury Track	24 km SW (Crystal)	6.0 km SE (American Silica)	31 km SSW (Indian Springs)	0.2 km ESE (Area 23, Building 652)
Area 25, Gate 510	4 km S (Amargosa Valley)	3.5 km S (Amargosa Valley)	15 km SW (Amargosa Valley)	5.1 km NE (Area 25, nearest portion of the Grouped Area Sources)

(a) Distance is shown in km. For miles, multiply by 0.62.

(b) N=north, S=south, E=east, W=west in all direction combinations shown

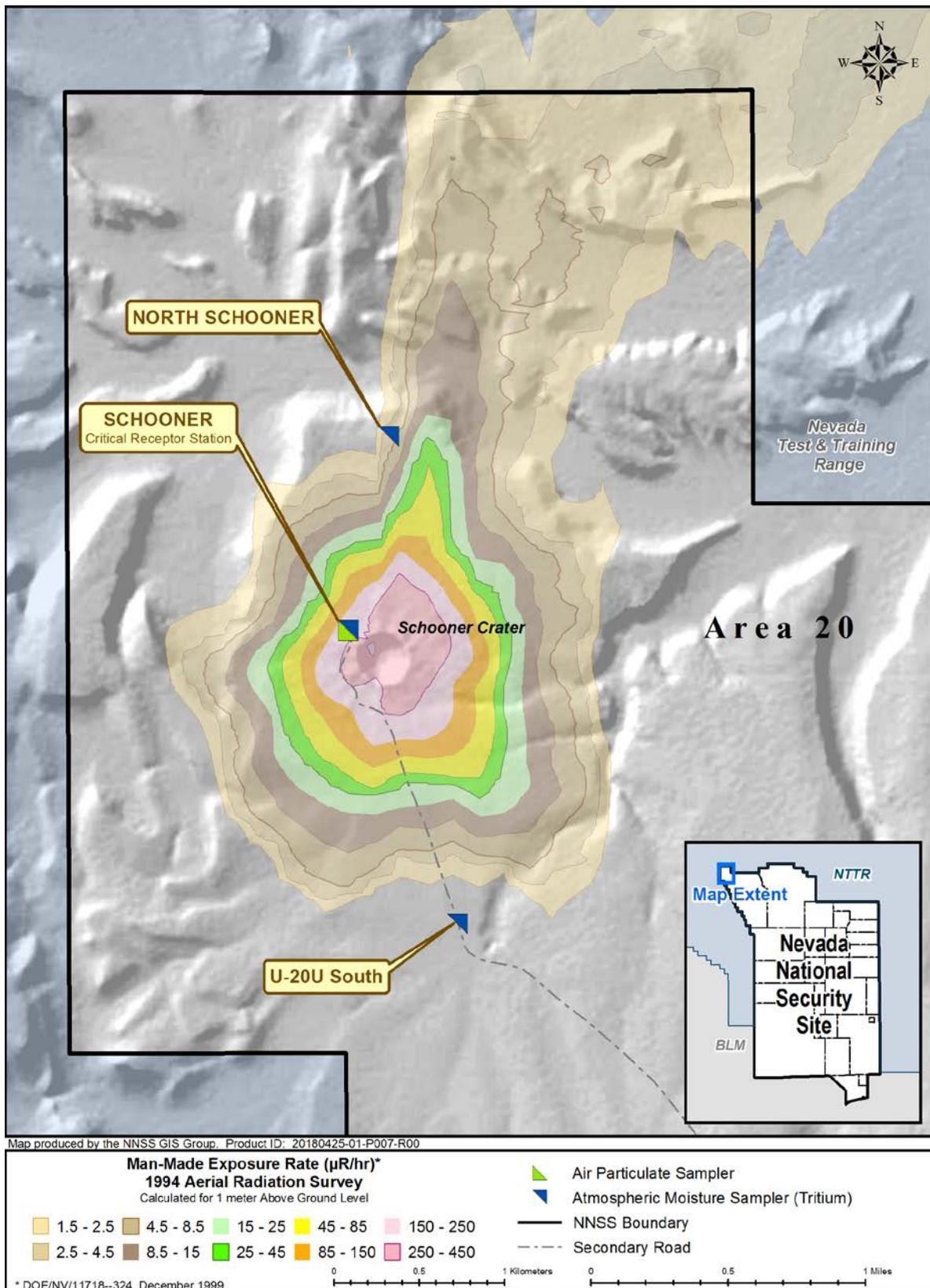


Figure 6. Sampling locations near the Schooner Crater

Table 7. Average Radionuclide Concentrations at NNSS Critical Receptor Stations and Fraction of Concentration Level (CL) for CY 2017

Location	Radionuclide	Average Concentration in Air (pCi/m ³) ^(a)	CL ^(b) (pCi/m ³)	Average Concentration as Fraction of CL
Yucca	³ H	0.26 x 10 ⁰	1500	0.0002
Gate 700 S		0.27 x 10 ⁰		0.0002
3545 Substation		0.06 x 10 ⁰		0.0000
Schooner		77.77 x 10 ⁰		0.0518
Mercury Track		0.18 x 10 ⁰		0.0001
Gate 510		0.10 x 10 ⁰		0.0001
Yucca	¹³⁷ Cs	26.59 x 10 ⁻⁶	0.019	0.0014
Gate 700 S		5.26 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0003
3545 Substation		23.87 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0013
Schooner		-118.27 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0000
Mercury Track		-22.44 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0000
Gate 510		16.18 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0009
Yucca	²⁴¹ Am	2.20 x 10 ⁻⁶	0.0019	0.0012
Gate 700 S		3.88 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0020
3545 Substation		1.18 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0006
Schooner		2.95 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0016
Mercury Track		0.91 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0005
Gate 510		-0.24 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0000
Yucca	²³⁸ Pu	1.28 x 10 ⁻⁶	0.0021	0.0006
Gate 700 S		0.65 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0003
3545 Substation		0.17 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0001
Schooner		3.38 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0016
Mercury Track		0.64 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0003
Gate 510		0.55 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0003
Yucca	²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰ Pu	11.80 x 10 ⁻⁶	0.0020	0.0059
Gate 700 S		11.54 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0058
3545 Substation		1.82 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0009
Schooner		3.09 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0015
Mercury Track		1.75 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0009
Gate 510		0.90 x 10 ⁻⁶		0.0005
Yucca	Sum of Fractions by Locations	Sums for analytes listed above with negative values set to zero.		0.0092
Gate 700 S				0.0086
3545 Substation				0.0029
Schooner				0.0565
Mercury Track				0.0018
Gate 510				0.0016

