



ORAU TEAM Dose Reconstruction Project for NIOSH

Oak Ridge Associated Universities | Dade Moeller | MJW Technical Services

DOE Review Release 09/11/2017

Weldon Spring Plant – Occupational Internal Dose

ORAUT-TKBS-0028-5 Rev. 04
Effective Date: 08/31/2017
Supersedes: Revision 03

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New Total Rewrite Revision Page Change

PUBLICATION RECORD

EFFECTIVE DATE	REVISION NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
06/28/2005	00	First approved issue of new technical basis document for the Weldon Spring Plant – Occupational Internal Dose. Incorporated formal internal and NIOSH review comments. Training is not required. Initiated by Robert Meyer.
03/15/2013	01	Incorporates numerous minor corrections and edits. SRDB numbers and page numbers were added. In Section 5.2.1, the specific activity for slightly enriched (1%) uranium was adjusted to agree with the formula in DOE (2001a). Sections 5.2.2 related to uranium decay products were edited to reflect the fact that the early uranium mills may not have been effective in removing thorium and to increase the amount of ²³⁰ Th and progeny to assume in calculations. The maximum concentrations for certain decay products at the WSRP and WSQ were eliminated. A discussion was added in Section 5.2.3 on potential intakes from thoron. Site-specific ratios of ²³⁰ Th to other contaminants were developed in Section 5.6.1.1 for use during initial uranium processing. DWA concentrations for thorium dust measurements were added as Attachment A, and these values were used to create a new table of thorium intakes in Section 5.6.1.2. Thoron guidance was also added to this section. A statement was added in Section 5.6.1.1 to use Friday urine sampling data statistics to avoid underestimating intakes. The estimated annual exposure from radon was increased in Section 5.6.1.3, and Section 5.2.4 on recycled uranium was updated in response to issues raised in the Advisory Board Work Group. Thorium-232 intake rates updated to reflect an 8-hour workday normalized to a calendar for each of the years for ²³² Th operations, and equations were included in the text regarding calculation of the median and 95th percentiles of the ²³² Th intake rates. Incorporates formal internal and NIOSH review comments. Constitutes a total rewrite of the document. Training required: As determined by the Objective Manager. Initiated by David P. Harrison.
05/21/2013	02	Revision initiated per DCAS direction to modify the indoor radon equilibrium factor from 0.5 to 0.7 to coincide with Advisory Board meeting transcripts from September 19, 2012. This increases the radon intake value from 8.8 WLM/year to 12.4 WLM/year. Changes were made in Section 5.6.1.3 and Table 5-23. No changes occurred as a result of formal internal and NIOSH review. Training required: As determined by the Objective Manager. Initiated by David P. Harrison.

EFFECTIVE DATE	REVISION NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
03/14/2017	03	Revision initiated in response to revision of ORAUT-TKBS-0017-5, <i>Feed Material Production Center – Occupational Internal Dose</i> , in relation to recycled uranium contaminants. Updated discussion of recycled uranium in Section 5.2.4 in reference to the recycled uranium contaminant mass concentrations detailed in the Fernald internal dose TBD. Added Section 5.6.1.3.3 for RU including tables in units of Bq RU contaminant per g U and in Bq/Bq U to assist the DR in calculating the RU contaminant activities. Changed the value for the specific activity for 1% enriched uranium from 0.783 pCi/μg to 0.973 pCi/μg to match that used in the revised Fernald internal dose technical basis document (Rev. 02). Includes editorial changes. Incorporates formal internal and NIOSH review comments. Constitutes a total rewrite of the document. Training required: As determined by the Objective Manager. Initiated by David P. Harrison.
08/31/2017	04	Revision initiated in response to SC&A comments about correction of wording to make it clear that the start year for work with recycled uranium was 1961. Affected sections are: 5.2.4, and 5.2.4.1. Includes editorial changes. References updated as appropriate. No sections were deleted. Incorporates formal internal review and formal NIOSH review comments. Training required: As determined by the Objective Manager. Initiated by David P. Harrison.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AEC	U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
AM	arithmetic mean
AMAD	activity median aerodynamic diameter
AWE	atomic weapons employer
Bq	becquerel
BZA	breathing-zone air
CEDE	committed effective dose equivalent
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
Ci	curie
d	day
D	days (solubility class)
DCAS	Division of Compensation Analysis and Support
DAC	derived air concentration
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
DOL	U.S. Department of Labor
dpm	disintegrations per minute
dps	disintegrations per second
DR	dose reconstructor
DU	depleted uranium
DWA	daily weighted average
EEOICPA	Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000
EU	enriched uranium
F	fast (absorption type)
ft	foot
g	gram
GM	geometric mean
GSD	geometric standard deviation
hr	hour
ICRP	International Commission on Radiological Protection
IMBA	Integrated Modules for Bioassay Analysis
in.	inch
kg	kilogram
L	liter
lb	pound
M	moderate (absorption type)
MAC	maximum allowable concentration
MCW	Mallinckrodt Chemical Works
MDA	minimum detectable amount
MDC	minimum detectable concentration
MeV	megaelectron-volt, 1 million electron-volts

mg	milligram
min	minute
mL	milliliter
mo	month
MPC	maximum permissible concentration
mrem	millirem
MT	metric ton
nCi	nanocurie
NCRP	National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements
NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
NLO	National Lead Company of Ohio
ns	nanosecond
NU	natural uranium
ORAU	Oak Ridge Associated Universities
PAEC	potential alpha energy concentration
pCi	picocurie
RU	recycled uranium
S	slow (absorption type)
SEC	Special Exposure Cohort
SRDB Ref ID	Site Research Database Reference Identification (number)
t	ton
TBD	technical basis document
TNT	thorium nitrate tetrahydrate
U.S.C.	United States Code
W	weeks (solubility class)
WL	working level
WLM	working level month
WSP	Weldon Spring Plant
WSQ	Weldon Spring Quarry
WSRP	Weldon Spring Raffinate Pits
WSSRAP	Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Project
Y	years (solubility class)
yr	year
μCi	microcurie
μg	microgram
μL	microliter
μm	micrometer
μs	microsecond
§	section or sections

5.1 INTRODUCTION

Technical basis documents and site profile documents are not official determinations made by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) but are rather general working documents that provide historical background information and guidance to assist in the preparation of dose reconstructions at particular Department of Energy (DOE) or Atomic Weapons Employer (AWE) facilities or categories of DOE or AWE facilities. They will be revised in the event additional relevant information is obtained about the affected DOE or AWE facility(ies). These documents may be used to assist NIOSH staff in the evaluation of Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) petitions and the completion of the individual work required for each dose reconstruction.

In this document the word “facility” is used to refer to an area, building, or group of buildings that served a specific purpose at a DOE or AWE facility. It does not mean nor should it be equated to an “AWE facility” or a “DOE facility.” The terms AWE and DOE facility are defined in sections 7384I(5) and (12) of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA), respectively. An AWE facility means “a facility, owned by an atomic weapons employer, that is or was used to process or produce, for use by the United States, material that emitted radiation and was used in the production of an atomic weapon, excluding uranium mining or milling.” 42 U.S.C. § 7384I(5). On the other hand, a DOE facility is defined as “any building, structure, or premise, including the grounds upon which such building, structure, or premise is located ... in which operations are, or have been, conducted by, or on behalf of, the [DOE] (except for buildings, structures, premises, grounds, or operations ... pertaining to the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program);” and with regard to which DOE has or had a proprietary interest, or “entered into a contract with an entity to provide management and operation, management and integration, environmental remediation services, construction, or maintenance services.” 42 U.S.C. § 7384I(12). The Department of Energy (DOE) determines whether a site meets the statutory definition of an AWE facility and the Department of Labor (DOL) determines if a site is a DOE facility and, if it is, designates it as such.

Accordingly, a Part B claim for benefits must be based on an energy employee’s eligible employment and occupational radiation exposure at a DOE or AWE facility during the facility’s designated time period and location (i.e., covered employee). After DOL determines that a claim meets the eligibility requirements under EEOICPA, DOL transmits the claim to NIOSH for a dose reconstruction. EEOICPA provides, among other things, guidance on eligible employment and the types of radiation exposure to be included in an individual dose reconstruction. Under EEOICPA, eligible employment at a DOE facility includes individuals who are or were employed by DOE and its predecessor agencies, as well as their contractors and subcontractors at the facility. Unlike the abovementioned statutory provisions on DOE facility definitions that contain specific descriptions or exclusions on facility designation, the statutory provision governing types of exposure to be included in dose reconstructions for DOE covered employees only requires that such exposures be incurred in the performance of duty. As such, NIOSH broadly construes radiation exposures incurred in the performance of duty to include all radiation exposures received as a condition of employment at covered DOE facilities in its dose reconstructions for covered employees. For covered employees at DOE facilities, individual dose reconstructions may also include radiation exposures related to the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program at DOE facilities, if applicable. No efforts are made to determine the eligibility of any fraction of total measured exposure for inclusion in dose reconstruction.

NIOSH does not consider the following types of exposure as those incurred in the performance of duty as a condition of employment at a DOE facility. Therefore these exposures are not included in dose reconstructions for covered employees (NIOSH 2010a):

- Background radiation, including radiation from naturally occurring radon present in conventional structures
- Radiation from X-rays received in the diagnosis of injuries or illnesses or for therapeutic reasons

5.1.1 **Purpose**

The purpose of this technical basis document (TBD) is to provide a profile of internal dosimetry practices at the Weldon Spring Plant (WSP), the Weldon Spring Quarry (WSQ), and the Weldon Spring Raffinate Pits (WSRP). This document contains technical information on the history, methods, and interpretation of monitoring data for the evaluation of occupational internal dose to WSP workers.

5.1.2 **Scope**

This TBD covers the methods used to assess internal radiation dose to workers at WSP, WSQ, and WSRP. Historically, the WSP has also been called the Weldon Spring Site, Weldon Spring Chemical Plant, and the Weldon Spring Feed Materials Plant. The WSP is also known as the Chemical Plant, Main Plant, or Main Site. For convenience, WSP is used throughout the remainder of this document where it is unnecessary to distinguish between the plant, the quarry, and the raffinate pits. Internal radiation dose is the dose to a worker from deposition of radionuclides in the body. Such deposition can occur as a result of inhalation of radionuclides in airborne dust, incidental ingestion of radionuclides, and intake through intact skin or wounds. Because of the nature of the nuclides at WSP, intake through the skin was unlikely.

The radionuclides of concern for WSP are the naturally occurring isotopes of uranium (^{234}U , ^{235}U , and ^{238}U) and their decay products (primarily ^{230}Th and ^{226}Ra). Because the WSP also processed some natural thorium, this TBD includes material on ^{232}Th and its decay products (^{228}Ra and ^{228}Th). However, due to the small amount of thorium WSP processed, the primary radionuclides of concern for internal radiation dose are the isotopes of uranium.

Section 5.2 provides information on the source term for dosimetrically significant radionuclides at WSP. Sections 5.3 and 5.4 describe in vitro and in vivo measurements, respectively. Section 5.5 discusses air monitoring and dust studies. Section 5.6 details assessment of radionuclide intakes. Section 5.7 provides a summary of instructions to dose reconstructors (DRs). Attributions and annotations, indicated by bracketed callouts and used to identify the source, justification, or clarification of the associated information, are presented in Section 5.8.

5.1.3 **Background on Mallinckrodt Chemical Works and the Weldon Spring Plant**

Mallinckrodt Chemical Works (MCW) operated its Uranium Division from 1942 to 1966, initially at its downtown St. Louis, Missouri, location (Destrehan Street), then later at the WSP site. Construction of WSP was authorized by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) in 1955, and operations began in 1957. In 1964, the plant employed 600 individuals, 80 of whom were in technical and managerial positions (MCW ca. 1964, p. 5).

The operations at the two MCW facilities were similar. One of the reasons for the construction of the new facility was the level of contamination at the Destrehan Street site (Dupree 1979a, p. 3). Worker exposures to airborne uranium were, in some cases, many times the tolerance level.

During its 24 years of operation, the MCW Uranium Division processed uranium ores and concentrates into uranium trioxide (UO_3), uranium tetrafluoride (UF_4), and uranium metal (Meshkov et al. 1986, p. 27). UO_2 was an intermediate product in the conversion of UO_3 to UF_4 (ORAUT 2017a). The feed material at the Destrehan Street plant included high-quality pitchblende [a natural uranium (NU) ore that includes the decay products generally in equilibrium]. The WSP facility primarily handled uranium concentrates (e.g., yellowcake) from uranium-milling facilities with lower concentrations of decay products. Ingle (1991, pp. 3–7) reports that WSP did not receive the high-quality pitchblende ores. WSP processed thorium during the 3 years before closure in 1966 (see Section 5.6).

Production at WSP waned during the latter part of its operational period. In 1964, MCW published a document to encourage diversification and utilization of the existing facilities (MCW ca. 1964, pp. 5–29), which reflected that decline. The document described the plant facilities and briefly mentioned the operational safety program.

WSP handled uranium concentrates. The primary concerns for radiation doses to WSP workers from uranium operations is internal deposition of uranium and beta dose from the short-lived decay products of uranium (^{234}Th and ^{234}Pa). External doses from the short-lived uranium decay products, including beta doses, are covered in ORAUT-TKBS-0028-6, *Weldon Spring Plant – Occupational External Dosimetry* (ORAUT 2013). This section covers internal deposition of the radionuclides of concern.

There were four periods in the history of the WSP:

- Operational, 1957 to 1966;
- Transfer to the U.S. Army, 1967 to 1974;
- Environmental monitoring, 1975 to 1985; and
- Remediation, 1985 to 2002.

WSQ was initially transferred from the Army to the AEC in 1958. The operational and remediation periods are of primary concern in relation to internal dosimetry at WSP, with some potential applicability of shutdown operations in 1967 before transfer to the Army in December 1967. The raffinate pits and the quarry were not transferred to the Army. From 1968 to early 1969 decontamination and dismantling operations commenced to support herbicide production. However, the defoliant project was canceled in February 1969, and the Army placed the WSP into care and custody status. AEC did not have contractors for environmental monitoring at the WSRP or the WSQ until August 1975. From 1969 to 1981 the status of the site did not change, and from 1981 to 1985 the site was again placed in caretaker status. WSP was transferred from the Army to the DOE in 1985, and remediation efforts began in 1985. EEOICPA does not cover the period when the WSP site was under control of the Army, so this TBD does not cover that period.

