

Allen, Pam, NMENV

From: Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV
Sent: Wednesday, August 13, 2014 8:34 AM
To: Allen, Pam, NMENV
Subject: FW: WIPP Information - For Call Today
Attachments: April 1 Meeting notes.docx

Email and att. for April.

From: Kliphuis, Trais, NMENV
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 12:32 PM
To: Flynn, Ryan, NMENV; Kendall, Jeff, NMENV
Cc: Tongate, Butch, NMENV; Winchester, Jim, NMENV; Blaine, Tom, NMENV; Schwender, Erika, NMENV; Skibitski, Thomas, NMENV; Kieling, John, NMENV; LucasKamat, Susan, NMENV; Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV; Holmes, Steve, NMENV; Nelson, Morgan, NMENV; Ines Triay (triayin@fiu.edu); Smith, Coleman, NMENV
Subject: FW: WIPP Information - For Call Today

First email did not have attachments.

From: Oba Vincent [<mailto:oba.vincent@cbfo.doe.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 12:28 PM
To: Kliphuis, Trais, NMENV; 'peake.tom@epa.gov'; 'Edwards, Jonathan'; 'Walsh, Jonathan'; 'Perrin, Alan'; 'Bob.Kehrman@wipp.ws'; 'Rick.Chavez@wipp.ws'; 'Stone.Nick@epa.gov'; Smith, Coleman, NMENV; 'brozowski.george@epa.gov'; 'Fraass, Ron'; 'Russell Hardy'; 'Veal.Lee@epamail.epa.gov'; 'Economy, Kathleen (Economy.Kathleen@epa.gov)'; 'Poppell, Sam W. (Poppell.Sam@epa.gov)'
Cc: George Basabilvazo - WIPPNet; 'Reynolds, Tammy - NWP (Tammy.Reynolds@wipp.ws)'; 'Pace, Berry (Berry.Pace@wipp.ws)'; 'Alton.Harris@em.doe.gov'; Susan McCauslin; 'Joe Harvill (jharvill@portageinc.com)'; 'Kennedy, Scott - NWP (Scott.Kennedy@wipp.ws)'; 'Jones, Stewart - RES'; 'Berta Oates'; 'schultheisz.daniel@epa.gov'; Philip Theisen - ORISE; 'Dale Bignell'; Russ Patterson - WIPPNet; 'Kouba, Steve - WRES (Steve.Kouba@wipp.ws)'
Subject: RE: WIPP Information - For Call Today

One more attachment.

Thanks

Oba

From: Oba Vincent
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 12:22 PM
To: 'Kliphuis, Trais'; 'peake.tom@epa.gov'; 'Edwards, Jonathan'; 'Walsh, Jonathan'; 'Perrin, Alan'; 'Bob.Kehrman@wipp.ws'; 'Rick.Chavez@wipp.ws'; 'Stone.Nick@epa.gov'; 'coleman.smith@state.nm.us'; 'brozowski.george@epa.gov'; 'Fraass, Ron'; 'Russell Hardy'; 'Veal.Lee@epamail.epa.gov'; 'Economy, Kathleen (Economy.Kathleen@epa.gov)'; 'Poppell, Sam W. (Poppell.Sam@epa.gov)'
Cc: George Basabilvazo - WIPPNet; 'Reynolds, Tammy - NWP (Tammy.Reynolds@wipp.ws)'; 'Pace, Berry (Berry.Pace@wipp.ws)'; 'Alton.Harris@em.doe.gov'; Susan McCauslin; 'Joe Harvill (jharvill@portageinc.com)'; 'Kennedy, Scott - NWP (Scott.Kennedy@wipp.ws)'; 'Jones, Stewart - RES'; 'Berta Oates'; 'schultheisz.daniel@epa.gov'; Philip Theisen - ORISE; 'Dale Bignell'; Russ Patterson - WIPPNet; 'Kouba, Steve - WRES (Steve.Kouba@wipp.ws)'
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Attached is action item listing, and filter status graphs for today's call. I posted the latest data on LANL shipments to WCS on the ICLN portal.

Below is a summary of the discussion points for today: (Please note, activities and dates are subject to change. Please verify the most current dates of any information provided).

- Work has been paused on installation of the vacuum break in the duct; questions are being addressed dealing with design specifications. (No change)
- Station A and B Sampling: A CAM was installed at Station B and is operating. Connection to the Central Monitoring complete. The CAM will be operated until 4/7 in a test mode prior to allowing repopulation of the site.
- A sample collected at Station A from 3/28 had 79 dpm at 72 hours. During the same period Station B showed no increased activity.
- SS and AIS Shaft/Rope Inspections: The AIS was inspected yesterday, no issues identified. The SS will be inspected Thursday.
- Initial Manned Re-entry of U/G: Personnel will enter the mine and survey the area between the SS and AIS. This entry is scheduled to be conducted this afternoon.
- Establishment of Work Area in the Underground (Phase 2b, Activity 2): Follow-on manned entries will be made in the underground down to S1600 to establish staging areas, decontamination areas, set-up CAMs, test communication and safety equipment. These entries will occur no earlier than Friday, based on the conditions observed today.
- Contamination survey to the waste face (Phase 3): After the area between the shafts is surveyed, a team will enter the mine, perform initial characterization and attempt to identify the contamination source and location. The review of site Safety Management Plans and the implementation of compensatory measures to address critical weaknesses identified in the AIB reports, may impact this entry into or beyond the week of April 7. (No change)
- Replacement HEPA filters are due to arrive starting this week. (No change)
- The first shipment of TRU waste from LANL to WCS occurred yesterday evening. Shipments will continue daily. A summary of the waste being shipped has been posted on the ICLN portal and will be updated weekly.
- Dose calculations and letters are expected to be complete Friday for approximately 20 employees. 27 employees have been identified through bioassay analysis as potentially being exposed. The new individuals who were identified were below the MDC but above the DL. Additional samples have been provided by several workers. Data evaluation is continuing.
- NWP has provided a recommendation to DOE regarding the salt sales, which is being reviewed. (No change)
- Weekly town hall meeting will occur tomorrow.