(a) picocuries per cubic meter (pCi/m³)

(b) Source: Table 2 in Title 40 CFR 61, Appendix E (Compliance Procedures Methods for Determining Compliance with Subpart I) (CFR 2010a)

Table 8. Average Radionuclide Concentration Fraction of Concentration Level (CL) at all NNSS Air Stations, CY 2017

Area	Sampling Station	Annual Average Concentration / Compliance Level					Sums of Fractions of CLs
		³ H	¹³⁷ Cs	²³⁸ Pu	²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰ Pu	²⁴¹ Am	
1	BJY	0.0004	0.0000	0.0018	0.0521	0.0078	0.0621
3	Bilby Crater	0.0003	0.0016	0.0009	0.0359	0.0047	0.0435
3	Kestrel Crater N	0.0003	0.0000	0.0011	0.0407	0.0070	0.0491
3	U-3ax/bl S	0.0005	0.0002	0.0015	0.0379	0.0062	0.0463
5	DoD	0.0004	0.0000	0.0006	0.0025	0.0018	0.0053
5	RWMS 5 Lagoons	0.0003	0.0000	0.0009	0.0204	0.0032	0.0248
6	Yucca ^(a)	0.0002	0.0014	0.0006	0.0059	0.0012	0.0092
9	Bunker 9-300	0.0004	0.0021	0.0063	0.4485	0.0674	0.5247
10	Gate 700 S ^(a)	0.0002	0.0003	0.0003	0.0058	0.0020	0.0086
10	Sedan N	0.0007	0.0001	0.0012	0.0221	0.0051	0.0292
16	3545 Substation ^(a)	0.0000	0.0013	0.0001	0.0009	0.0006	0.0029
18	Little Feller 2 N	0.0001	0.0000	0.0017	0.0946	0.0155	0.1120
20	North Schooner	0.0018	NM ^(b)	NM ^(b)	NM ^(b)	NM ^(b)	0.0018
20	Schooner ^(a)	0.0518	0.0000	0.0016	0.0015	0.0016	0.0565
20	U-20u S	0.0001	NM ^(b)	NM ^(b)	NM ^(b)	NM ^(b)	0.0001
23	Mercury Track ^(a)	0.0001	0.0000	0.0003	0.0009	0.0005	0.0018
25	Gate 510 ^(a)	0.0001	0.0009	0.0003	0.0005	0.0000	0.0016
27	Able Site	NM ^(b)	0.0006	0.0007	0.0014	0.0007	0.0034

(a) Critical Receptor sample location.

(b) NM = not measured. Only air particulates or atmospheric moisture are sampled at certain locations.

CAP88-PC DOSE ASSESSMENT

The radioactive air emissions from each NNSS source listed in Table 5 were modeled using the Clean Air Package, 1988, model (CAP88, Version 4.0; EPA 2014). Emission locations for Legacy Contamination Sites, Grouped Area Sources, were either the center of the most contaminated location within each of the NNSS operational areas, or the center-point of the operational area if the surface contamination was relatively uniform. Emission locations from projects or facilities were the known release points. Tritium emissions from the E-Tunnel Ponds were included in the Area 12 emission and the Area 3 and Area 5 tritium emissions from the radioactive waste operations were included in the Area 3 and Area 5 Grouped Area Sources, respectively. Wind files containing frequency distributions of wind speed, direction, and stability class from CY 2017 meteorological stations on the NNSS were provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Air Resources Laboratory, Special Operations and Research Division (ARL/SORD) (Appendix F). CAP88 predicted annual dose (mrem/y) from each emission source to each receptor location are listed in Table 9.

COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT

As can be seen in Table 7, the annual average concentrations of detected radionuclides and their fraction of the NESHAP compliance level for each of the six NNSS critical receptor stations are all below 1% of the CLs except for the ^3H average at the Schooner sampler station, which was about 5.7% of the CL. The average concentration of ^3H is high at Schooner because the air sampler is so close to the emission source, as discussed above. The highest sum of the fractions at critical receptors stations, measured at the Schooner sampler, was 0.057. This is well below 1.0 and therefore in compliance with the NESHAP standard. The last column of Table 9 lists the total CAP88-PC calculated dose to offsite receptors. This highest value [maximally exposed individual (MEI)] is predicted to be a person residing on the NTTR at 0.07 mrem/y. The highest value off federal land was about the same at Springdale. For comparison, the fractions of the 10 mrem/y air pathway dose limit from CAP-88 modeled MEI dose estimates from CY 1992 to CY 2004 and CY 2017 are displayed in Figure 7 along with the highest critical receptor station monitoring results (Schooner) from CY 2005 to CY 2017.

Based on the CAP88-PC modeling, the radionuclides contributing most to the MEI dose were plutonium (^{238}Pu and $^{239+240}\text{Pu}$) at 67%, tritium at 18%, and ^{241}Am at 11%. All other radionuclides combined only contributed 4% to the total dose.

Table 9. CAP88-PC Dose (mrem/y) from NNSS Sources (blank cells indicate receptor is > 80.5 km (50 mi) from Emission).