Fuel for the Atomic Age – Completion Report on St. Louis Area Uranium Processing Operations, 1942-1967, describes the history and elements of the MCW health and safety programs (MCW 1967, pp. 154–166). Uranium was initially considered primarily a heavy-metal poison, and the radioactivity level was considered low enough so that “small scale, short-term operations would not present a radiation problem.” The MCW health and safety program was based on standard industry procedures for handling toxic chemicals. The radiation safety program at the Destrehan Street site was applied at the WSP site when the transition between the two facilities was made.

The principal source of internal deposition of radionuclides for both the Destrehan and WSP sites was inhalation of dust from operations, initial cleanup, and maintenance periods. Table 5-1 lists the history of dust-generating operations.

Tables 5-2 and 5-3 summarize the operations at WSP from the more detailed discussion in ORAUT-TKBS-0028-2, *Weldon Spring Plant – Site Description* (ORAUT 2017a). Ore concentrates of 60% to 70% uranium (yellowcake) were sampled on receipt at the facility. Some of the material was repackaged in drums and some was sent directly for processing. The concentrates were digested with nitric acid to produce uranium nitrate solution, which was then purified by solvent extraction and denitrated to produce UO_3 .

The UO_3 was converted to green salt (UF_4) in Building 201. Green salt was one of the final products of the plant.

Table 5-1. History of dust-generating activities.^a

Period	Activity
1957–1966	Operation of the uranium feed materials plant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uranium concentrates converted to UO₃, UF₄, and U metal, • Some Th processing between 1963 and 1966, • Raffinate from processing removed to raffinate pits, and • 14,500 MT of U materials received for processing and sampling per year between 1958 and 1964.
December 1966	Plant closed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hopper and process lines emptied, and • Dust collectors cleaned out.
January 1967–unknown	Interim storage depot for yellowcake later shipped to other plants for refining and processing.
1967	Buildings 103 and 105 transferred from the AEC to the Army for herbicide production.
March 1968	The Army started decontamination and equipment removal.
December 1968	Construction of herbicide facility began; project terminated in early 1969 before renovation was complete.
March 1968–June 1969	Decontamination and equipment removal for Buildings 103 and 105 (see Table 5-2 for building operations description): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 1,000 MT rubble removed to the quarry, • About 2,000 MT scrap moved to Tennessee, • About 200 MT steel parts moved to Ohio, and • About 100 MT UO₂ removed from the buildings.
1969–1985	Site remained essentially undisturbed
1985	Remediation initiated by DOE – Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Project (WSSRAP)
October 1986	MK-Ferguson Company and Jacobs Engineering Group assumed responsibility for the WSSRAP

a. Meshkov et al. (1986, pp. 27–33); Lesperance, Siegel, and McKinney (1992, pp. 30–36).

Uranium metal was produced using magnesium to convert UF₄ to the metallic form. A rotary kiln was used to convert uranium metal chips to U₃O₈. Uranium fuel cores were produced at WSP and shipped directly to reactor sites.

In contrast to the Destrehan Street facility, WSP did not deal with pitchblende ores. From 1946 to 1955, the Destrehan facility processed pitchblende ores with concentrations up to 60% uranium (Dupree 1998, p. 5) along with very high concentrations of ²²⁶Ra. There is no indication in the records that WSP ever processed the high-activity concentration pitchblende. Therefore, while inhalation of radium and radon decay products was a potential contributor to dose at the Destrehan facility, it did not add significantly to worker doses at WSP. Dupree (1998, p. 6) stated the judgment that the uranium doses of the Destrehan population were considerably larger than doses from exposure to radon.

5.1.4 Radiation Protection Practices

The MCW radiation safety program in relation to internal doses evolved during the time when uranium ores and concentrates were being processed at the Destrehan Street site in St. Louis. As noted above, the initial concern was with the chemical toxicity of uranium rather than the potential radiation hazard.

As noted in ORAUT (2017a), WSP employed approximately 600 workers during full production, of whom 300 were likely to have handled uranium. The site processed NU, slightly enriched uranium (EU), depleted uranium (DU), and, for a short period, natural thorium. The principal radionuclides to which workers were exposed were uranium isotopes, thorium isotopes, and ²³⁴Pa, the short-lived

Table 5-2. Potential internal radionuclide exposure for production buildings.^a

Bldg.	Description	Operations	Potential radionuclide exposures
101	Sampling	Sampling of ore concentrates containing 60%–70% U (yellowcake). Some material repackaged in drums; some sent to Building 103 for processing.	NU dust, Ra-226, Th-230, Po-210, and Pb-210; Rn-222 and its short-lived decay products; Th-232 and decay products in 1966.
103	Digestion	Materials digested with nitric acid. U-bearing solution sent to Building 105 for purification. Materials returned for denitration after purification and sent to Building 201.	NU dust (as yellowcake and UO ₃), Ra-226, Th-230, Po-210, and Pb-210; Rn-222 and its short-lived decay products; Th-232 and decay products starting November 1963
105	Purification	Materials purified by solvent extraction and returned to Building 103 for denitration.	Wet process but some potential for U or Th (in 1966) dust exposure. U would have been the major internal exposure component, but Rn-222 and decay product exposure possible.
108	Acid recovery	Recovering and reconcentrating nitric acid.	Rn gas and its decay products
201	Green salt (UF ₄) plant	Feed from Building 103 (after denitration) converted to UF ₄ .	Potential for uranium exposure as UF ₄ dust or natural Th (1965–1966). No significant Th-230, Ra-226, or decay product exposure.
301	Metals plant	Mg used to convert UF ₄ to U metal. Rotary kiln used to convert U metal chips to U ₃ O ₈ . U fuel cores produced; acceptable cores shipped to reactor sites.	Potential for U exposure as UF ₄ dust and U ₃ O ₈ or natural Th (1965–1966). No significant Th-230, Ra-226, or decay product exposure; Th-232 and decay products starting November 1963.
403	Chemical pilot plant	Small-scale chemical processes.	NU dust, Ra-226, Th-230, Po-210, and Pb-210; Rn-222 and its short-lived decay products; Th-232 and decay products starting November 1963.
404	Metallurgical pilot plant	Small-scale metallurgical processes.	Potential for U exposure as UF ₄ and U ₃ O ₈ or natural Th (1965–1966). No significant Th-230, Ra-226, or decay product exposure.
407	Analytical and research laboratories	Small-scale research and analytical work on products and processes.	NU dust, Ra-226, Th-230, Po-210, and Pb-210; Rn-222 and its short-lived decay products; Th-232 and decay products from 1965 to 1966.

a. Adapted from ORAUT (2017a).

beta-emitting decay product of ²³⁸U. Because the site did not process pitchblende ore, ²²⁶Ra and its decay products were not present in significant quantities.

Uranium ore concentrates were converted to UO₃, UF₄, and uranium metal at the WSP by methods that included acid digestion, solvent extraction, and conversion to the metallic form by reaction with magnesium. Table 5-2 lists the specific buildings in which these processes occurred along with the likely contaminants in air in those locations.

MCW's position, even as late as 1965 and as reflected in *Summary of Health Protection Practices* (MCW 1965, p. 6), was, "There are no noteworthy health risks from radiation at the Weldon Spring Feed Material Plant." The conclusion was based on the fact that the NU feed materials at WSP were

Table 5-3. Products or intermediates in production buildings.^a

Building	Products or intermediates present
101	Ore concentrates, yellowcake
103	Yellowcake, UO ₃ ; U solution in nitric acid; Purified U solution; Denitrated U solution
105	UO ₃ in nitric acid; Purified U solution
108	Recovered nitric acid
201	Purified, denitrated U solution; UO ₃ , UO ₂ (intermediate compound); UF ₄
301	UF ₄ ; U metal; U ₃ O ₈

a. Adapted from ORAUT (2017a).

“essentially free of radioactive progeny which might cause chronic radiation exposure to be higher than AEC limits.” However, MCW (1965, p. 6) also stated:

It is the policy of the Weldon Spring Plant to prevent personal injury and to prevent harmful exposure of personnel to chemical irritants, to chemical toxicants, to ionizing radiation, or to any work conditions which may cause illness, impair health, or reduce the effectiveness of employees; to provide suitable monitoring and control programs; to obtain the cooperation of each employee in maintaining effective control programs; to inform individuals if measured radiation exposure exceeds AEC guide levels.

In line with this policy, urine and air sampling programs were conducted during the operational period to monitor the potential employee exposures.

No descriptions of internal dosimetry programs during the environmental monitoring period (1975 to 1985) have been found.

The remediation program that began in 1985 involved demolition of the buildings that were involved in uranium or thorium processing, removal of contaminated materials from the WSQ, and stabilization and solidification of contaminated sludges. The internal dosimetry programs for the WSQ and WSRP were somewhat more rigorous than that for the buildings that made up the WSP because the potential for exposure to thorium and radium was not as high in the WSP. The high-grade pitchblende ores at the Destrehan Street facility were not present at the WSP. Thorium was processed at WSP for a limited period. The WSP buildings that were involved in processing thorium were subject to an internal dosimetry program similar to but slightly more rigorous than the WSQ and WSRP.

The internal dosimetry programs during site remediation are described in detail in a series of revisions to the *Internal Dosimetry Program Technical Basis Manual: Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Project* from 1991 to 2001 (the WSSRAP technical basis manuals; DOE 1991, 1994, 1997, 1998a, 1998b, 1998c, 2000a, 2001b). The basic elements of the internal dosimetry program were urine and fecal bioassay, in vivo lung counting, and air sampling. Section 5.3 describes the urine and fecal bioassay programs, Section 5.4 discusses in vivo lung counting, and Section 5.5 describes air monitoring practices.

5.2 SOURCE TERM

WSP processed uranium and thorium from feed materials to metal and intermediate products. The primary feed material was NU in the form of yellowcake. WSP also processed DU and EU (up to 1%) as well as natural thorium. Table 2-7 in ORAUT (2017a) gives the annual (fiscal year) mass receipts of each of these feed materials. Table 5-4 lists the quantity and percent of each type of feed material.

Table 5-4. Mass and percent of feed materials processed.

Material	Mass (kg)	Percent of total mass
NU	122,015,977	98.43
DU	167,823	0.14
EU (1%)	842,585	0.68
Natural Th	941,347	0.76
Totals	123,967,732	100

5.2.1 Isotopic Composition of Uranium

The isotopic composition and the factors to convert uranium mass to activity are necessary for intake and dose assessments. No site-specific isotopic data have been discovered for WSP. It is reasonable to assume that the composition of the NU and DU feed materials at WSP were the same as the default compositions for the DOE complex. Therefore, the DR should use the default values in the Integrated Modules for Bioassay Analysis (IMBA) program for NU (0.683 pCi/μg) and DU (0.402 pCi/μg).

Refer to Table 5-2 of ORAUT-TKBS-0017-5, *Feed Materials Production Center – Occupational Internal Dose* (ORAUT 2017b), for isotopic mass fractions and relative activities for the uranium isotopes associated with DU, NU, and EU.

DOE (1986, pp. 17, 27; 2000b, p. 35) indicates that the EU shipped to the WSP was equal to or less than 1%. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that the EU at Weldon Spring was 1% enriched with a specific activity of 0.973 pCi/μg. Bioassay results in units of mass can be converted to activity using this value. After intake rates are calculated, doses are assessed assuming that the activity is 100% ²³⁴U.

Although uranium with enrichments of less than 1% might have been processed at WSP, it is favorable to claimants to assume 1% enrichment for all EU at WSP.

5.2.2 Uranium Decay Products

The materials WSP handled were uranium concentrates and, to some extent, natural thorium. The short-lived decay products of ²³⁸U, which are ²³⁴Th (24-day half-life) and ^{234m}Pa (1.175-minute half-life), would have built into equilibrium before the material was handled. The primary source of decay products (²³⁰Th and ²²⁶Ra) for the materials at WSP would, on average, be the residuals in the uranium mill concentrates. These concentrations were not considered significant in the design of the radiation protection program. The *Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement on Uranium Milling* states that the upper range of values for ²³⁰Th and ²²⁶Ra in yellowcake product, based on published reports from the early 1960s, were 5% of the ²³⁸U activity and 0.2% of the ²³⁸U activity, respectively (NRC 1980, p. 18). However, it has been observed that the early mills did not remove thorium as effectively as indicated by this reference. As noted in ORAUT-TKBS-0028-2 (ORAUT 2017a), four raffinate pits were constructed between 1958 and 1964 to contain process wastes. Measurements of the activity concentrations in Raffinate Pits 1, 2, and 3 can be used to determine the relationship between ²³⁰Th and other impurities during the initial uranium processing (feed preparation and sampling) in Building 101, during the transfer of ore concentrate from Building 101 to Building 103 for

nitric acid digestion, and transfer of the uranyl nitrate slurry to the aqueous feed tanks in Building 105 before separation or uranium purification (Section 5.6). The shorter lived decay products, ^{210}Pb and ^{210}Po , for which no raffinate measurements were made, should be assumed to be present at the same activity as the ^{226}Ra in raffinate pits.

The radionuclide of most concern in the raffinate pits was ^{230}Th due to its high activity concentration and its radiotoxicity. The average and maximum activity concentrations are given in Revision 0 of the *Internal Dosimetry Program Technical Basis Manual* for the WSSRAP (DOE 1991, p. 20).

The AEC acquired the WSQ in 1958 for deposition of thorium residues as well as uranium- and radium-contaminated building rubble, equipment, and soils from the Destrehan Street site. These materials were deposited at the WSQ between 1959 and 1966.

5.2.3 Natural Thorium and Decay Products

In contrast to the buildup of decay products of ^{238}U , the conservative (favorable to claimant) assumption for natural thorium (^{232}Th) is that the decay products have built up to equilibrium. Depending on the time since separation, the ^{228}Ra (5.7-year half-life) and ^{228}Th (1.9-year half-life) would be significant if not complete. Radium-228 is a beta emitter that decays to ^{228}Th through ^{228}Ac . Thorium-228 decays by alpha emission to ^{224}Ra (3.66-day half-life). For assessing dose from ^{232}Th , it is assumed that ^{228}Th is in equilibrium with ^{232}Th and ^{228}Ra is added at a ratio of 1-to-2 ^{232}Th -to- ^{228}Ra (NIOSH 2010b, p. 57). ORAUT-TKBS-0028-2 (ORAUT 2017a) cites a DOE document (DOE 1986) in support of the assumption that ^{232}Th was present during the operational period at an activity less than 1% of the NU.