As a reminder, the call-in number is (866) 723-6758, code 8040901#

Thanks

Oba

April 1, 2014 Notes from Teleconference between EPA NAREL and WIPP Laboratories

The purpose of the call was to discuss questions in analytical approach to ensure data comparability between EPA NAREL and WIPP Laboratories data.

Call participants included:

Berta Oates, CTAC
Mansour Akbarzadeh, WIPP Labs
Ginny Jones, WIPP Labs
Corey White, WIPP Labs
Berry Pace, CTAC
Stewart Jones, NWP
Dale Bignell, CTAC
Trais Kliphuis, NMED
Nick Stone, EPA
Phil Theisen, ORISE
Joe Harvill, CTAC
Ron Fraas, EPA
Cindy White, NAREL
Russ Patterson, CBFO
John Griggs, NAREL
Keith McCroan, NAREL
Christopher Royce, NAREL
Shane Knockemus, NAREL
Mary Wisdom, NAREL
Greg Dempsey, EPA
Susan Lucas Kamat, NMED
Tom Skibitski, DOE Oversight Bureau

Six WIPP Laboratory procedures and one EM procedure were previously provided and reviewed by NAREL, including WP 02-EM1012 Airborne Particulate Sampling, WP 12-RL.01 Radiochemistry Quality Assurance Plan, WP 12-RL1010 Sample Preparation, WP 12-RL1016 Separation of the Oxford Series 5 Gas Proportional Counter, WP 12-RL1017 Vacuum-Assisted Rapid Sequential Separation of Actinides and Strontium in Various Matrices, WP 12-RL3002 Radiochemistry Laboratory Data Validation and Verification, and WP 12-RL3003 Data Reduction and Reporting. Based on the review of these documents, NAREL posed the following questions to WIPP Laboratories:

1. Need to confirm the type and size of filter used?
EPM2000, glass fiber circles 47mm Whatman
2. How are samples digested? Wet ashed? Muffle furnace?
Add tracers to Teflon beakers, HF, HNO₃ (Conc). Completely dissolve. Neutralize with Boric acid. Reduce ppt interference. Not deviating at all from procedure WP 12-RL1010 Sample Preparation. The volume of acid is adjusted according to sample size (#). Solution is transferred directly to separation column. Pu and Am analyses only.
What are the reporting units and sample size? Dpm/sample because the entire sample is

digested and analyzed. No digestion solution is reserved. All of the solution is carried through separation cartridge. A comment was noted that a potential discrepancy between NAREL and WIPP Labs may occur due to the air volume through filters. WIPP Labs does not enter air volume. EM does the calculation to establish reported activity. **ACTION ITEM:** Stewart will provide calculation to convert units reported by the lab to final reporting units. Dpm/sample unit for air filters vs Bq/m³ for example.

3. Do the filters have particulates on them? Do particulates create digestion issues?
HF digests the filters.
Do you have issues with Po remaining? No, the temperature accounts for this.
What is the detector efficiency, sample count time? 30% E, 1000 minutes count time.
What is the anticipated turnaround time (TAT)? Trying to better a 7day to 10 day TAT. WIPP Labs is currently analyzing multiple matrix types (soils, vegetation, bioassay in addition to the air filters). A noted limiting factor to the TAT is the number of hoods (3) available at WIPP Laboratories.
What type of data package will be produced? Level IV? Yes, Level IV. Includes calculation, raw data, and calibration information.
4. Neither NAREL nor WIPP Labs is reporting gross alpha/beta.
5. What are the typical detection limits? Am-241 MDC ~0.04 dpm/sample and Pu-239/240 ~0.02 dpm/sample
The MDC is established based on counting time.
6. Who may we contact if additional questions arise? Please call Mansour Akbarzadeh Director for WIPP Labs. 575-234-5516. Ginny Jones (QA Officer) 575-234-5521 or Corey White (Alternate for Mansour) 575-234-5547
7. What are the MDC and counting times at NAREL? NAREL counts for 1000 minutes (longer if necessary for lower detection limit). Typical RadNet samples are High Vols. Efficiencies are typically lower than 30%, resulting in need for longer count times.
8. If the entire sample is used, how is a field sample duplicate analysis performed? The quality control (QC) at WIPP Labs consists of reagent blank, matrix blank (provided by EM), LCS, and a field duplicate sample. Is that possible because 2 co-located air samplers are operating? Yes. A field duplicate station rotates among the active stations during the quarter. The duplicate is collected on a weekly basis as well. Is the LCS a "filter"? No, a DI water sample that is spiked with isotopes of interest. Analysis consists of LCS and LCSD. Both LCS/LCSD must pass acceptance criteria: 20% for LCS and RER.