Location	Grouped Area Sources All NNSS Areas ^(a)	DPF	NCERC	BEEF	NPTEC	UGTA Wells	Building 23-652	Total From All NNSS Sources (mrem/y)
Alamo	2.3E-03							2.3E-03
Amargosa Valley (center)	3.5E-02	5.5E-03	2.2E-04	1.3E-05	1.2E-07	1.1E-05	3.3E-10	4.1E-02
Amargosa Valley (N. end)	5.2E-02	6.0E-03	3.3E-04	1.6E-05	1.9E-07	1.2E-05	3.2E-10	5.8E-02
Ash Meadows	3.2E-03	5.5E-03	2.6E-04		2.0E-07	5.1E-07	3.5E-10	9.0E-03
Ash Spring	1.0E-03							1.0E-03
Beatty	3.8E-02	6.4E-03	1.1E-04	4.6E-06		1.3E-05	1.3E-11	4.5E-02
Cactus Springs	3.6E-02	5.9E-03	6.2E-04	3.5E-05	2.8E-07	6.7E-07	3.1E-10	4.2E-02
Cedar Pipeline Ranch	2.9E-02			9.8E-06		1.3E-05		2.9E-02
Cinder Cone Pit	6.4E-02	6.3E-03	1.9E-04	8.4E-06	1.5E-07	1.3E-05	3.2E-10	7.1E-02
Cold Creek	7.8E-03	5.2E-03	4.4E-04		2.1E-07	6.5E-07	3.1E-10	1.3E-02
Corn Creek Station	1.1E-04				5.9E-08	4.1E-07	3.0E-10	1.1E-04
Crystal	4.7E-02	6.2E-03	5.5E-04	2.6E-05	3.8E-07	6.5E-07	4.0E-10	5.4E-02
Death Valley Junction	8.2E-04		2.1E-04				3.4E-10	1.0E-03
Furnace Creek	7.7E-04						2.6E-11	7.7E-04
Gemfield	3.4E-04							3.4E-04
Gold Point	3.7E-04							3.7E-04
Goldfield	3.6E-04							3.6E-04
Indian Springs	2.7E-02	5.7E-03	5.5E-04	1.2E-05	2.5E-07	6.1E-07	3.1E-10	3.3E-02
Johnnie	2.3E-02	5.7E-03	7.8E-04	2.3E-05	3.3E-07	6.1E-07	3.4E-10	2.9E-02
Kyle Canyon Rd	8.6E-05						1.2E-11	8.6E-05
Las Vegas	7.9E-05						1.1E-11	7.9E-05
Lee Canyon	1.0E-03	4.9E-03	3.4E-04		7.8E-08	5.6E-07	3.0E-10	6.3E-03
Lida Junction	3.8E-04					6.9E-06		3.9E-04
Medlin's Ranch	2.4E-02	8.2E-03	2.0E-04	1.1E-05		1.6E-12		3.2E-02
Mt. Charleston	1.3E-04		2.7E-04		7.0E-08	5.2E-07	3.0E-10	4.0E-04
NTTR	6.0E-02	1.3E-02	6.8E-04	8.8E-06	1.8E-07	1.2E-05	1.2E-11	7.4E-02
Pahrump	2.0E-04		3.1E-04		1.2E-07	5.5E-07	3.1E-10	5.1E-04
Rachel	2.6E-02			1.3E-05		1.3E-12		2.6E-02
Scotty's Junction	9.0E-03					8.4E-06		9.0E-03
S. Desert Correctional Center	4.7E-03	5.9E-03	2.9E-04		1.7E-07	5.1E-07	3.0E-10	1.1E-02
Springdale	5.9E-02	6.4E-03	1.1E-04	5.6E-06		1.5E-05	1.2E-11	6.5E-02
Stateline Area	1.6E-03	5.4E-03	2.4E-04		1.1E-07	4.4E-07	3.4E-10	7.2E-03
Tolicha Peak	3.6E-02		5.5E-05	5.7E-06		9.7E-06		3.6E-02
Tonopah Test Range	2.4E-03					8.0E-06		2.4E-03
U.S. Ecology	5.1E-02	5.8E-03	1.3E-04	4.7E-06	6.4E-08	1.2E-05	3.0E-10	5.7E-02

(a) Tritium from the Area 3 RWMS, Area 5 RWMC, and E-Tunnel Ponds is included in the Grouped Area Sources.

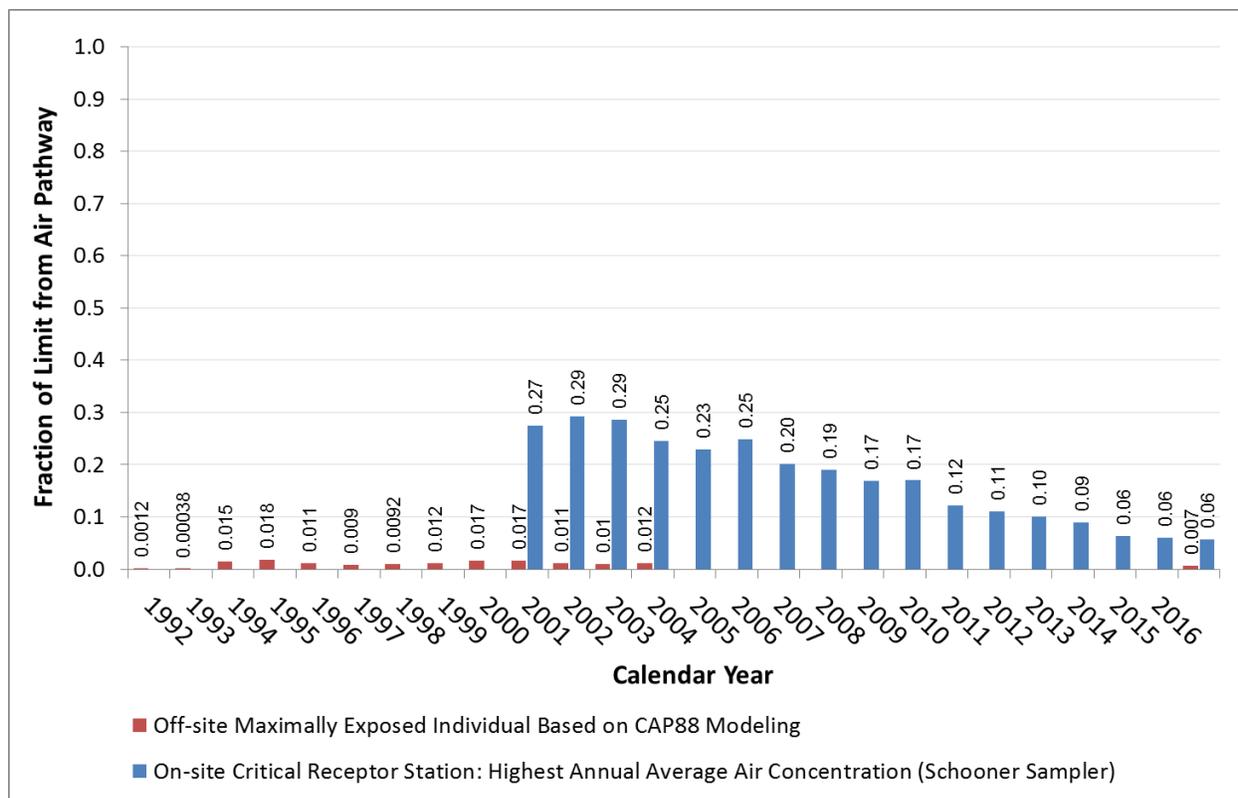


Figure 7. Fraction of the 10 mrem/y Air Pathway Dose Limit for CAP88-PC Modeled MEI Dose and Highest Critical Receptor Station Monitoring Results

SECTION IV ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

DOSE EVALUATIONS CONDUCTED DURING CY 2017

This section summarizes radionuclide NESHAP evaluations conducted during CY 2017 for potential radionuclide releases and radiation dose estimates from new projects, construction, modifications, or periodic confirmatory measurements of existing activities. These evaluations were performed in accordance with 40 CFR 61, Subpart H, and are separated into the following general categories: Environmental Restoration Projects, Waste Management Projects, Construction Projects, Research Projects, and Periodic Confirmatory Assessments (Table 10). Minor sources are classified as having a potential dose to the offsite MEI of less than 0.1 mrem/y and do not require monitoring; they only require periodic confirmatory evaluations to confirm low emissions. All of the radiation dose assessments performed during CY 2017 were performed with CAP88-PC modeling software, in accordance with 40 CFR 61.93.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROJECTS

Under the *Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order* (1996) between DOE, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the State of Nevada, radioactive soil contamination generated by historical NNS activities is addressed. NNS Environmental Restoration projects that involve the removal and haulage of materials and soil containing low concentrations of radioactivity are evaluated for potential radionuclide emissions to air and potential dose offsite. No environmental restoration activities (soil remediation or facility deactivation and decommissioning) with potential for radionuclide air emissions were conducted on the NNS during CY 2017; therefore, no radiation dose assessments were performed in this category.

WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

The Area 5 RWMC actively received and buried waste throughout the year. Waste cells are excavated when needed. The Area 3 RWMS did not receive waste during 2017. Continuous air monitoring occurs at two predominant downwind directions from each of the Area 3 RWMS and the Area 5 RWMC. Radionuclide emissions from waste management sites are discussed in Appendix B.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

No construction projects with potential for radionuclide emissions were initiated during CY 2017.

Table 10. NESHAP Dose Evaluations Conducted during CY 2017

Project Description	NNSS Operational Area	Emission Year	Radionuclide Emissions	MEI Dose (mrem/y) and Location
The U1a Complex is an underground laboratory used for subcritical experiments conducted in a tunnel complex over 960 feet beneath the surface. This underground facility is designed to completely and permanently contain these experiments within sealed experimental chambers. However, there are small pressure release lines that may allow the release of radioactive material to the atmosphere if filtration fails. Therefore, this analysis / calculation was conducted to assess the possible dose to a member of the public from Pu potentially released from U1a Complex.	Area 1	2017	²³⁹ Pu	0.04 U.S. Air Force personnel 33 km NE
The National Criticality Experiments Research Center supports a variety of nuclear security missions, including criticality safety research and training. This calculation was conducted to determine the potential dose from handling radioactive material and from activation and fission products resulting from operations.	Area 6	2017	U, fission, and activation products	0.03 Cactus Springs 45 km SE
The Dense Plasma Focus (DPF) machines operate by instantaneously compressing ionized gasses, including tritium, to create plasmas at temperatures and pressures similar to those in the interior of the sun. In the process, they emit bursts of neutrons that are used in a variety of scientific experiments. The DPF fusion process lasts for less than a millionth of a second. This assessment calculated the dose to a member of the offsite public from potential air emissions created from DPF operations.	Area 11	2017	³ H and short-lived activation products in air	0.02 Cactus Springs, 45 km SSE

PERIODIC CONFIRMATORY MEASUREMENTS

NESHAP regulations require periodic confirmatory measurements for minor release sources to verify low emissions [40 CFR 61.93 (e)]. Furthermore, a Memorandum of Understanding between the EPA and DOE states that “engineering calculations and/or representative measurements may be used to comply with periodic confirmatory measurement requirements” (EPA and DOE 1995). This section lists the periodic confirmatory measurements that were conducted during CY 2017.

Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research (JASPER)

A sample of stack effluents was taken, January 18 – 25, 2017, during a test using special nuclear material. It was analyzed for ²³⁸Pu, ²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰Pu, and ²⁴¹Am. No radionuclides were detected in the sample. There is no evidence of radionuclide emissions from JASPER operations, which confirms the assessment of this being a minor emission source (National Security Technologies, LLC, 2013a).

North Las Vegas Facility (NLVF), Building A-01

Biannual measurements of ^3H concentrations in air in Building A-01 are made as a best management practice. The potential dose from Building A-01 emissions is calculated each year based on this monitoring information. The emissions during CY 2017 were analogous to the past few years and the resultant dose (0.0000098 mrem/y) was well below the 0.1 mrem/y level specified in 40 CFR 61.96. A summary of this is presented in Appendix D.

UNPLANNED RELEASES

There were no known unplanned radionuclide releases during CY 2017.

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APPENDICES

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Appendix A

Radionuclide Air Emission Sources

Table A.1 Facilities or Areas from Which Radionuclides Were Released to Air in Calendar Year (CY) 2017

Emission Source	Emission Type	Radionuclide(s) Emitted	Handling/Processing	Nature of Emissions	Effluent Controls	Source Type ^(a)	Distance ^(b) and Direction ^(c) to Nearest Air Sampler(s)
Legacy Contamination Sites							
Sedan Crater (Plowshare), Area 10	Diffuse	Tritium (³ H) as tritiated water (HTO), americium (Am), plutonium (Pu), activation and fission products	None	³ H as HTO through evaporation from soil or transpiration from plants and suspension of contaminated soil by wind	None	Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sedan North: 0.8 kilometers (km) to the N Critical receptor sampler (Gate 700 S): 2.4 km to the ENE
Schooner Crater (Plowshare), Area 20	Diffuse	³ H as HTO, Am, Pu, activation and fission products	None	³ H as HTO through evaporation from soil or transpiration from plants and suspension of contaminated soil by wind	None	Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical receptor sampler (Schooner): 0.2 km to the NW
Grouped Area Sources – All Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) Areas	Diffuse	Am, Pu, activation and fission products (³ H as HTO as well, but the vast majority are emitted from Sedan and Schooner—see above)	None	Wind causing suspension of soil containing small amounts of historical fallout/legacy radioactive materials	None	Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Figure 4 and Table 6
NLVF, Building A-01	Point	Parts of the basement were contaminated with ³ H in 1995 including a vacant radiation source well	Air flow through building ventilation system	³ H as HTO through emanation from building materials into the air and exhausted from the building through the ventilation system	None	Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biannual sampling inside room that was contaminated

Table A.1 Facilities or Areas from Which Radionuclides Were Released to Air in Calendar Year (CY) 2017 (continued)