Thoron (^{220}Rn) is the second progeny of ^{228}Th . Within a few weeks of processing of thorium ores for thorium purification, it can be considered to be in full equilibrium with the parent ^{228}Th . Thorium-228 is generally in 40% to 65% equilibrium with ^{232}Th for materials at the WSP. The degree of equilibrium is dependent on both the decay of ^{228}Th (without replenishment from the 5.7-year half-life of ^{228}Ra) after removal of the thorium progeny and the time it takes the ^{228}Ra to build into equilibrium with ^{232}Th . Figure 5-1 shows the decay and buildup of ^{228}Th and progeny after processing.

Thoron was present and a portion was released during the processing and storage of thorium at WSP and the associated waste storage locations. The thoron, with its subsequent progeny, would act as a potential source of internal exposure in the thorium process buildings and at waste storage locations.

There are several aspects of the release and buildup of thorium progeny that mitigate the exposure to thoron in process and storage configurations. These include the following:

- Because of the very short half-life of thoron (56 seconds), much of the isotope decays within the material matrix. Therefore, the diffusion distance in soils is in the range of approximately 1 in. Only the quantities of thoron in the first inch of material represent the source term. Table 5-5 provides information for thoron and its progeny.

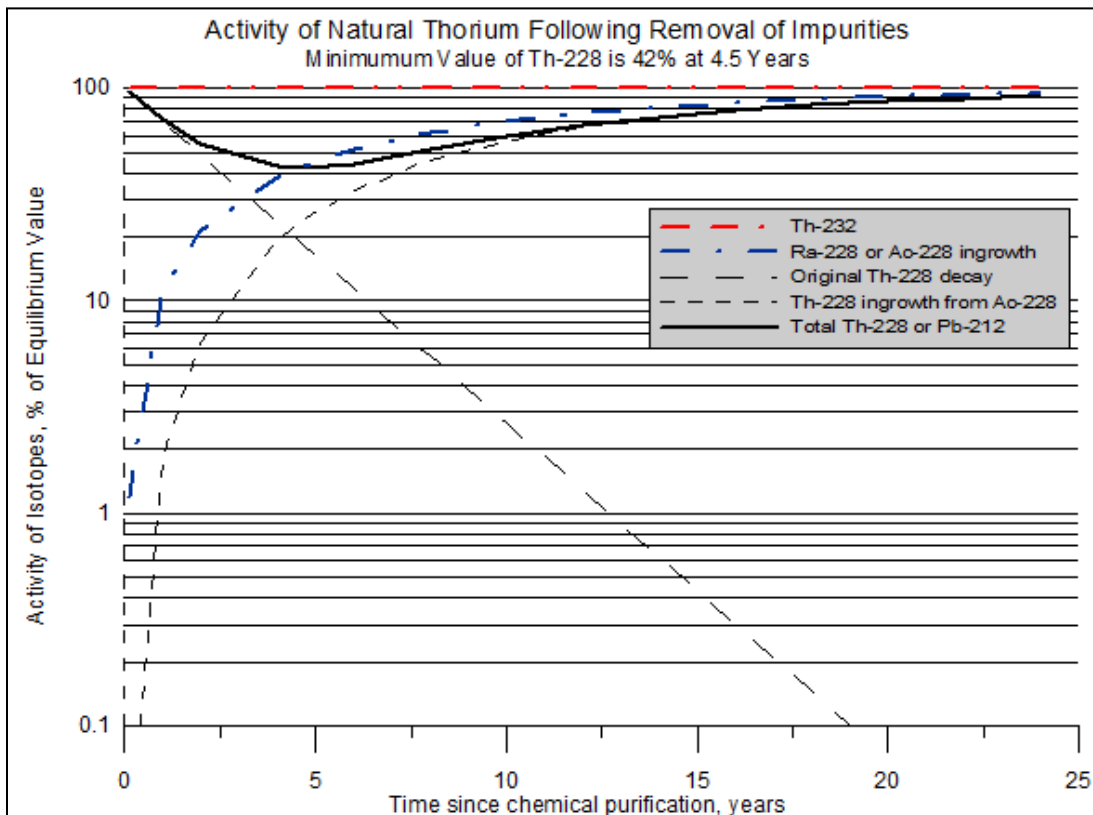


Figure 5-1. Decay and buildup of ^{228}Th and progeny after processing.

Table 5-5. Thoron and isotopic progeny.

Isotope	Half life	Concentration (atoms/7.5 pCi)	Alpha energy (MeV/atom)	PAEC ^a (MeV/7.5 pCi)
Ra-220	56 s	23	14.6	335
Po-216	0.15 s	<1	(b)	Not applicable
Pb-212	10.64 hr	15,476	7.8	1.21E+5
Bi-212	60.6 min	1,469	7.8	0.12E+5
Po-212	0.3 μs	Not applicable	(b)	Not applicable
Tl-208	3 min	73	No alpha	Not applicable
Total	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	1.33E+5

a. PAEC = potential alpha energy concentration.

b. The alpha energy is emitted only by Po-216 and essentially Bi-212. While Bi-212 directly emits an alpha only 36% of the time, the other 64% of the time it emits a beta and becomes Po-212, which then emits an alpha almost immediately (304 ns half-life). The average alpha energy released by a Bi-212 decay is then 7.8 MeV ($6.07 \text{ MeV} \times 0.36 + 8.785 \text{ MeV} \times 0.64$). Because Po-216 ultimately decays by two alphas (Po-216 and Bi-212) the alpha energy released per Po-216 atom is 14.6 MeV. Lead-212 and Bi-212 both decay with an effective alpha energy of 7.8 MeV.

- In process equipment, the release of thoron gas is largely contained within the containment system, the ventilation system, or both. The dose from exposure to thoron essentially comes entirely from the progeny ^{212}Pb and ^{212}Bi . A thoron working level (WL) requires 375 pCi/L thoron and ^{216}Po to produce measured progeny ^{212}Pb and ^{212}Bi at 7.5 pCi/L assuming a conservative equilibrium factor of 0.02 [1].

The primary focus of the radiological safety programs for thorium was to define the air concentrations in the workplace, the results of which provided the means of controlling worker exposures to levels below the permissible levels. WSP records do not indicate specific analyses to define the

concentrations of thoron progeny activities, but it was standard practice to provide delayed counts on the air samples for up to 96 hours to allow the short-lived radon and thoron progeny to decay.

As noted in Section 5.2.2, the ^{232}Th concentrations in the WSRP were relatively small in comparison with the ^{230}Th and ^{226}Ra concentrations, and would therefore contribute only a very small fraction of the potential dose. In contrast, the estimated maximum ^{232}Th concentration in materials deposited at the WSQ was 4,200 pCi/g (DOE 1991, p. 18).

5.2.4 Recycled Uranium

Recycled uranium (RU) is uranium that has been recovered from irradiated production reactor fuel and plutonium production fuels and returned (hence, recycled) to the enrichment and/or feed production facilities to fabricate new fuels for nuclear reactors and various uranium compounds and metals. The RU sent from chemical separation facilities contained trace amounts of transuranic elements (including neptunium and plutonium) and fission products (such as technetium). The extent of the processing of RU at WSP is not well known (ORAUT 2017a, Section 2.2.3). However, the *Ohio Field Office Recycled Uranium Project Report* indicates that Weldon Spring received relatively small quantities of uranium materials that might have contained RU constituents (DOE 2000c). Therefore, WSP was identified as a minor receiver and processor of RU. The DR should make the assumption that all of the uranium processed at WSP beginning in 1961 was RU; this is favorable to claimants. This was based on the fact that WSP received most of the RU from the Feed Materials Production Center, which in turn received its first major shipment of RU from Hanford in Production Order A500 in February 1961 (DOE 2000c).

5.2.4.1 Other Contaminants in Recycled Uranium

RU was assumed to have been shipped to WSP from Fernald beginning in 1961, so none of the associated contaminants was present before 1961. Therefore, uranium intakes in 1961 and later should include default factors to account for exposure to the RU contaminants. NU is assumed from 1961 to 1962, and EU (1%) is assumed from 1963 to 1966. ORAUT (2017b) indicates that RU began to be received at Fernald in 1961, and that 1% EU was assumed from the start of plant operations through 1964 and 2% EU thereafter. However, it is evident that the EU sent to WSP from Fernald did not exceed 1% ^{235}U (DOE 1986, pp. 17, 27; DOE 2000b, p. 35).

After 1966, the ending material balance was 0 kg in fiscal year 1967 for both EU and NU at WSP, but an estimated 152 MT NU were sent as discards to the raffinate pits, versus only 2.8 MT EU (DOE 1986). This indicates exposure to NU during monitoring and remediation efforts was much more likely. However, EU is assumed to continue after 1966 throughout the remainder of the covered periods. Weapons-grade plutonium (6% ^{240}Pu) is assumed to determine the ^{241}Pu and ^{241}Am activities, with plutonium alpha assumed to be 100% ^{239}Pu . The age of the plutonium mix (i.e., the time after ^{241}Am was separated) was chosen in accordance with ORAUT (2017b). Other contaminants were added in accordance with ORAUT (2017b) and Section 5.6.1.3.3.

Accounting for the age of plutonium mix, start of RU receipts, and change from NU to EU, the periods used to calculate RU contaminant activities are 1961 to 1962, 1963 to 1965, 1966 to 1975, 1976 to 1985, and 1986 to 2002. RU contaminant activities are stated in Tables 5-23 and 5-24 later in this document.

5.2.5 Solubility Classification and Absorption Type

WSP handled uranium in several different forms. These forms are listed in Table 5-2 along with the facility location (building) in which they were most likely to have contributed significantly to a worker's uranium intake.

Feed materials likely to have been received at the WSP came primarily from conventional uranium mills and as vanadium-milling wastes in the form of yellowcake (Meshkov et al. 1986). The specific uranium compounds have not been identified. However, according to the *Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement on Uranium Mills*, “the yellowcake product from an acid leaching plant is a mixture of chemical complexes: diuranates, hydrated oxides, basic uranyl sulfate and other ions” depending on the drying temperature (NRC 1980, p. 18).

The site’s remediation contractor collected samples of materials from the areas in WSP buildings with the highest levels of contamination (DOE 2001b, p. 14). The samples were tested for lung solubility class using simulated lung fluid leachate tests. Based on those test results, the contractor assumed specific fractions of solubility classes for contaminants in the sampled building. Table 5-6 lists those fractions for most of the WSP buildings. The solubility classes in that study were denoted using the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) Publication 30 designations of D, W, and Y (ICRP 1979). These classes were generally assigned to the more recent ICRP absorption types of F, M, and S, respectively (ICRP 1994a).

In general, uranium metal dust in Building 404 (Metals Pilot Plant) would most likely have been insoluble or type S. While the residues from this building were not analyzed in the solubility study, the solubility class for uranium in residues from Building 301 (Metals Plant) was found to be approximately 90% class Y and 10% class D (DOE 2001b).

The information in Table 5-6 is provided for general information only, and Project guidance is to select the most favorable material absorption type (F, M, or S) in the absence of definitive information for a particular dose reconstruction.

5.2.6 Particle Size

Lacking specific information on the particle size for airborne uranium at WSP because there were no particle size distribution studies, the ICRP (1994b) value of 5- μ m activity median aerodynamic diameter (AMAD) should be used (ORAUT 2014a).

5.3 IN VITRO MEASUREMENTS

5.3.1 Operational Period, 1957 to 1966

5.3.1.1 Uranium

Urine bioassay was the primary method of determining uranium intakes during the production phase. The bioassay program was set up in accordance with the general health physics practices of the period. Grab (single void) urine samples were collected and analyzed for uranium by photofluorimetric analysis. Results of the photofluorimetric analysis were reported as the mass of uranium in milligrams, or sometimes micrograms, per liter of urine.

5.3.1.1.1 Routine Sampling Program

From 1957 to mid-May 1959, urine sampling was apparently conducted at random times during the week. From mid-May 1959 through September 1959, sampling occurred primarily on Fridays. Starting in October 1959, the routine uranium urine sampling program described below appears to have been implemented and continued through 1966 (MCW 1965):

The routine sampling program seeks to have one or more persons from each operational group in the plant sample[d] each week. When a person represents his group in the sample, he is asked to give samples on (1) Monday a.m., (2) Friday p.m., and (3) Monday a.m.

Table 5-6. Solubility class summary (DOE 2001b).^a

Area	U-234 D	U-234 W	U-234 Y	U-235 D	U-235 W	U-235 Y	U-238 D	U-238 W	U-238 Y	Th-232 W	Th-232 Y	Th-230 W	Th-230 Y	Th-228 W	Th-228 Y
Building 101	0.41	NA	0.59	0.28	NA	0.72	0.41	NA	0.59	0.20	0.80	NA	1.0	0.29	0.71
Building 103	0.20	0.50	0.30	0.20	0.44	0.36	0.75	0.25	NA	NA	1.0	NA	1.0	NA	1.0
Building 105	0.20	0.50	0.30	0.20	0.44	0.36	0.75	0.25	NA	NA	1.0	NA	1.0	NA	1.0
Building 108	0.19	0.20	0.61	0.14	0.47	0.39	0.19	0.20	NA	NA	1.0	NA	1.0	NA	1.0
Building 201	0.44	NA	0.56	0.51	NA	0.49	0.42	NA	0.58	NA	1.0	NA	1.0	NA	1.0
Building 301	0.12	NA	0.88	0.09	NA	0.91	0.12	NA	0.88	0.03	0.97	0.09	0.91	0.03	0.97
Building 403	0.19	0.20	0.61	0.14	0.47	0.39	0.19	0.20	0.61	NA	1.0	NA	1.0	NA	1.0
Building 406	1.0	NA	NA	1.0	NA	NA	1.0	NA	NA	0.35	0.65	0.68	0.32	0.65	0.35
Building 408	1.0	NA	NA	1.0	NA	NA	1.0	NA	NA	0.35	0.65	0.68	0.32	0.65	0.35
Building 410	1.0	NA	NA	1.0	NA	NA	1.0	NA	NA	0.35	0.65	0.68	0.32	0.65	0.35
Building 417	1.0	NA	NA	1.0	NA	NA	1.0	NA	NA	0.35	0.65	0.68	0.32	0.65	0.35
Pit 3	1.0	NA	NA	1.0	NA	NA	1.0	NA	NA	NA	1.0	NA	1.0	NA	1.0
Q-Bench	0.54	0.12	NA	0.46	0.07	0.47	0.49	0.13	0.38	NA	1.0	NA	1.0	NA	1.0
Q-Sump	0.61	NA	NA	0.52	0.47	0.48	0.58	NA	0.42	0.10	0.90	NA	1.0	0.10	0.90

a. NA = not available.

The Monday sample tends to show the amount semi-fixed in the body, the Friday sample reflects the daily uptake. The sample from each person is analyzed separately and entered in his summary.

Each exposed person is scheduled three or more times per year, more frequently if there is reason to suspect increased exposure. The rotation of group representation tends to show the average level and variation within each plant area. Unexposed persons are scheduled less frequently to provide a control base.

Workers also submitted urine samples as part of the hiring and termination processes.

5.3.1.1.2 Special Sampling Program

A repeat sample was required if the result of the Monday morning sample was greater than 100 µg/L or if the result of the Friday afternoon sample was greater than 200 µg/L.

Special urine samples were required for known or suspected significant intakes. The DR can identify the results of these special samples in worker files either by the code S or by handwritten notes on the original urine data cards.

5.3.1.1.3 Data Reporting Levels and Minimum Detectable Amounts

No information has been found about the details and quality assurance of the photofluorimetric system and data analysis.

MCW apparently did not report uranium urine results as censored or as less than the detection level because the recorded data reflect continuous increments of 0.001 mg/L starting at 0.000 mg/L, and no less-than values have been observed in the files. It is not known whether a blank was subtracted. If so, negative results were reported as 0.000 mg/L.

Because a site-specific value of the minimum detectable amount (MDA) is not available for WSP, a value based on reported MDAs for photofluorimetric systems at other facilities in the 1960s was considered. A range of values of 0.001 to 0.014 mg/L has been cited for detection levels of unknown pedigree. An MDA value of 0.008 mg/L was determined from original urinalysis data logs at Rocky Flats (ORAUT 2014b) and was based on modern MDA concepts (HPS 1996, pp. 44–49). The Rocky Flats MDA value included the contribution of a blank subtraction and was based on a 100-µL (100λ) aliquot from a 24-hour urine sample. This MDA value has a known pedigree and is recommended as the MDA for WSP, although there could have been some differences in methods (e.g., grab sample versus 24-hour sample, unknown blank subtraction versus blank subtraction, and unknown volume of the aliquot versus 100 µL).

An estimate of the uranium MDA can be derived from Dupree (1979b, p. 26), who cites an average value of 0.002 ± 0.002 mg/L for “people off the street.” Based on the consideration that the cited standard deviation represents the process standard deviation divided by the calibration factor, the estimated MDA is 3.3 times 0.002 mg/L, which is 0.007 mg/L. This value supports the use of 0.008 mg/L as a reasonable MDA for WSP uranium urine data.

5.3.1.1.4 Interferences and Uncertainties

It is not known if the WSP uranium urine data were adjusted for excretions of environmental sources of uranium. It is likely they were not. Measurements more sensitive than the Dupree (1979b, p. 26) value of 0.002 ± 0.002 mg/L during the remediation period on persons in the WSP vicinity not occupationally exposed to uranium indicated a geometric mean (GM) of 0.05205 µg/L (0.00005205

mg/L), “with variation as high as 0.3016 µg uranium per liter of urine at two standard deviations (e.g., 94.5% of the population)” (DOE 2001b, p. 23). Because these values are very low, DRs should disregard this source of interference and use the WSP uranium urine data as recorded.

Possible contamination of a urine sample from uranium on the hands or clothing cannot be ruled out, especially for grab samples after work. Resampling for results over the action levels (Section 5.3.1.1.2) would have revealed cases of excessive contamination. There are numerous uncertainties generic to fluorometric uranium measurements. Sample-specific uncertainties were not recorded. There is no reason to believe that the quality of WSP measurements was significantly different from the quality at other facilities of that era.

5.3.1.1.5 Reporting Formats and Codes

The DR can expect to find one to three reports of uranium urine data in a worker’s files:

- A photocopy of the original, handwritten urine data cards;
- A computer printout, Uranium Urine (MCWURWS); and
- A computer printout, Uranium Urine (MCWURDES).

Many WSP workers were assigned to the St. Louis facility before being assigned to WSP. All of the urine data reports contain data from both facilities because MCW operated WSP. If no other information is available, DRs should assume that uranium urine data starting in 1957 is associated with WSP. All three reports seem to report the same data, but sometimes in different manners, and all units are milligrams per liter.

Clock No. on the original data cards and Clock Badge on the computer printouts is the worker’s employee number. DRs should examine the Clock No. on the photocopies of the original data cards to ensure that the numbers are consistent with the worker because investigators have found discrepancies in the record. The sample date is recorded and should be interpreted as the date of excretion of the grab sample. On some original data cards, this date is listed in the DUE column.

Dept. (on the original data cards) or DEPTJOB (on the computer printouts) is either a cost center number, a job or department title, or sometimes a mixture of the two. Table 5-7 lists the cost center codes. The DR should be aware that the cost center codes for the work groups in the production facilities and services groups (except for Maintenance) changed in early 1963.

Table 5-7. Cost center codes for workers.^a

General operations		
Work group	To early 1963	Starting 1963
General Engineering	110	(b)
Chemical Technology	120	(b)
Metal Technology	121	(b)
Plant Services	140	(b)

WSP		
Work group	To early 1963	Starting 1963
Administration	300	(b)

Production facilities		
Work group	To early 1963	Starting 1963
Sampling Plant, Sampling	310	110
Sampling Plant, Repackaging	321	110
Refinery, Digest – Raffinate	320	120

Work group	To early 1963	Starting 1963
Refinery, Pot Room	320	120
Refinery, Extraction	320	120
Green Salt Plant, Green Salt	330	150
Metal Plant, Dingot Reduction	360, 340	180
Metal Plant, Extrusion, General	359	200
Metal Plant, Extrusion, Gamma (Dingot Extrusion)	361, 351	210
Metal Plant, Extrusion, Alpha (Dingot to Rods)	364, 352	220
Metal Plant, Scrap Activity	358	280
Metal Plant, Vacuum Outgassing	363	(b)
Metal Plant, Core Fabrication	362, 365 to 369	250

Services groups or facilities

Work group	To early 1963	Starting 1963
Maintenance	370	370
Storeroom, Receiving, & Shipping	372	530
Disposal of Construction Inventory	373	(b)
Instrument Shop	374	(b)
Boiler House	376	(b)
Water Plant	378	(b)
Warehouse	380	550
Engineering	390	560
Plant Protection	392	510
Laundry	394	(b)
Custodians	396	520
Occupancy, Labor	398	(b)

Technical Division

Work group	To early 1963	Starting 1963
Administrative	400	(c)
Metallurgical Development (Building 404),	410	(c)
Metallurgical Development, Special Projects	460	460
Process Development (Building 403)	420, 450	(c)
Process Development, Scrap Plant	No code	290
Research Laboratory	430	(c)
Analytical Laboratory	440	(c)

Administration Division

Work group	To early 1963	Starting 1963
Uranium Division Management	600	600
Salaried Personnel Administration	605	(c)
Accounting	610	610
Purchasing	620	(c)
Motor Pool	621	(c)
Administrative Services	630	(c)
Production Control	640	640
Health and Safety	650	(c)
General Division Expenses	660	(c)
Data Processing	670	670
Industrial Relations	680	(c)
Cafeteria	685	(c)

a. Source: MCW (ca. 1961).

b. Unknown; likely discontinued or merged with another cost center.

c. Unknown; likely the same as the code to early 1963.

The sample result (in milligrams per liter) is reported under columns headed by SCHEDULED, RESULTS, or no heading on the original data cards, and under the heading MGUPERL on the computer printouts. On the original data cards, the sample result is frequently followed by two dashes and a number, which has been assumed to be the pH of the urine sample.

An asterisk after the sample result on the original data cards, or in the column headed by SAMTYPE on the computer printouts, indicates a Friday afternoon sample. However, not all Friday samples are flagged by the asterisk. If the sample day is important, the DR could determine the actual day using a spreadsheet program function such as WEEKDAY(), which converts a date to a day-of-the-week value where 1 is Sunday, 2 is Monday, and so forth. Notations written on the original data cards after the result or under SAMTYPE on the computer printouts indicate preemployment samples (code P), termination samples (code T), or special samples (code S).

5.3.1.1.6 Work Group Data

Urine bioassays were performed routinely as described in Section 5.3.1.1.1. Urine samples were obtained weekly from representative individuals in areas of WSP where uranium was handled. The data from the representative individuals were intended to be used to assess the intake by coworkers so that the work group was continuously monitored. Individual urine bioassay results supplemented by contemporaneous data from coworkers could provide the best measure of that person's uranium intake because the sampling for an individual worker could have occurred during quiescent operational periods.

Because most of the work group urine data summaries have not been discovered, the data have been recreated from the worker records available to the Project. Approximately 28,000 urine bioassay results were recorded during the operational period (1958 to 1966). Tables 5-8 to 5-17 provide median, 95th-percentile, and maximum concentrations for routine urine bioassay samples by year.

The data were analyzed by major work location, cost center or job description, and sample day (Monday or Friday). In some cases, cost centers were combined to increase the number of individual analyses. The dataset for 1958 includes a mixture of WSP and Destrehan Street workers and was coded in the original records by job description or work location rather than cost center. A recorded value of 7.8 mg/L was deleted from the 1958 dataset as an outlier. This minimally affects the median or 95th-percentile value. In cases where there were five or fewer records, the tables contain only the maximum urine bioassay result.

5.3.1.2 Thorium

There is no indication discovered so far that a routine urine sampling program was implemented for thorium. No urine bioassay data for thorium have been found in the worker files.

5.3.2 Environmental Monitoring Period, 1975 to 1984

No personnel bioassay monitoring appears to have been conducted during this period.

5.3.3 Remediation Period, 1985 to 2002

An extensive, state-of-the-art bioassay monitoring program was conducted from 1991 to 2001 to detect intakes greater than 100 mrem committed effective dose equivalent (CEDE). This program is well defined in the WSSRAP technical basis manual revisions (DOE 1991, 1994, 1997, 1998a, 1998b, 1998c, 2000a, 2001b).

Routine uranium urine sampling occurred monthly for at-risk workers. Uranium MDAs were reported as 1 µg/L in 1991 (DOE 1991, p. 29) using laser fluorimetry, as 0.1 µg/L from 1994 to 1998 (DOE 1994, p. 31; 1997, p. 22; 1998a, p. 21) using laser fluorimetry, and as 0.0524 µg/L from September 1998 to 2001 (DOE 1998b, p. 20; 1998c, p. 20; 2000a, p. 20; 2001b, p. 22) using kinetic phosphorescence analysis. Uranium results of 0.2 µg/L or greater were considered positive for occupational uranium intakes in 1997 (DOE 1997, p. 23), and results of 0.3 µg/L or greater (DOE 1998c, p. 21; 2000a, p.21; 2001b, p. 23) were considered positive for occupational uranium intakes from 1998 through 2001.

The focus of the program was to conduct bioassay based on workplace action levels for air sampling, nasal wipe analysis, and wipe analysis of the inside of respirators at the end of each day they were used. These action levels triggered fecal sampling, urine sampling, and in vivo measurements, as appropriate.

Table 5-8. Composite urine statistical summary.

Year	Type of analysis	Number of records	Median (mg/L)	95th percentile (mg/L)	Maximum (mg/L)
1958	All	1,872	0.005	0.025	0.203 ^a
1958	Routine	1,714	0.005	0.025	0.203
1958	Routine–Monday	321	0.004	0.021	0.047
1958	Routine–Friday	158	0.006	0.023	0.069
1959	All	2,285	0.005	0.024	0.339
1959	Routine	2,090	0.006	0.026	0.339
1959	Routine–Monday	1,124	0.004	0.017	0.041
1959	Routine–Friday	522	0.009	0.048	0.339
1960	All	4,396	0.012	0.038	0.759
1960	Routine	4,246	0.012	0.040	0.759
1960	Routine–Monday	2,602	0.010	0.026	0.088
1960	Routine–Friday	1,347	0.018	0.068	0.759
1961	All	4,184	0.011	0.036	0.344
1961	Routine	4,077	0.011	0.036	0.344
1961	Routine–Monday	2,608	0.010	0.025	0.062
1961	Routine–Friday	1,279	0.018	0.050	0.344
1962	All	3,083	0.010	0.032	0.700
1962	Routine	2,954	0.007	0.024	0.700
1962	Routine–Monday	1,847	0.008	0.020	0.064
1962	Routine–Friday	946	0.013	0.044	0.700
1963	All	3,481	0.014	0.042	0.340
1963	Routine	3,358	0.014	0.041	0.336
1963	Routine–Monday	1,922	0.014	0.029	0.336
1963	Routine–Friday	1,074	0.018	0.056	0.258
1964	All	3,476	0.012	0.052	0.626
1964	Routine	3,264	0.012	0.048	0.626
1964	Routine–Monday	1,767	0.012	0.029	0.282
1964	Routine–Friday	1,049	0.014	0.060	0.626
1965	All	2,980	0.010	0.036	0.812
1965	Routine	2,804	0.009	0.032	0.812
1965	Routine–Monday	1,460	0.009	0.027	0.347
1965	Routine–Friday	869	0.010	0.045	0.318
1966	All	2,145	0.006	0.029	0.459
1966	Routine	1,680	0.007	0.028	0.459
1966	Routine–Monday	882	0.008	0.025	0.066
1966	Routine–Friday	526	0.007	0.039	0.459

a. A recorded value of 7.8 mg/L was deleted from the dataset as an outlier. This minimally affects the median or 95th-percentile value.

There are no technical basis manuals available to document the bioassay monitoring program during the early part of the remediation period (1985 to 1990).