Facility or Area	Emission Type	Radionuclide(s) Emitted	Handling/ Processing	Nature of Emissions	Effluent Controls	Source Type ^(a)	Distance ^(b) and Direction ^(c) to Nearest Air Sampler(s)
Stockpile Stewardship, Science, and Experimentation							
Dense Plasma Focus, Area 11	Point	³ H, short-lived activation products in air	Production of neutrons using a deuterium- ³ H reaction	³ H gas released through a stack exhaust	None	Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical receptor sampler (Yucca): 7.4 km to the west-northwest
National Criticality Experiments Research Center, Area 6	Point	Various activation and fission products (see Table 5)	Critical mass assembly machines at very low power (< 1 watt)	Activation and fission products in gas form	Exhaust goes through HEPA filtration	Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical receptor sampler (Yucca): 6.4 km to the N
Big Explosives Experiment Facility, Area 4	Both Point and Diffuse	Primarily Depleted Uranium (DU)	Hydrodynamic testing facility	Explosives and diffuse emissions from areas of past experiments	None	Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sedan North: 0.8 kilometers (km) to the N Critical receptor sampler (Gate 700 S): 2.4 km to the ENE
Nonproliferation, Counterterrorism, and Incident Response							
Nonproliferation Test and Evaluation Complex, Area 5	Diffuse	DU	Handling of powder compounds	Suspension of particulates	None	Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sugar Bunker North: 2.5 km north-northeast Critical receptor sampler (Yucca): 16.4 km to the NNW

Table A.1 Facilities or Areas from Which Radionuclides Were Released to Air in Calendar Year (CY) 2017 (continued)

Facility or Area	Emission Type	Radionuclide(s) Emitted	Handling/ Processing	Nature of Emissions	Effluent Controls	Source Type ^(a)	Distance ^(b) and Direction ^(c) to Nearest Air Sampler(s)
Environmental Restoration and Waste Operations							
E-Tunnel Ponds, Area 12	Diffuse	³ H in groundwater flowing from fissures in historical nuclear tests tunnel system	Controlled drainage and containment of groundwater from the tunnel in a series of earthen ponds	³ H as HTO through evaporation or transpiration from plants	None	Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little Feller 2N: 11.9 km to the WSW • Critical receptor sampler (Gate 700 S): 15 km to the E
Underground Test Area Activity wells	Diffuse	³ H as HTO	Groundwater pumped to the surface	Evaporation of ³ H as HTO	None	Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilby Crater: 0.2 km to the N • Critical receptor sampler (Gate 700 S): 11.7 km to the SSW
Area 3 Radioactive Waste Management Site (RWMS)	Diffuse	³ H as HTO (only radionuclide attributable to the low-level waste [LLW])	Subsurface burial of waste (no active burial during CY 2017)	³ H as HTO through evaporation from soil or transpiration from plants	Soil cover	Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U-3ax/bl South: < 0.3 km in multiple directions; near the center of the Area 3 RWMS • Critical receptor sampler (Yucca): 10 km SSW
Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC)	Diffuse	³ H as HTO (only radionuclide attributable to LLW, mixed LLW)	Subsurface burial of waste	³ H as HTO through evaporation from soil or transpiration from plants	Soil cover	Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DoD: 0.4 km from NE edge of the Area 5 RWMC • Critical receptor sampler (Yucca): 14 km to the NNW
Support Facility Operations							
Environmental Monitoring Building 23-652, Area 23	Point	³ H as HTO	Distillation or drying	³ H emission during distillation of samples and preparation of standards	None	Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical receptor sampler (Mercury Track): 0.2 km to the east-southeast

(a) Minor source has a potential release resulting in a dose of < 0.1 mrem/y to the maximally exposed individual.

(b) Distance is shown in km. For miles, multiply by 0.62.

(c) N=north, S=south, E=east, W=west in all direction combinations shown.

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Appendix B

NNSS Tritium Emissions Estimated from Air Sampling Data

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Diffuse emissions of tritiated water (HTO) from the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) include evaporation from containment ponds, evapotranspiration of soil moisture diffusing through waste covers at the Area 3 Radioactive Waste Management Site (RWMS), the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC), and evapotranspiration of HTO from soil contaminated by atmospheric or near-surface nuclear weapon testing conducted in the past. Locations that make up the majority of diffuse tritium (^3H) emissions on the NNSS are the Schooner and Sedan nuclear test areas, the Area 3 RWMS, the Area 5 RWMC, and the containment ponds at E-Tunnel. Emissions from the E-Tunnel ponds were not estimated from air sampling data because the total volume of water and ^3H concentration of the water was known, allowing for an estimate described in Appendix E. For the remaining sites listed, emissions were estimated by scaling concentrations of ^3H in air predicted by a modeled 1 curie (Ci) release to concentrations measured at nearby sampling stations. Figure 5 of this report shows the current NNSS air sampling station locations, and Table B.1 lists the samplers near the major diffuse ^3H emission locations.

SOURCE TERM ESTIMATES

For each ^3H emission location, the Clean Air Package 1988 (CAP88-PC) model was used to estimate the ^3H concentration that would be expected at nearby air samplers if 1 Ci of ^3H were released from the center of the source location. The total annual emission from each source was then calculated by dividing the annual average concentration of ^3H measured at each sampling location adjacent to the source by the CAP88-PC-predicted annual average concentration for a 1 Ci release at each of the same sampling locations. Table B.1 lists the estimated emissions for each source location.

Table B.1 Tritium Emissions from Airborne Tritium Sampling Results during CY 2017

Emission Source	Air Sampler	Annual Average Tritium Concentration (pCi/m³)^(a)	CAP88-PC Concentration for 1 Ci Emission (pCi/m³)	Predicted Tritium Emission (Ci)	Emission Source Average (Ci)^(a)
Area 3 RWMS	Bilby Crater	0.452	0.0575	7.9	6.5
	Kestrel Crater N	0.474	0.0942	5.0	
Area 5 RWMC	DOD	0.5732	0.218	2.6	2.5
	RWMS 5 Lagoons	0.4523	0.191	2.4	
Area 10, Sedan	Gate 700 South ^(b)	0.27	0.0129	20.9	14.3
	Sedan North	1.1	0.145	7.6	
Area 20, Schooner	North Schooner	2.6605	0.197	13.5	13.5

(a) Average of emissions predicted by samplers for an emission source

(b) Critical Receptor Station

Appendix C

Emissions of Radionuclides from Diffuse Legacy Sites Based on Historical Soil Survey Data and Soil Re-suspension Model