If no individual bioassay data and no applicable coworker bioassay data are available for a worker for 1985 to 1990, the environmental data for 1985 to 1990 in ORAUT-TKBS-0028-4, *Weldon Spring Plant – Occupational Environmental Dose* (ORAUT 2017c), can be used to estimate intake. Individual or coworker bioassay data for the subsequent year (1991) may also be used to estimate worker intakes.

Table 5-9. Uranium urine data summary by cost center for 1958.

Cost center	Median (mg/L)	95th percentile (mg/L)	Maximum (mg/L)	No. of records
300-370	0.002	0.010	0.012	16
400-440	0.000	0.011	0.011	7
600-670	0.003	0.010	0.012	29
Accounting	0.003	0.006	0.010	17
Administrative	0.004	0.015	0.017	16
AEC	0.003	0.010	0.010	9
Analytical Laboratory	0.004	0.012	0.039	105
Boiler House	0.002	0.008	0.008	14
Chemical Operator	0.004	0.030	0.061	24
Decontamination	0.003	0.006	0.006	9
Dx (possibly Dingot Extrusion)	0.012	0.029	0.040	25
Engineering	0.003	0.014	0.020	33
Furnace	0.008	0.019	0.022	24
Green Salt	0.005	0.018	0.025	30
Guard	0.004	0.013	0.014	41
Health & Safety	0.004	0.007	0.016	28
Instrument Shop	0.002	0.018	0.022	37
Lab	0.004	0.018	0.018	27
Laundry	0.005	0.012	0.024	15
Maint	0.006	0.020	0.098	79
Metals	0.006	0.015	0.101	94
Mtns	0.006	0.025	0.064	137
Office	0.002	0.008	0.016	97
Pilot Plant	0.005	0.014	0.028	16
Porter	0.005	0.016	0.020	25
Product Development	0.004	0.010	0.011	25
Refinery	0.009	0.041	0.203	127
Research Lab	0.004	0.012	0.022	49
Sampling	0.011	0.040	0.049	31
Stores	0.004	0.009	0.029	16
Warehouse	0.004	0.017	0.051	48

Table 5-10. Uranium urine data summary by cost center for 1959.^a

Cost center	Monday median (mg/L)	Monday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Monday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records	Friday median (mg/L)	Friday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Friday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records
110-140	0.004	0.010	0.010	14	N/A	N/A	0.012	2
300-310	0.002	0.015	0.022	35	0.020	0.048	0.048	12
320	0.006	0.016	0.023	24	0.014	0.088	0.104	40
321-340	0.008	0.018	0.020	25	0.017	0.043	0.067	18
359-369	0.005	0.016	0.034	60	0.012	0.036	0.049	47
370	0.009	0.016	0.019	40	0.014	0.058	0.206	25
372	0.003	0.012	0.017	17	0.004	0.023	0.023	8
374	0.006	0.015	0.018	27	0.006	0.024	0.024	13
376-379	0.002	0.027	0.039	26	0.003	0.035	0.035	13
380	0.004	0.019	0.041	53	0.004	0.071	0.094	32
390	0.003	0.007	0.012	40	N/A	N/A	0.003	3
392	0.005	0.016	0.028	38	0.003	0.023	0.026	18
394-396	0.006	0.019	0.019	30	0.006	0.023	0.023	14
400-430	0.002	0.013	0.020	24	N/A	N/A	0.041	5
440	0.003	0.014	0.020	73	0.004	0.012	0.015	16
450	0.004	0.012	0.016	20	0.018	0.079	0.080	15
460	0.005	0.017	0.020	21	0.038	0.156	0.156	14
500-640	0.002	0.014	0.024	79	N/A	N/A	0.008	5
650	0.003	0.009	0.011	28	N/A	N/A	0.007	3
670-688	0.006	0.013	0.023	27	N/A	N/A	0.011	1
320 Ref	0.005	0.018	0.028	26	0.020	0.057	0.059	22
330 Gr Salt	0.012	0.020	0.020	20	0.017	0.023	0.023	11
370 Misc	0.006	0.015	0.019	16	0.014	0.051	0.051	12
370 Mtns	0.006	0.019	0.035	164	0.011	0.048	0.083	94
370 Mtns Misc	0.006	0.012	0.014	42	0.011	0.025	0.044	24
Office	0.002	0.009	0.018	17	0.006	0.009	0.009	8
Other	0.003	0.012	0.015	66	0.004	0.022	0.022	28

a. N/A = not applicable (fewer than five records).

Table 5-11. Uranium urine data summary by cost center for 1960.^a

Cost center	Monday median (mg/L)	Monday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Monday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records	Friday median (mg/L)	Friday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Friday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records
110	0.001	0.019	0.020	18	N/A	N/A	0.013	1
300	0.007	0.018	0.019	32	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
310	0.015	0.026	0.038	39	0.033	0.071	0.085	29
320	0.012	0.026	0.060	204	0.019	0.062	0.110	129
321-340	0.014	0.025	0.032	76	0.026	0.055	0.080	57
359	0.013	0.022	0.029	41	0.025	0.069	0.161	22
360-369	0.013	0.028	0.061	105	0.016	0.058	0.092	68
370	0.012	0.028	0.064	106	0.015	0.053	0.162	58
378-379	0.012	0.027	0.027	14	0.015	0.082	0.082	7
380-398	0.008	0.020	0.028	120	0.012	0.041	0.088	34
400-430	0.007	0.030	0.071	38	0.018	0.050	0.050	9
450	0.010	0.027	0.058	91	0.027	0.092	0.161	39
460	0.013	0.029	0.060	64	0.026	0.060	0.078	37
600-680	0.007	0.018	0.028	114	N/A	N/A	0.017	1
320 Ref	0.012	0.029	0.079	155	0.032	0.126	0.216	107
330 Gr Salt	0.013	0.029	0.030	43	0.022	0.070	0.092	29
360 Metals	0.013	0.026	0.029	29	0.017	0.036	0.058	24
361 Conv Ext	0.021	0.058	0.058	14	0.036	0.075	0.075	7
362 Cons Fab	0.010	0.021	0.029	18	0.014	0.023	0.030	16
370 Misc	0.010	0.025	0.037	63	0.014	0.064	0.084	36
370 Mtns	0.010	0.026	0.038	375	0.017	0.064	0.228	256
370 Mtns Elec	0.010	0.024	0.028	52	0.013	0.063	0.076	34
370 Mtns Mech	0.010	0.014	0.014	11	0.008	0.012	0.012	6
370 Mtns Misc	0.012	0.028	0.036	42	0.017	0.036	0.038	31
370 Mtns Pipe	0.012	0.030	0.060	31	0.018	0.064	0.069	20
370 Painter	0.015	0.027	0.032	16	0.013	0.162	0.162	11
372 Stores	0.010	0.024	0.032	38	0.012	0.027	0.029	20
374 Inst	0.010	0.024	0.032	61	0.012	0.036	0.060	38
376 Boiler	0.005	0.018	0.020	26	0.006	0.024	0.024	7
380 Warehouse	0.010	0.026	0.034	115	0.012	0.048	0.067	73
392 Plant Pr	0.006	0.017	0.021	41	0.011	0.030	0.030	13
396 Custodian	0.014	0.027	0.088	48	0.014	0.081	0.759	33
440 Anal Lab	0.010	0.021	0.036	92	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
650 H&S	0.007	0.017	0.019	31	N/A	N/A	0.003	1
Other	0.010	0.027	0.079	124	0.018	0.066	0.266	45

a. N/A = not applicable (five or fewer records).

Table 5-12. Uranium urine data summary by cost center for 1961.^a

Cost center	Monday median (mg/L)	Monday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Monday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records	Friday median (mg/L)	Friday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Friday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records
110-300	0.007	0.015	0.024	61	0.019	0.036	0.036	8
310	0.016	0.028	0.038	35	0.031	0.062	0.064	25
320	0.011	0.027	0.035	205	0.021	0.055	0.140	127
321-350	0.014	0.034	0.052	86	0.025	0.054	0.066	58
359	0.012	0.034	0.039	44	0.022	0.050	0.052	28
360-369	0.011	0.028	0.049	154	0.021	0.040	0.058	83
370	0.011	0.026	0.062	128	0.018	0.048	0.344	78
380	0.009	0.021	0.029	30	0.012	0.030	0.032	25
390	0.005	0.013	0.022	61	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
392-398	0.008	0.022	0.039	107	0.011	0.037	0.063	79
400-460	0.011	0.026	0.050	200	0.020	0.050	0.118	66
600-680	0.007	0.019	0.027	183	N/A	N/A	0.013	3
320 Ref	0.012	0.026	0.040	154	0.022	0.081	0.127	93
330 Gr Salt	0.010	0.024	0.030	49	0.024	0.054	0.055	27
370 Mill	0.018	0.025	0.025	10	0.019	0.031	0.031	6
370 Misc	0.009	0.022	0.028	57	0.015	0.064	0.080	39
370 Mtns	0.011	0.025	0.042	341	0.018	0.042	0.058	223
370 Mtns Elec	0.009	0.022	0.034	42	0.019	0.032	0.052	24
370 Mtns Misc	0.010	0.025	0.029	86	0.016	0.044	0.050	54
372 Stores	0.010	0.023	0.027	33	0.010	0.026	0.027	22
374 Inst. Shop	0.008	0.021	0.024	45	0.014	0.040	0.050	28
376 Boiler	0.010	0.020	0.021	26	0.008	0.010	0.010	7
380 Warehouse	0.009	0.022	0.026	105	0.011	0.032	0.036	66
392 Plant Pr	0.009	0.018	0.021	48	0.008	0.014	0.015	15
440 Anal Lab	0.009	0.019	0.029	96	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
Other	0.008	0.024	0.035	123	0.021	0.061	0.094	43

a. N/A = not applicable (five or fewer records).

Table 5-13. Uranium urine data summary by cost center for 1962.^a

Cost center	Monday median (mg/L)	Monday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Monday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records	Friday median (mg/L)	Friday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Friday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records
120-290	0.009	0.020	0.035	17	0.028	0.071	0.071	11
300-310	0.009	0.021	0.028	63	0.032	0.064	0.090	22
320	0.009	0.022	0.040	138	0.017	0.048	0.700	85
321	0.014	0.034	0.034	11	0.026	0.141	0.141	14
340	0.010	0.027	0.038	34	0.018	0.046	0.046	20
359	0.008	0.020	0.020	29	0.018	0.035	0.036	20
361-369	0.010	0.020	0.024	43	0.014	0.040	0.110	31
360-369	0.009	0.018	0.018	32	0.015	0.039	0.039	24
370	0.010	0.024	0.028	117	0.014	0.051	0.116	92
380	0.006	0.015	0.026	104	0.010	0.024	0.031	74
390	0.006	0.019	0.022	54	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
392	0.005	0.014	0.014	13	N/A	N/A	0.010	3
394-398	0.010	0.016	0.026	34	0.011	0.020	0.020	30
396	0.007	0.018	0.018	24	0.014	0.026	0.026	17
400-460	0.008	0.022	0.047	213	0.016	0.040	0.044	44
600-680	0.006	0.015	0.020	152	N/A	N/A	0.002	1
320 Ref	0.009	0.022	0.064	77	0.015	0.043	0.056	37
330 Gr Salt	0.009	0.027	0.028	29	0.013	0.028	0.041	17
370 Misc	0.010	0.026	0.046	33	0.013	0.037	0.044	26
370 Mtns	0.009	0.024	0.047	244	0.013	0.038	0.652	190
370 Mtns Elec	0.008	0.015	0.018	26	0.010	0.022	0.068	21
370 Mtns Misc	0.009	0.016	0.027	30	0.015	0.030	0.220	21
372 Stores	0.008	0.015	0.020	37	0.007	0.019	0.027	24
374 Inst. Shop	0.009	0.015	0.029	42	0.014	0.026	0.028	21
376 Boiler	0.007	0.016	0.026	23	0.007	0.012	0.012	6
392 Plant Pr	0.007	0.013	0.017	43	0.008	0.012	0.012	14
Other	0.008	0.024	0.028	92	0.011	0.055	0.181	33

a. N/A = not applicable (five or fewer records).

Table 5-14. Uranium urine data summary by cost center for 1963.

Cost center	Monday median (mg/L)	Monday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Monday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records	Friday median (mg/L)	Friday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Friday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records
110	0.021	0.035	0.259	34	0.027	0.078	0.178	24
120	0.016	0.035	0.085	135	0.024	0.078	0.143	66
150	0.012	0.023	0.023	14	0.014	0.035	0.035	9
180	0.014	0.027	0.034	33	0.020	0.034	0.036	22
200	0.012	0.028	0.033	18	0.030	0.120	0.120	14
250–290	0.019	0.043	0.052	50	0.027	0.078	0.100	26
300–310	0.014	0.027	0.048	34	0.037	0.054	0.083	16
320	0.014	0.026	0.052	148	0.027	0.112	0.185	72
321–340	0.014	0.037	0.046	42	0.025	0.068	0.137	28
350–369	0.014	0.032	0.336	75	0.016	0.078	0.205	47
370	0.016	0.040	0.059	115	0.021	0.054	0.122	75
372–378	0.010	0.026	0.035	97	0.013	0.036	0.042	43
380–396	0.012	0.023	0.029	87	0.016	0.035	0.039	39
400–460	0.012	0.029	0.048	115	0.014	0.056	0.081	47
500–510	0.008	0.021	0.025	43	0.012	0.024	0.045	22
520–530	0.013	0.027	0.028	51	0.012	0.035	0.041	25
550	0.013	0.025	0.027	46	0.012	0.027	0.041	36
600–690	0.008	0.021	0.065	91	0.008	0.023	0.027	33
330 Gr Salt	0.013	0.027	0.029	46	0.020	0.042	0.044	21
370 Elec	0.012	0.023	0.025	28	0.018	0.059	0.059	13
370 Mill	0.016	0.029	0.029	31	0.027	0.058	0.258	25
370 Misc	0.015	0.027	0.091	91	0.016	0.043	0.111	59
370 Mtns	0.014	0.028	0.041	178	0.019	0.052	0.095	117
370 Pipe	0.014	0.029	0.045	22	0.029	0.058	0.058	14
380 Warehouse	0.012	0.027	0.029	69	0.012	0.025	0.035	50
392 Plant Pr	0.010	0.026	0.027	50	0.014	0.027	0.034	31
Other	0.012	0.029	0.070	95	0.015	0.036	0.087	55

Table 5-15. Uranium urine data summary by cost center for 1964.

Cost center	Monday median (mg/L)	Monday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Monday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records	Friday median (mg/L)	Friday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Friday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records
110	0.020	0.066	0.282	84	0.032	0.103	0.232	75
120	0.012	0.029	0.090	197	0.016	0.071	0.182	115
150	0.012	0.026	0.028	57	0.014	0.050	0.067	36
180	0.017	0.043	0.054	32	0.018	0.056	0.226	29
200	0.019	0.053	0.078	32	0.018	0.088	0.114	25
290	0.012	0.038	0.054	32	0.013	0.070	0.106	16
310-321	0.014	0.036	0.106	72	0.018	0.063	0.118	53
350-360	0.011	0.073	0.104	48	0.008	0.085	0.358	26
370	0.012	0.025	0.062	138	0.017	0.066	0.626	86
372-380	0.012	0.022	0.026	44	0.010	0.025	0.027	25
380-390	0.010	0.026	0.029	66	0.012	0.040	0.084	34
392	0.008	0.023	0.026	41	0.008	0.018	0.040	25
400-460	0.012	0.027	0.068	94	0.013	0.048	0.165	34
500-510	0.008	0.020	0.024	72	0.006	0.022	0.024	44
520	0.010	0.021	0.029	64	0.012	0.033	0.044	35
530	0.010	0.026	0.064	28	0.008	0.017	0.052	16
550-569	0.010	0.022	0.029	118	0.008	0.026	0.031	75
600-690	0.008	0.017	0.027	73	0.010	0.016	0.024	14
370 Elec	0.012	0.024	0.029	40	0.011	0.050	0.052	28
370 Mill	0.014	0.026	0.028	33	0.024	0.052	0.081	22
370 Misc	0.012	0.025	0.028	99	0.009	0.046	0.058	63
370 Mtns	0.017	0.062	0.125	102	0.013	0.029	0.064	57
370 Pipe	0.013	0.029	0.053	37	0.013	0.052	0.090	27
Other	0.012	0.027	0.042	95	0.011	0.050	0.059	52

Table 5-16. Uranium urine data summary by cost center for 1965.

Cost center	Monday median (mg/L)	Monday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Monday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records	Friday median (mg/L)	Friday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Friday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records
110	0.018	0.034	0.042	41	0.018	0.094	0.152	19
120	0.011	0.025	0.047	156	0.014	0.072	0.318	102
150	0.011	0.035	0.347	61	0.011	0.036	0.049	35
180	0.020	0.045	0.052	45	0.024	0.102	0.146	26
200	0.015	0.024	0.028	19	0.016	0.069	0.088	16
290	0.010	0.015	0.021	26	0.010	0.025	0.039	19
310-321	0.011	0.042	0.065	29	0.012	0.024	0.024	16
350	0.007	0.018	0.027	36	0.005	0.012	0.024	19
370-379	0.008	0.022	0.045	165	0.010	0.055	0.193	120
380-390	0.010	0.026	0.050	46	0.011	0.026	0.033	27
392	0.004	0.010	0.015	28	0.006	0.015	0.016	18
400-460	0.009	0.039	0.078	85	0.017	0.045	0.058	25
500-510	0.006	0.015	0.016	60	0.005	0.012	0.016	34
520	0.007	0.018	0.020	57	0.008	0.022	0.030	33
530	0.006	0.018	0.022	19	0.012	0.022	0.022	7
550-569	0.007	0.018	0.027	109	0.007	0.014	0.026	73
600-690	0.006	0.014	0.016	65	0.005	0.011	0.011	5
370 Elec	0.008	0.024	0.027	28	0.008	0.027	0.031	22
370 Mill	0.012	0.030	0.048	35	0.012	0.048	0.060	22
370 Misc	0.010	0.024	0.057	88	0.008	0.025	0.039	63
370 Mtns	0.011	0.025	0.069	69	0.012	0.029	0.061	48
370 Pipe	0.012	0.020	0.024	37	0.011	0.027	0.042	26
Other	0.010	0.020	0.075	85	0.009	0.033	0.055	43

Table 5-17. Uranium urine data summary by cost center for 1966.

Cost center	Monday median (mg/L)	Monday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Monday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records	Friday median (mg/L)	Friday 95th percentile (mg/L)	Friday maximum (mg/L)	Number of records
110	0.015	0.030	0.039	19	0.025	0.053	0.053	12
120	0.009	0.030	0.052	130	0.015	0.048	0.100	83
150	0.006	0.018	0.019	25	0.011	0.054	0.054	13
180	0.012	0.036	0.036	20	0.025	0.048	0.048	9
200	0.006	0.027	0.027	17	0.011	0.024	0.024	9
290	0.006	0.024	0.024	22	0.006	0.036	0.036	12
310-321	0.009	0.021	0.022	20	0.016	0.459	0.459	11
350	0.002	0.008	0.008	13	0.002	0.009	0.009	15
370-379	0.006	0.027	0.046	107	0.008	0.050	0.052	61
380-390	0.007	0.021	0.025	26	0.008	0.029	0.029	13
400-460	0.006	0.025	0.035	53	0.008	0.032	0.045	24
500-510	0.002	0.008	0.011	26	0.004	0.008	0.010	35
520	0.006	0.025	0.018	34	0.004	0.024	0.024	25
530	0.005	0.019	0.021	24	0.004	0.022	0.022	12
550-569	0.005	0.012	0.020	72	0.004	0.012	0.028	38
610-690	0.006	0.011	0.012	18	0.004	0.008	0.008	4
370 Elec	0.012	0.027	0.027	13	0.009	0.036	0.036	10
370 Mill	0.008	0.024	0.027	32	0.008	0.034	0.071	16
370 Misc	0.008	0.021	0.028	53	0.010	0.033	0.036	29
370 Mtns	0.009	0.022	0.066	46	0.009	0.050	0.055	25
370 Pipe	0.006	0.015	0.024	22	0.015	0.088	0.088	13
Other	0.006	0.019	0.027	58	0.004	0.025	0.213	37

5.4 IN VIVO MEASUREMENTS

5.4.1 Operational Period, 1957 to 1966

There is no indication WSP had an in vivo measurement program or performed any in vivo measurements for uranium, but there is an indication that in vivo measurements were performed on some WSP workers for thorium (natural thorium or ^{232}Th) in 1966 (Ingle 1991, p. 6):

From July 11 through July 27, 1966, Y-12 personnel visited the Weldon Spring plant and set up the portable Whole Body Counter for in vivo thorium counting to quantify body burden deposition and the risk inherent with using the current Atomic Energy occupational air concentration limits ($3.7\text{E}-11 \mu\text{Ci/ml}$). During this period of testing, 200 measurements were made in the monitoring of 148 persons. The determination of workers to be monitored was done on a strictly voluntary basis. A good cross representation of workers volunteered. The interpretation of the result is as follows:

- 1. Workers who showed net counts less than 60 counts per 20 minutes had less than detectable amounts of thorium in their lungs and were therefore given a negative result.*
- 2. Workers showing net counts in excess of 60 counts per 20 minutes but less than 204 were interpreted as a trace of thorium.*
- 3. Net counts in excess of 204 counts for 20 minutes were considered as positive evidence of thorium lung burdens. A person who showed 204 counts for 20 minutes was considered to have at least one lung burden.*

The overall results showed workers involved in Buildings 101, 103, 301, and 403, and in Maintenance and Health and Safety, which were principal exposure positions, had a more frequent occurrence of trace detections. No monitored worker record showed a positive designation.

The reports of these measurements in the worker files are titled "Thallium 208 in Vivo Results." This indicates that ^{208}Tl was measured as a marker for thorium. Thallium-208 is in approximate equilibrium (with a branching ratio of 0.337) with ^{228}Th , which might not have been in equilibrium with the thorium parent ^{232}Th after chemical purification of the natural thorium feed materials. The quantification of thorium depositions from these in vivo ^{208}Tl measurements is, therefore, uncertain without knowledge of the degree of equilibrium of the thallium with the ^{232}Th parent. The record only gives a qualitative indication of the detection of ^{208}Tl as a marker for thorium.

5.4.2 Environmental Monitoring Period, 1975 to 1984

No personnel in vivo monitoring appears to have been conducted during this period.

5.4.3 Remediation Period, 1985 to 2002

An in vivo measurement program was included in the WSSRAP internal dosimetry program to evaluate intakes of ^{238}U and ^{232}Th . Because the number of radiological workers who would be exposed to airborne radioactivity at the site was expected to be small, WSSRAP could not justify the expense of having its own in vivo measurement system. Instead, the program was initially based on detection sensitivities from the Helgeson Scientific Services mobile counting laboratory. The lower limits of detection for that system were 74 Bq (2 nCi) for NU and 37 Bq (1 nCi) for ^{232}Th in the lung (DOE 1991, p. 28).

Later, the program was based on detection sensitivities of the in vivo measurement system at the Feed Materials Production Center. The sensitivities (of unstated pedigree) for that system were 2.0 nCi for ^{238}U and 1.2 nCi for ^{228}Ac , assumed to be in secular equilibrium with ^{232}Th (DOE 2001b, p. 20). Revision 7 of the WSSRAP technical basis manual states (DOE 2001b, p. 20):

This assumption [of secular equilibrium] will not necessarily be true in an actual worker intake.

It is important to note that these "typical" detection limits are highly dependent upon the individual worker's physical features such as height and chest size. The Weldon Spring site has sent individuals to the Fernald site for lung counts, and detection limits were 2.5 times higher than the typical values due to the individual's physical features.

In vivo lung measurements could have been performed as a special bioassay measurement after a suspected or actual intake. Revision 7 states that such measurements were normally reserved for "those incidents where the intake was suspected to exceed 500 mrem CEDE ...", and that "requiring lung counts for affected workers" was one of the actions "never used" (DOE 2001b, p. 30).

5.5 AIR CONCENTRATION AND DUST MEASUREMENTS

5.5.1 Operational Period, 1957 to 1966

Two types of air sampling were conducted by MCW at the WSP. A daily weighted average (DWA) concentration index (also called daily weighted exposure) was calculated based on a combination of breathing-zone air (BZA) samples and general air samples (MCW 1965, p. 16).

Semi-fixed location general air samplers were located in each process building. The results of the samples were used to assess changes in plant air concentrations due to equipment malfunction or incorrect operation. However, these data were considered to have no direct value in assessing individual intakes or doses.

Samples were analyzed for gross alpha activity only. The action level for uranium dust exposure was 700 alpha dpm/d (MCW 1965, p. 16). As noted above, this was a time-weighted average exposure. This was derived from the guideline concentration of 70 alpha dpm/m³ and the assumption that the average breathing rate for workers is 10 m³/d for an 8-hour workday.

BZA samples were collected at WSP during specific times, and the data were applied to specific jobs.

5.5.1.1 Maximum Acceptable Concentrations

The time-weighted average maximum allowable concentration (MAC) for uranium was 70 alpha dpm/m³ (3.2×10^{-11} $\mu\text{Ci}/\text{cm}^3$) or 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (74 alpha dpm/m³). The 70 alpha dpm/m³ MAC was apparently derived by rounding down the radioactivity equivalent of the mass concentration MAC.

The AEC standards for radiation protection applicable in 1965 listed the allowable concentrations for uranium in air for occupational exposure as 7×10^{-11} $\mu\text{Ci}/\text{cm}^3$ for soluble forms and 6×10^{-11} $\mu\text{Ci}/\text{cm}^3$ for insoluble forms. The WSP guideline of 70 alpha dpm/m³ (3.2×10^{-11} $\mu\text{Ci}/\text{cm}^3$) was therefore more restrictive than the AEC standard.

There are no indications in the radiation protection program documents that the WSP MAC was adjusted in areas where thorium was processed. The values for soluble and insoluble NU from the 1959 ICRP Publication 2 for maximum permissible concentrations (MPCs) were 7×10^{-11} $\mu\text{Ci}/\text{cm}^3$ and 6×10^{-11} $\mu\text{Ci}/\text{cm}^3$, respectively (ICRP 1959, Volume 3, p. 114). As noted above, these values were

adopted by the AEC. The Publication 2 MPCs for soluble and insoluble natural thorium were much more restrictive at $2 \times 10^{-12} \mu\text{Ci}/\text{cm}^3$ and $4 \times 10^{-12} \mu\text{Ci}/\text{cm}^3$, respectively (ICRP 1959, Volume 3, p. 112). However, a provisional level of $3 \times 10^{-11} \mu\text{Ci}/\text{cm}^3$ was recommended. This is the value that was adopted in Annex 1 of Chapter 0524, "Standards for Radiation Protection," of the *AEC Manual* (AEC 1963). This provisional level for the MPC for natural thorium is similar to the time-weighted average MAC for uranium at WSP.

Based on the information available, it is reasonable to assume that the gross alpha MAC of 70 dpm alpha/m³ was applied across the WSP.

5.5.1.2 Special Curie for Uranium

The air sampling data were reported in alpha particle disintegrations per minute rather than curies because the former was an unambiguous designation. Until 1973 when the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP) discouraged its use, the "special curie" was commonly employed for NU. The special curie was defined in 1959 as follows (NCRP 1973, p. 3):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Special curie} &= 3.7 \times 10^{10} \text{ dps } ^{238}\text{U} + 3.7 \times 10^{10} \text{ dps } ^{234}\text{U} + 9 \times 10^8 \text{ dps } ^{235}\text{U} & (5-1) \\ &= 7.49 \times 10^{10} \text{ dps} \end{aligned}$$

The definition was altered slightly in 1963 to use 1.7×10^9 dps for ²³⁵U. It is important to understand the use of special curies when the data are reviewed. In addition, MCW used the ratio between the measured DWA and the guideline or standard as an index of exposure.

5.5.1.3 Dust Exposure Calculation

The Annual Personnel Internal-External Radiation Exposure Report form, apparently in use by 1959 for WSP, includes a section for average dust concentration in dpm/cm³ by calendar quarter. None of the reviewed exposure reports had data in that section. This indicates that the dust concentration was not routinely recorded. However, because the average dust concentration, when recorded, is in units of dpm/cm³, the average daily intake can be calculated by assuming a breathing rate of 10 m³/d for typical light work for an 8-hour workday or by using a job-specific value.