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Operations Areas 1 through 12 and 15 through 30 on the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) contain diffuse sources of radionuclides. Historical soil surveys have identified the location of these sources on the NNSS and provided estimates of the amounts of radionuclides that remain in the surface soils (U.S. Department of Energy [DOE] 1991; see Table 1 of this report). The soil, and associated radionuclides, may become airborne due to wind. Results from air samples from these areas indicate that only americium-241 (^{241}Am) and plutonium-239+240 ($^{239+240}\text{Pu}$) are routinely detected, and those are in concentrations only slightly above the minimum detectable concentrations. The total emissions (in curies [Ci]) produced each year from all known manmade radionuclides in soil at legacy sites on the NNSS are estimated with a mathematical re-suspension model. 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 emissions from diffuse sources is obtained by the use of a re-suspension equation with parameters derived from actual studies at the NNSS. In NUREG/CR-3332 (U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 1983), pages 5–30, an equation for calculating a suspension rate (fraction re-suspended per second [s]) is given as follows:

$$S = K \times V_g$$

where: S = fractional re-suspension rate (per s), or the fraction of the inventory re-suspended per s
 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), with values of K provided on page 75. An average of the values is $2 \times 10^{-10}/\text{m}$. Ranges in V_g of 0.01 to 0.05 m/s, presented in DOE (1992), are used as conservative estimates. When these values are used in the above equation, S is between 2×10^{-12} and 1×10^{-11} per s. To be conservative, the higher fractional re-suspension rate of $1 \times 10^{-11}/\text{s}$ is used. For example, the emission rate in picocuries (pCi)/s for $^{239+240}\text{Pu}$ from Area 3 is calculated from the product of the $^{239+240}\text{Pu}$ inventory (37 Ci from Table 1) and S as shown below. The estimated total annual emission is expressed in millicuries per year (mCi/y).

$$37 \text{ Ci} \times \frac{10^{-11}}{\text{s}} \times \frac{3600 \text{ s}}{\text{hour}} \times \frac{24 \text{ hours}}{\text{day}} \times \frac{365 \text{ days}}{\text{yr}} = \frac{1.17 \times 10^{-2} \text{ Ci}}{\text{yr}} \text{ or } \frac{11.7 \text{ mCi}}{\text{yr}}$$

This method was used for calculating the emissions of man-made radionuclides from all other areas. The results are shown in Table C.1.

Table C.1 Emission Estimates from Inventories^(a) of Man-made Radionuclides in NNSS Surface Soil

Area	Annual Emission (mCi) Using Emission Factor of $1 \times 10^{-11} \text{ s}^{-1}$								
	⁶⁰ Co	⁹⁰ Sr	¹³⁷ Cs	¹⁵² Eu	¹⁵⁴ Eu	¹⁵⁵ Eu	²³⁸ Pu	²³⁹⁺²⁴⁰ Pu	²⁴¹ Am
1	0.01	2.44	1.47	1.16	0.00	0.00	1.65	7.56	1.90
2	0.01	7.48	4.02	1.08	0.00	0.00	2.18	6.93	1.45
3	0.01	5.37	2.01	1.39	0.00	0.00	0.79	11.66	2.36
4	0.01	2.11	2.01	0.70	0.00	0.00	3.30	12.60	3.04
5	0.01	0.15	0.07	0.77	0.01	0.00	0.03	1.51	0.31
6	0.00	0.57	0.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.84	2.65	0.73
7	0.01	1.50	0.87	1.70	0.01	0.00	0.15	5.04	1.08
8	0.05	4.06	7.04	0.34	0.00	0.00	2.03	34.66	8.02
9	0.01	2.11	1.46	1.77	0.01	0.00	0.56	28.04	3.60
10	0.08	8.94	14.08	0.17	0.01	0.03	4.82	34.66	8.62
11	0.00	0.05	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	9.14	1.76
12	0.01	2.76	3.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.16	12.29	2.74
15	0.00	3.58	3.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.98	19.85	4.07
16	0.00	0.60	0.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.38	1.17	0.31
17	0.01	3.09	2.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.14	5.67	1.32
18	0.01	2.76	1.68	0.08	0.00	0.00	1.42	31.51	8.36
19	0.01	5.04	6.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.12	44.12	10.01
20	0.07	0.70	0.92	1.00	0.05	0.03	7.61	12.92	8.02
25	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30	0.01	0.21	0.25	0.05	0.00	0.00	1.14	4.41	1.33
Total (mCi/y)	0.30	54	52	10	0.099	0.078	40	286	69

(a) Radioactive inventories from Table 5 in DOE/NV/10845--02 (DOE 1991) and decay corrected to the middle of CY 2017 (July 2, 2017), with inclusion of ingrowth of ²⁴¹Am from ²⁴¹Pu.

As shown in Table C.1, the estimated total emissions from soil inventory data and from the re-suspension model are reported to two significant figures (mCi/y). These are shown in Table 3 of this report (as Ci/y), which summarizes all measured or computed emissions from the NNSS in calendar year 2017. The spatial relation between these diffuse emission locations and the critical receptor stations can be seen in Figure 4.

Appendix D

Potential Radionuclide Emissions and Dose from the North Las Vegas Facility

As discussed in the 1995 National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) report (U.S. Department of Energy 1996), a container of tritium-aluminum foils was opened in Building A-01 at the North Las Vegas Facility (NLVF) and emitted at least 1 curie (Ci) of tritium into a basement area used as a fixed radiation source range. Environmental surveillance began on 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, the environmental samplers were removed, but the basement air sampler continued operation through January 5, 1998, at which time samples were collected one to four times annually. From 1995 to the present, results and the effective dose equivalent (EDE) to the maximally exposed individual (MEI) offsite at the perimeter fence have been reported in the annual NESHAP reports.

During the years 1999 through 2017, air sampling for HTO in the basement was conducted intermittently. For CY 2017, the results of two atmospheric moisture samples were 134 picocuries per cubic meter (pCi/m³) for the sample collected April 10–17, 2017, and 256 pCi/m³ for the sample collected September 13–20, 2017. The average of these sample results (195 pCi/m³) was multiplied by the room ventilation rate (673 cubic feet per minute [ft³/min]) to determine the total annual emission rate as shown below. The estimated total annual emission is expressed in millicuries per year (mCi/y).

$$\frac{195 \text{ pCi}}{\text{m}^3} \times \frac{673 \text{ ft}^3}{\text{min}} \times \frac{0.02832 \text{ m}^3}{\text{ft}^3} \times \frac{525,600 \text{ min}}{\text{y}} \times \frac{1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ mCi}}{\text{pCi}} = \frac{1.95 \text{ mCi}}{\text{y}}$$

A dose coefficient of 5.0×10^{-6} millirem per year per millicurie (mrem/y/mCi) released is used to determine dose to the MEI from NLVF tritium emissions. This is based on earlier results from the Clean Air Package 1988 model using conservative assumptions to maximize dose and observed tritium emissions. This coefficient multiplied by the tritium emission for CY 2017 gave the estimated EDE to the nearest member of the public outside the perimeter fence shown below in both mrem/y and microrem per year (μrem/y).

$$\frac{1.95 \text{ mCi}}{\text{y}} \times \frac{5.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mrem}}{\text{mCi}} = \frac{0.0000098 \text{ mrem}}{\text{y}} \text{ or } \frac{0.0098 \text{ } \mu\text{rem}}{\text{y}}$$

A comparison of the emission rates and radiation dose to the MEI since 2005 are presented in Table D.1.