No specific in-plant air monitoring analysis sheets were found, but samples of the forms for reporting perimeter air sample data were available. These forms could also have been used for in-plant measurements. The forms include information on the sampling rate and time and the gross alpha activity. The samples were analyzed for alpha and beta activity. The results of the dust studies are summarized in the following section.

5.5.1.4 Dust Studies

A study of specific areas and jobs in Building 301 was conducted in 1961 (MCW 1960–1961). Time-weighted average concentrations were calculated based on the number of work hours at various positions. The measured concentrations were reported in microcuries per cubic centimeter using the special curie unit and in micrograms per cubic meter. The data were used primarily as a basis for recommending actions to reduce concentrations. There is no indication that the data were used to assess intake.

An undated document, *Summaries of Dust Concentrations at Production Jobs* (MCW ca. 1966, pp. 5–46), provides data on time-weighted average dust concentrations for various work areas for the period from 1958 to 1966. The data were summarized for historical use in evaluating worker dust exposures. The dust samples were collected on open-face Whatman No. 41 or membrane filters with areas

ranging from 3 to 5 cm². The membrane filters had a pore size of 0.8 µm. The flow rate ranged from 10 to 20 L/min. The report notes that the samples were taken either as fixed general air samples or as “hand held breathing zone type.”

The filters were analyzed for gross alpha by scintillation counters. Samples from uranium areas were counted after a minimum 24-hour delay to allow for the decay of radon progeny. Samples from thorium areas were counted after a minimum delay of 100 hours.

For uranium work areas, a work group index was calculated based on an average time-weighted exposure for various job titles. The jobs were rotated among the workers in each work group so the work group index could provide a reasonable time-weighted average concentration in micrograms uranium per cubic meter. The activity on the filter was converted to mass concentration using a factor of 1.5 alpha dpm/µg U (0.68 pCi/µg U). Table 5-18 summarizes the work group concentrations.

Table 5-18. Work group DWA concentrations for uranium operations (µg U/m³).^a

Work group title, cost center	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Sampling and repackaging, 110	65	55	45	55	32	31	20	60	NA
Digest- raffinate, 120	17	NA	7	NA	NA	11	8	7	NA
Extraction, 120	4	NA	3	NA	5	NA	2	2	NA
Denitration (pot room), 120	117	NA	70	NA	22	NA	45	16	NA
Green salt, 150	40	37	37	53	53 ^b	16 ^b	16	22	NA
Dingot reduction, 180	NA	NA	115	65	NA	150 ^b	150 ^b	78	50
Metal – other than reduction, 200, 210, 220, and 280	NA	NA	NA	44	52	63	40 ^c	55 ^d	NA
Core area, 250	NA	NA	20	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pilot/scrap plants, 290	NA	NA	50 ^e	NA	50 ^e	50 ^e	50 ^e	50 ^e	NA
Special projects ^f	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

- a. NA = not available.
- b. Estimate by extension to other years or averaged over other years.
- c. 50% of effort on uranium jobs; also worked with thorium.
- d. 40% of effort on uranium jobs; also worked with thorium.
- e. Overall average; not weighted.
- f. No averages given.

Natural thorium (²³²Th) airborne dust concentrations were routinely measured and evaluated throughout the operational period. These data, in the form of DWA concentrations, were summarized for the thorium processing period from 1963 through 1966 (MCW ca. 1966, pp. 15–47) and are reproduced in Attachment A. Dust concentrations were measured for individual operations for specific years. These operations were intermittent and did not represent the total work year. The time-weighted average concentrations as a fraction of the MACs were calculated. The MAC for thorium at the time was 70 dpm/m³. Table 5-19 summarizes these calculations.

5.5.2 Transfer to the Army, 1967 to 1974

The site was transferred back to the Army in 1967 for use in herbicide production. Some areas of Buildings 101 and 103 were partially cleaned up in preparation for the new mission. However, the project was terminated in early 1969, and no further cleanup or construction occurred. No dust measurement data were found for that period.

5.5.3 Environmental Monitoring Period, 1975 to 1984

With the exception of the WSQ and WSRP, the remainder of the site including the WSP was turned over to the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers in 1969. No major activities took place from 1969 to 1985. There were no AEC contractors on site from 1969 to 1975, after which the U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration (and later DOE) contracted with National Lead Company of Ohio (NLO)

Table 5-19. Time-weighted average ²³²Th dust concentrations.

Operation	Building	Period	Fraction of MAC	Total effort
Repackaging ThO ₂ feeds	101	1966	0.1	10 shifts
Hopper packaging	101	1966	0.2	10 shifts
Conveyors at repackaging	101	1966	0.1	10 shifts
Oven drying ThO ₂ solution	101	1965–1966	<0.1	2 person-d
Oven drying ThO ₂ solution	101	1965	0.2	Intermittent
Hopper feed and digestion	103	1966	0.1	No information
Raffinate	103	1966	<0.1	No information
Miscellaneous operations	103	1966	<0.1	Nonroutine job
ThO ₂ repackaging	103	1964	3.7	Short term; airline masks used in hood
Extraction	105	1966	<0.1	No information
Crystal denitration	103	1963–1964	1.25	4 mo; airline masks used
Crystal denitration	103	1964–1965	0.9	Airline masks prescribed
Thorium nitrate tetrahydrate (TNT) liquor denitration	103	1965	0.7	4 mo; airline masks prescribed
Solution drying–vacuum unload	103	1965–1966	0.6	4 mo; Comfo respirators prescribed
Pot denitration	103	1965	2	1 mo; airline mask prescribed for some tasks
High firing at recast furnace	301	1963–1964	0.3	8 mo; airline masks for some tasks
High firing in billet heaters	301	1964–1966	0.15	No information
TNT repackaging	301	1964–1965	0.04	No information
ThO ₂ repackaging	301	1965	30	1 mo; airline masks and cover clothing used
ThO ₂ repackaging	301	1965	0.8	Airline masks used for some tasks
Kiln calcining sump cake	301	1966	0.3	“Comfo” respirators used for some tasks
TNT repackaging	403	1963–1964	0.2	8 mo
ThO ₂ repackaging	403	1963–1964	3.3	8 mo; airline masks used on some operations
ThO ₂ repackaging	403	1964–1965	0.3	13 mo
Fluid bed denitration	403	1965	0.6	3 mo
Fluid bed denitration	403	1965–1966	0.4	No information

to perform environmental monitoring around the WSQ and WSRP. Bechtel National took over management of the WSRP and WSQ in 1981, and the WSP was transferred from the Army to DOE in 1985.

No monitoring data were available in relation to personnel dosimetry programs for this period.

5.5.4 Remediation Period, 1985 to 2002

DOE contracted with MK-Ferguson to manage the remediation project in 1986. The WSRP and the WSQ were put on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s National Priorities List in 1987 and 1989, respectively. Site clean-up began in earnest in 1990 as described in ORAUT-TKBS-0028-2 (ORAUT 2017a).

No specific air sampling records were available for this period. However, the internal dosimetry programs were well documented in the revisions of the WSSRAP technical basis manual (DOE 1991, 1994, 1997, 1998a, 1998b, 1998c, 2000a, 2001b). The air sampling program consisted of area samples and BZA samples. Area sample data were not used routinely for dose assessment unless no BZA sample data were available and bioassay measurements could not confirm potential intakes.

At first, area samples were taken with both high-volume (1,100 L/min) and low-volume (40 L/min) samplers. The filters were analyzed by an offsite laboratory for isotopic content. The MDA on the filters was 1 pCi for each nuclide. The calculated minimum detectable concentrations (MDCs) for a 6-hour sampling period were 2.7×10^{-15} $\mu\text{Ci/mL}$ and 6.9×10^{-14} $\mu\text{Ci/mL}$ for the high- and low-volume samplers, respectively. The gross alpha MDC for the high-volume sampler was 1.5×10^{-14} $\mu\text{Ci/mL}$.

By 2001, area air sampling was normally performed with low-volume samplers. The samples were analyzed for long-lived gross alpha activity. The results were compared to an area-specific effective derived air concentration (DAC) developed based on isotopic concentrations in the dust. The MDC for the system as it was routinely used (sampling and counting times, etc.) was normally less than 1.2×10^{-14} $\mu\text{Ci/mL}$.

BZA samples were routinely used with bioassay results to assess worker intakes. The BZA samples had higher MDCs, generally below 2.1×10^{-13} $\mu\text{Ci/mL}$ (1991) and 1.9×10^{-13} $\mu\text{Ci/mL}$ (2001). To assess worker intakes, the gross alpha concentrations were apportioned to specific radionuclides based on isotopic analysis of area samples.

Area air sampling was required in all areas where a worker could have an annual intake greater than 2% of the annual limit of intake. Based on the various revisions to the WSSRAP internal dosimetry technical basis manual, the requirements for breathing-zone samples varied slightly over time. At first, every worker spending at least 1 hour a day in the WSQ or WSRP airborne radioactivity areas was required to wear a BZA. Later requirements were somewhat less strict. Revision 1 required BZA samples for one in five individuals spending more than 1 hour a day in areas with concentrations greater than 10% of the DAC and one in three individuals in the WSQ or WSRP areas (DOE 1994, pp. 45, 49). As of Revision 2, one in four workers in areas with concentrations greater than 2% of the DAC were required to wear BZA samplers (DOE 1997, p. 32).

The internal dosimetry program required routine monitoring of environmental ^{222}Rn (radon) and ^{220}Rn (thoron) and their decay products when an individual was likely to receive an annual intake of 10% or more of the annual limit of intake. According to Revision 7 of the technical basis manual, that threshold was never exceeded (DOE 2001b, p. 32). Therefore, routine monitoring data for radon gas or short-lived decay products are not available. Environmental radon measurements that were taken periodically are provided in ORAUT-TKBS-0028-4 (ORAUT 2017c). These measurements provide a basis for estimating worker exposure to short-lived radon decay products.

5.6 ASSESSMENT OF INTAKES

5.6.1 Operational Period, 1957 to 1966

5.6.1.1 Uranium and Related Intakes

Urine bioassay data are the primary data available to the DR to quantify uranium intake. These data can be supplemented by work group monitoring data because essentially continuous bioassay monitoring for a worker was simulated by at least one worker in the group being sampled each week with Monday–Friday–Monday sampling for potentially exposed workers (Section 5.3.1.1.1). The work group data have been reconstructed from urine data for all WSP workers by cost center code. Tables 5-8 to 5-17 (Section 5.3.1.1.6) list the median, 95th-percentile, and maximum values of the uranium urine data per year for Monday samples and Friday samples by cost center and calendar year. Urine data reports provide the cost center (Section 5.3.1.1.5). The Friday urine sampling data should be used in dose reconstructions to avoid underestimating uranium intakes.

If specific information is not available in the worker's file, the DR should consider the following default uranium source terms:

- NU, before 1961;
- NU, recycled, 1961 to 1962; and
- EU (1%), recycled, 1963 to 1966.

Because the feed uranium and uranium during processing were purified to some degree, it is reasonable to assume that the contributions of the long-lived uranium progeny (i.e., ²³⁰Th and ²²⁶Ra) were small in most areas of the WSP. Measurements of the activity concentrations in Raffinate Pits 1, 2, and 3 can be used to determine the relationship between ²³⁰Th and other impurities during the initial uranium processing in Building 101 (feed preparation and sampling), during the transfer of ore concentrate from Building 101 to Building 103 for nitric acid digestion, and transfer of the uranyl nitrate slurry to the aqueous feed tanks in Building 105 before any separations occurred. The shorter-lived decay products for which no raffinate measurements were made (e.g., ²¹⁰Pb and ²¹⁰Po) can be assumed to be present at the same activity as their ²²⁶Ra parent in the mill concentrate feeds. The other uranium streams (e.g., RU) had been previously processed and contained essentially no thorium. Table 5-20 gives the results of a statistical analysis of raffinate pit measurements. The data were taken from the 1989 *Waste Assessment Radiological Characterization of the Weldon Spring Site Raffinate Pits* (DOE 1989, pp. 72–75).

Table 5-20. Activity ratios of uranium decay products and other impurities to ²³⁰Th activity in raffinate pits.

Isotope	Pit 1 Mean	Pit 1 95th %	Pit 2 Mean	Pit 2 95th %	Pit 3 Mean	Pit 3 95th %	Pit 4 Mean	Pit 4 95th %
Ra-226	0.090	0.367	0.021	0.032	0.021	0.034	0.197	0.585
Ra-228	0.004	0.013	0.005	0.006	0.004	0.011	0.251	1.003
Th-228	0.004	0.011	0.004	0.006	0.006	0.010	0.326	1.508
Th-232 ^a	0.006	0.016	0.006	0.009	0.009	0.016	0.326	1.545

- a. Measurements of Th-232 in Raffinate Pits 1, 2, and 3 were not used due to alpha peak interference from Th-230 (DOE 1989, p. 75). Th-232 was calculated assuming that Th-228 was in 65% equilibrium, except for Pit 4 where reliable measurements were available.

The mean values in Table 5-20 represent the amount of each isotope that, as a fraction of ²³⁰Th, an employee would have been exposed to over the long term. It is unlikely that any employee would have been continuously exposed to fractions greater than the 95th percentile. Therefore, the 95th percentile of the ratios to ²³⁰Th in Table 5-20 can be used to bound the intakes from the other potentially important radionuclides. The data for Pit 4 were not used in this analysis because natural thorium wastes were deposited there. The activity concentrations for the uranium decay products and impurities were determined by multiplying the 95th-percentile ratios in Table 5-20 by their corresponding ²³⁰Th concentration value for Pits 1, 2, and 3 in Table 5-21.

Table 5-21. Intakes of uranium decay products and other impurities (nCi/mg U) based on raffinate pit measurements.