Table D.1. Comparison of Tritium Emission Rates from Building A-01, NLVF from 2005 to 2017

Year	Tritium Emission Rate (mCi/y)	EDE to MEI (µrem/y)
2005	20	0.10
2006	13.2	0.07
2007	12.3	0.06
2008	11.1	0.06
2009	8.7	0.044
2010	6.45	0.032
2011	4.83	0.024
2012	4.74	0.024
2013	2.27	0.011
2014	1.72	0.0086
2015	2.39	0.012
2016	2.14	0.011
2017	1.95	0.0098

Appendix E

Calculation of Tritium Emissions from Contaminated Groundwater Discharges

The calendar year (CY) 2017 air emissions (in curies [Ci]) of tritium, as tritiated water from contaminated groundwater sources, were conservatively estimated. Emissions were computed as the product of the volume of water (in liters [L]) either pumped or naturally emerging to the surface and the tritium concentration (as picocuries per liter [pCi/L]) measured in that water using the following formula. It was assumed that all of the tritiated water evaporated.

$$\text{Water Concentration} \left(\frac{\text{pCi}}{\text{L}} \right) \times \text{Water Volume (L)} \times \frac{1 \times 10^{-12} \text{ Ci}}{\text{pCi}}$$

Water flow-rate from the E-Tunnel is measured monthly and the tritium concentration in the water is measured annually in support of Water Pollution Control Permit NEV 96021. The total volume of water is determined by multiplying the flow-rate by the number of days in the month when the measurement was taken, then summed for all 12 months. Because the tritium concentration is decreasing over time, the value used to determine the emission was the average of the CY 2016 and CY 2017 samples (one sample each year).

The volume of contaminated water pumped from wells is measured throughout the purging and sampling process. Samples are collected for analysis of tritium throughout the time during which water is pumped from the wells. The tritium concentration used to determine the emission is an average representative of all water pumped to the surface.

The tritium concentration and volume of groundwater discharges during 2017 are listed in Table E.1. The volume of water multiplied by the tritium concentration yields the estimated tritium emission to air during 2017 under the assumption that all of the water evaporated during 2017.

Table E.1 Tritium Concentrations, Water Volumes, and Estimated 2017 Tritium Emissions from Contaminated Groundwater Brought to the Surface

Location	Tritium Concentration (pCi/L)	Water Volume (L) ^(a)	Tritium Emission (Ci)
E-Tunnel Ponds	322,000 ^(b)	14,970,931	4.80
U-3cn-5	11.24	29,970	0.00000034
RNM #2s	86,333	352,845	0.030
UE-5n	131,500	150,942	0.020
ER-20-11	204,000	149,651	0.031
ER-20-12 (3 depths in well)	41,300	236,759	0.011
	24,933	40,522	
	355.39	71,642	
ER-20-6-2	397	27,093	0.000011
ER-20-7	13,475,000	129,791	1.75
ER-20-8	6,450	155,370	0.0010
ER-20-8-2	3,575	195,064	0.00070
ER-EC-11 (3 depths in well)	10.79	162,248	0.0020
	8.49	60,833	
	18,375	107,316	

(a) All water was assumed to evaporate during CY 2017.

(b) Average of results from October 2016 and October 2017 samples

Appendix F

Identification and Justification for the Development of Meteorological Data Used as Input to Clean Air Package 1988 (CAP88-PC)

Meteorological support, observations, and climatological services for the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) are provided to the U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO) 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/NFO programs under the authority of an Interagency Agreement between NOAA and NNSA/NFO.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

The ARL/SORD manages, operates, and maintains a meteorological monitoring program that is designed and used to support the NNSA/NFO-authorized activities on the NNSS. 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 21 meteorological towers located on the NNSS (Figure F.1) and one on Yucca Mountain. The MIDNET consists of communications systems, local area networks, and surface-based instrumentation used to measure wind direction and speed, temperature, relative humidity, atmospheric pressure, and precipitation. The MIDNET has been operated on the NNSS for more than 40 years, has undergone several modernizations and upgrades, and serves as a solid basis for deriving climatological information.

Upper-air observations (radiosondes) were taken twice daily from Desert Rock Meteorological Observatory (DRA; elevation 1007 meters [m], located 4.8 kilometers southwest of Mercury, Nevada [Station 30 in Figure F.1]) but were discontinued in October 2010. Upper-air data are currently collected at the National Weather Service office in Las Vegas. DRA had been in operation since May 1978 and was built to replace a similar observatory that was located at the Yucca Flat Meteorological Observatory (UCC; elevation 1,196 m) 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 station. A MEDA station consists of a 10-m tower, a data-logger, meteorological sensors, and a radio transmitter. The 22 MEDA stations located on or near the NNSS (Figure F.1) provide surface weather data for climatology, weather forecasts, and warnings for NNSS operations and emergency response activities. MEDA station locations were selected based on criteria to support NNSS consequence assessment activities, compliance reporting requirements, and general weather and forecasting needs.

Wind and temperature data have been collected on the NNSS for more than 40 years. These and other meteorological data have been compiled into a comprehensive climatological database for the NNSS. The MEDA data are especially useful in assessing boundary layer flow regimes on the NNSS.

The wind speed and direction sensor is located 10 m above the ground. Wind direction is measured to ± 5 degrees of azimuth, and wind speed is accurate to 0.5 knots. Wind data are collected as 15-minute averages and are transmitted via radio and sent over the NNSS intranet to a central processor every 15 minutes. These data are reviewed by ARL/SORD and are stored and archived for climatological purposes.

Ambient temperature and relative humidity sensors are located approximately 1.5 m above ground level. MEDA temperature data are accurate to ± 0.2 degrees Celsius ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) (absolute range for the NNSS is -29°C to 46°C). Temperature and relative humidity measurements are 15-minute averages and are also transmitted via radio to a computer server for processing, review, display, and archiving.

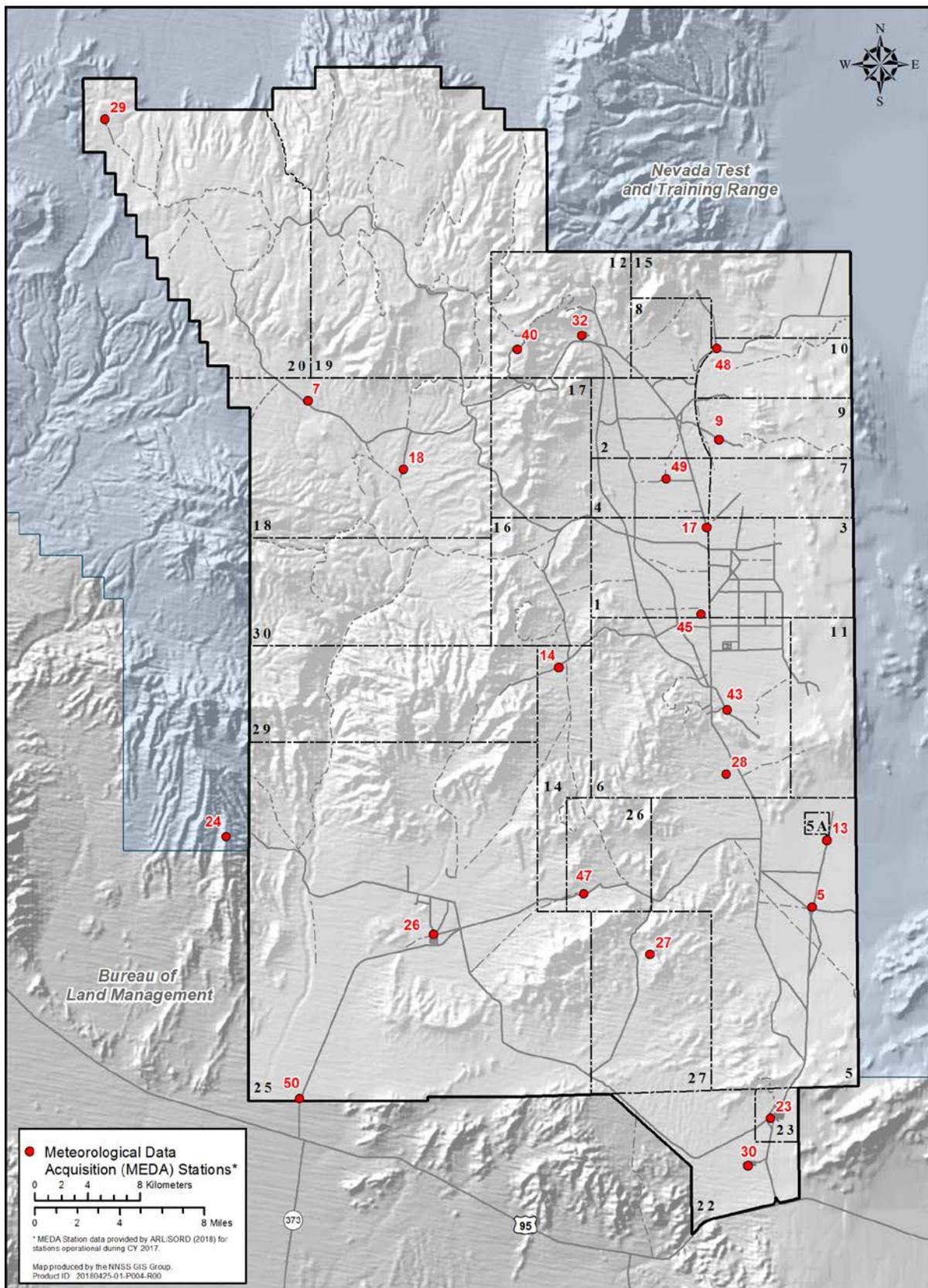


Figure F.1 Locations of MEDA Stations on the NNSS at end of CY 2017

Cloud cover observations are needed to create the Stability Array (STAR) files with the STAR program. In order to use the most representative meteorological data available for NNSS, cloud observations from DRA are melded with MEDA winds. Cloud data are available for DRA (1978–present) and for UCC (1962–1978). Based on the available data, the cloud cover climatology from DRA and UCC are quite compatible. For example, UCC experienced 192 clear days annually, while DRA has 191 days. In addition, the average annual sky cover from sunrise to sunset for both stations was/is 0.39 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 may be considered as representative for most areas of the NNSS.

APPLICATION TO CAP88-PC INPUT

Based on the above considerations and on the limitations of the Clean Air Package 1988 (CAP88-PC) computer program, the cloud cover data from DRA are considered to be representative of the NNSS. Therefore, atmospheric soundings and cloud cover observations from DRA were melded with MEDA surface wind data for input to the STAR program to provide the best data for calculating transport and dispersion processes. 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 NNSS. The STAR files are used by a CAP88-PC utility program to create WIND files that are used by CAP88-PC to estimate offsite dose from NNSS emissions (Section III) and to emissions from diffuse tritium sources on the NNSS (Appendix B).

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Appendix G

Supplemental Information

COLLECTIVE EFFECTIVE DOSE EQUIVALENT

The collective effective dose equivalent is the sum of the dose predicted by the CAP88-PC at each offsite receptor location multiplied by the population at that location. The collective effective dose equivalent for CY 2017 was 0.25 person-rem [roentgen equivalent man] per year (y) for the 493,700 people who lived within 80.5 km (50 mi) of NNSS emission sources. There was an estimated population of 4000, primarily in Tonopah and Blue Diamond, who lived within 80.5 km (50 mi) of the NNSS boundary but greater than 80 km from NNSS emission sources. Since CAP88-PC only calculates dose out to 80 km, these were not included in the collective dose.

COMPLIANCE WITH 40 CFR 61, SUBPARTS Q AND T

The NNSS is regulated by Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 61, 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) or T (National Emission Standards for Radon Emissions from the Disposal of Uranium Mill Tailings) (CFR 2010a). However, U.S. Department of Energy Order DOE O 435.1, “Radioactive Waste Management” (DOE 1999a) does include limits on radon flux from waste disposal facilities. Therefore, radon flux measurements are routinely made at the Area 3 Radioactive Waste Management Site and at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex. This is done to confirm that radon fluxes are below the standard of 20 picocuries per square meter per second required by U.S. Department of Energy Manual DOE M 435.1-1, “Radioactive Waste Management Manual” (DOE 1999b). The maximum radon flux measurement taken during 2017, at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC) was 1.9 pCi/m²/s. An assessment of the potential risks posed by the Area 5 RWMC to the public projected that the in-growth of radon-222 from the decay of thorium-230 in thorium wastes would not exceed the standard for approximately 4,200 years (National Security Technologies, LLC, 2013b).

NON-DISPOSAL/NON-STORAGE SOURCES OF RADON EMISSIONS

None of these sources exist on the NNSS.

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” (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 2001b) and of DOE O 414.1D, “Quality Assurance” (DOE 2011) have been implemented in this plan.