Isotope	Intakes based on Pit 1	Intakes based on Pit 2	Intakes based on Pit 3	Bounding intakes ^a
Pb-210 ^b	0.125	0.007	0.011	0.125
Po-210 ^b	0.125	0.007	0.011	0.125
Ra-226	0.125	0.007	0.011	0.125
Ra-228	0.005	0.002	0.002	0.005
Th-228	0.004	0.001	0.002	0.004
Th-230 ^c	0.340	0.340	0.340	0.340
Th-232	0.006	0.002	0.003	0.006

- a. Indicates the higher value of intakes based on Pits 1, 2, and 3.
b. Measurements assumed to be equal to the intake of Ra-226.
c. Th-230 is assumed to be equal to the U-234 activity, or one-half the total NU activity.

Because site-specific particle size data are not available, the default value of 5- μm AMAD should be used.

If the absorption type of the uranium to which the worker was exposed cannot be discerned from the data in the worker's file, the DR should use the absorption type that is the most favorable to the claimant.

5.6.1.2 Thorium-232 Intakes

No quantitative in vitro bioassay results have been found for thorium (Sections 5.3.1.2 and 5.4.1). Late in the thorium processing period, a limited amount of in vivo counting was performed. The in vivo data should be considered if available. However, dust studies for thorium operations were routine (MCW 1966; see Section 5.5.1.4 and Appendix A). The dust studies are presented in terms of DWAs. The data provide a clear picture of when (on a monthly timeframe) and where thorium processing and packaging operations occurred. The original air sampling data MCW used to generate the DWA value for each job have not been found, so an alternate approach to characterizing the variability of the exposure in the workplace is necessary. Using AWE data, Davis and Strom (2008) demonstrated that the point estimate DWA value will favorably characterize the exposure potential by assuming that the DWA value is the arithmetic mean of a lognormal distribution with a geometric standard deviation (GSD) of 5. Air concentrations for each thorium operation are obtained from DWA summary tables (Attachment A). Therefore, for example, in March 1965 the DWA value that is assumed to represent the arithmetic mean (AM) of exposure to thorium workers performing the task "Oven drying ThO₂ sol-pan transfer" was 3 alpha dpm/m³. It is assumed that the reported DWA value is the AM from a lognormal distribution with a GSD of 5. Equation 2 from Strom and Stansbury (2000) defines the relationship between GSD and σ :

$$\sigma = \ln(\text{GSD}) \quad (5-2)$$

where σ is the standard deviation of the natural logarithm of the observations in a lognormal distribution. Equation 13 from Strom and Stansbury (2000) is used to compute the median, which is equal to the GM in a lognormal distribution:

$$GM = AM \times e^{-\sigma^2/2} \quad (5-3)$$

Table 2-2 in BT (2007) and Table 1 in Strom and Stansbury (2000) includes the following formula for μ the natural logarithm of the GM:

$$\mu = \ln(GM) \quad (5-4)$$

Equation 5 in BT (2007) defines the 95th-percentile value of the lognormal distribution:

$$95^{\text{th}} \text{ percentile} = e^{(\mu+1.645\sigma)} \quad (5-5)$$

Therefore, a lognormal distribution with AM = 3 and GSD = 5 has a GM of 0.82 and a 95th-percentile value of 11.6 alpha dpm/m³.

Inhalation intake rates based on the median and 95th-percentile DWA ²³²Th air concentrations (calculated using the above equations and the DWA values from Attachment A) were calculated assuming a breathing rate of 1.2 m³/hr and an 8-hour workday. This 8-hour workday is normalized to a calendar day based on the number of workdays in a year. The number of workdays in 1963 was 43 (21 for November and 22 for December) (thorium operations began in November), there were 250

workdays in each of 1964 and 1965, and there were 195 workdays in 1966 because thorium operations ceased in September 1966. Based on guidance in NIOSH (2004) and ORAUT (2012), the ingestion intake rates in Table 5-22 were derived from the inhalation intake rates by multiplying the inhalation rate by 0.02.

Table 5-22. Thorium-232 inhalation and ingestion intake rates (Bq/yr).

Plant name and building number	Work group title and cost center	Inh. 1963	Inh. 1964	Inh. 1965	Inh. 1966	Ing. 1963	Ing. 1964	Ing. 1965	Ing. 1966
Sampling-101	Sampling-0402	0	0	125	304	0	0	2	6
	Other occupants	0	0	9	22	0	0	0	0
Refinery-103	Digest-Raffinate-0501	196	4,810	5,100	2,320	4	96	102	46
	Other occupants	14	341	360	165	0	7	7	3
Extraction-105	Extraction	0	52	0	0	0	1	0	0
	Other occupants	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Metals-301	Metals-other than Reduction 0702	47	1,010	21,550	1,595	1	20	431	32
	Other occupants	3	72	1,525	113	0	1	31	2
Scrap Plant-403	Scrap Plant-0601	645	14,700	2,535	0	13	294	51	0
	Other occupants	46	1,040	180	0	1	21	4	0
Undetermined location	Any worker not otherwise specified above whose work location is unknown	46	1,040	1525	165	1	21	31	3

The original version of this site profile cautioned that Work Unit data at Weldon Spring might not be a reliable indicator of work assignment. This caution was based on conditions that existed at the MCW Destrehan Street facility, the predecessor to WSP. An interview with a former worker established that Work Unit designation at Weldon Spring was reliable (ORAUT 2009). Therefore, the Work Unit (also called Work Group or Job Code) designation can be used as an indicator of potential thorium exposure.

The ²³²Th inhalation intake rates were calculated on a month-by-month basis for the work tasks associated with each location where thorium was processed or handled. The maximum monthly intake values were determined by facility and were then summed for each year of thorium operations (as summarized in Table 5-22). When more than one task occurred in a location during a month, the task yielding the highest intake rate was used in the calculation. Operators in work groups identified as being directly involved in the process should be assigned intakes based on the 95th-percentile value of the lognormal DWA distribution (the intake value in the top line for each group in Table 5-22) for the most highly exposed task in each plant. Other occupants of the same plant should be assigned intakes based on the 50th-percentile value, which is the intake value in the bottom line for each group in Table 5-22. For workers in job categories who might have been exposed but whose locations cannot be reliably established, for example maintenance or janitorial services, an intake rate based on the 50th-percentile inhalation value for the plant yielding the highest intake value during that year is recommended. For example, the highest median value (50th percentile) for 1963 is 46 Bq/yr from the Scrap Plant. Workers with undetermined work locations would be assigned an inhalation intake of 46 Bq/yr ²³²Th and an ingestion intake of 1 Bq/yr ²³²Th for 1963. Thorium-228 should be assumed to be in equilibrium with ²³²Th, so the activities of ²²⁸Th are equal to the ²³²Th activities in Table 5-20. Radium-228, which is a beta emitter and would not have been detected from alpha analysis of an air sample, is added at a ratio of 1-to-2 ²³²Th-to-²²⁸Ra (NIOSH 2010b, p. 57). For operational periods before or after the time frame of Table 5-22, no occupational internal dose from ²³²Th is recommended.

It is appropriate to recognize that the DWA data often are annotated with statements indicating that airline or half-mask respiratory protection equipment was used or prescribed in some of the thorium operations. For purposes of calculating the ²³²Th intake rates, the use of respiratory protection is ignored because the quality of the respiratory protection equipment and diligence in the use of the

equipment cannot be established. Nevertheless, the routine use of respiratory protection equipment during thorium operations suggests that the thorium intake rates are quite likely to be favorable to claimants.

For workers not in these buildings or professions during this period, thorium intakes should be assessed as environmental intakes in accordance with ORAUT-TKBS-0028-4 (ORAUT 2017c) unless there is information in the worker's file that indicates involvement in thorium operations.

5.6.1.3 Intakes of Other Radionuclides

The annual median environmental radon concentrations for the WSP, WSRP, and WSQ are provided in Table 4-2 of ORAUT-TKBS-0028-4 (ORAUT 2017c). The maximum sitewide annual median exposures to radon decay products, by year, are provided in Table 4-3 of that document. These estimates are based on environmental radon gas releases. The calculation in ORAUT-TKBS-0028-4 was based on the assumption that all radon gas from decay of ^{226}Ra was released during processing. There are no personal dosimetry data or air concentration measurements available for radon in the WSP during the operational period.

5.6.1.3.1 Radon

Weldon Spring Historical Dose Estimate states that the prime source of radon emissions was the acid recovery plant (Meshkov et al. 1986, p. 47). The ^{222}Rn activity released annually was estimated to be 34 Ci/yr (Meshkov et al. 1986, pp. 47–48), and this was assumed to be released from Building 103 ventilation stacks. However, the radon released to the environment and present in the area would have been drawn back into the building through the ventilation systems. Under those circumstances, the radon concentration inside the building would have been approximately equal to the radon concentration outdoors. The ^{222}Rn equilibrium concentration was calculated by dividing the radon influx (^{222}Rn activity/pCi/hr) by the product of the number of air changes per hour and the volume of the ventilated area. Using the Building 103 volume of $2.6 \times 10^4 \text{ m}^3$ ($2.6 \times 10^7 \text{ L}$) and 1 air change per hour, the ^{222}Rn equilibrium concentration was calculated to be 150 pCi/L. A working level (WL) is defined as 100 pCi/L ^{222}Rn in full equilibrium with its short-lived alpha-emitting progeny. However, because full equilibrium is never achieved in occupied spaces, a favorable to claimant indoor equilibrium factor of 0.7 is assumed (NIOSH 2012, pp. 114–115). Using the number of work hours in a month of 170 in defining the working level-month (WLM) and a 2,000-hour working year, the estimated annual exposure was calculated to be 12.4 WLM/yr for 100% occupancy for 2,000 hr/yr as shown in this equation:

$$\frac{\text{WLM}}{\text{yr}} = 150 \frac{\text{pCi}}{\text{L}} \times \frac{\text{L} \cdot \text{WL}}{100 \text{ pCi}} \times \frac{\text{M}}{170 \text{ hr}} \times \frac{2,000 \text{ hr}}{\text{yr}} \times 0.7 = 12.4 \quad (5-6)$$

5.6.1.3.2 Thoron

As described in Section 5.2.3, there are several aspects of the release and buildup of the progeny that mitigate the exposure to thoron in process and storage configurations.

From November 1963 through September 1966, natural thorium was processed on an intermittent batch basis in the refinery and oxide production and firing systems at WSP. Therefore, the evaluation of operational exposures to thoron at Weldon Spring is confined to those years. During 1966 (the maximum production year), WSP processed approximately 100,000 kg of thorium per month for 6 months, or up to 5,000 kg of ^{232}Th per day. Typical thorium processing at other facilities averaged <1,000 kg of thorium per day. NIOSH recognizes that the thorium processing was not continuous, but rather was operated more on a batch basis. Given the specific activity of thoron in thorium feed materials, and assuming the feed materials were received with at least a 1-year delay since

processing, it is possible to calculate the amount of thoron in process per day (approximately 0.35 Ci thoron [2]) during the period of the maximum production rate. By assuming a conservative equilibrium factor for a plant configuration with large buildings and engineered ventilation (0.02) [3], it is possible to determine the concentration of thoron and its progeny to achieve 1 WL. The release fraction of the thoron from thorium can be calculated by comparing the particulate thorium in the working environment of the process equipment to the inventory amounts in process. The thoron releases are expected to be less than the particulate materials, because the gaseous state is more easily captured by ventilation systems.

As discussed in Section 5.2.1.6, potential exposure to thoron is mitigated by several factors including its very short half-life (with the resulting limitations on the diffusion distance within the material matrix) and the effective shielding provided by the thorium processing apparatus. Therefore, thoron is not a potential source of exposure to be broadly accounted for across the evaluated class of Weldon Spring workers. Using the distribution of values in Table 5-21, the 50th and 95th percentiles of the DWAs were estimated as 21 and 250 alpha dpm/m³, respectively, over the entire thorium processing period. Assuming this activity consisted solely of ²³²Th, ²²⁸Th, and ²²⁴Ra, release fractions for particulates of approximately 7.6 × 10⁻⁷ and 9.0 × 10⁻⁶ were calculated for the 50th and 95th percentiles, respectively. As discussed previously, these are conservative estimates for the thoron gas, which is more easily captured by ventilation. A volume of 100,000 ft³ (100 by 100 by 10 ft) was assumed for the processing area [4]. Using the equilibrium factor of 0.02, estimates of 2.9 × 10⁻³ and 3.5 × 10⁻² WLM/yr for the thoron progeny were obtained for the 50th and 95th percentiles, respectively. These are conservative because they are based on the peak production rate of 5,000 kg ²³²Th per day. If it appears that a worker was occasionally or routinely exposed to thorium operations, DRs should apply these values to the 3-year period of thorium processing.

5.6.1.3.3 Recycled Uranium

Starting in 1961, RU components should be added to uranium intakes. Intakes are assigned by applying the ratios in Table 5-23 (ratio to uranium mass) or Table 5-24 (ratio to uranium activity) to the calculated uranium intakes. These values are based on Table 5-10 of ORAUT (2017b), using only the values associated with the 1961–1972 column because no other value is applicable to WSP. The selected material types for RU contaminants should be assigned using the direction in ORAUT-OTIB-0060, *Internal Dose Reconstruction* (ORAUT 2014a). The contaminants should be added to all uranium intakes regardless of monitoring method (urine, chest counts, BZA samples, etc.).

Table 5-23. RU contaminant intakes per unit mass of uranium (Bq/g U).

Radionuclide	1961–1962	1963–1965	1966–1975	1976–1985	1986–2002
Uranium	2.53E+04	3.60E+04	3.60E+04	3.60E+04	3.60E+04
Pu-alpha ^a	2.96E+01	2.96E+01	2.93E+01	2.90E+01	2.89E+01
Pu-241	3.05E+02	3.05E+02	1.88E+02	1.17E+02	7.22E+01
Am-241	1.96E-02	1.96E-02	3.85E+00	6.14E+00	7.51E+00
Np-237	1.02E+01	1.02E+01	1.02E+01	1.02E+01	1.02E+01
Tc-99	3.77E+03	3.77E+03	3.77E+03	3.77E+03	3.77E+03
Th-232	4.07E-02	4.07E-02	4.07E-02	4.07E-02	4.07E-02
Th-228	2.85E-02	2.85E-02	2.85E-02	2.85E-02	2.85E-02
Ru-103/106 ^b	4.08E+03	4.08E+03	4.08E+03	4.08E+03	4.08E+03
Zr-95	6.12E+02	6.12E+02	6.12E+02	6.12E+02	6.12E+02
Nb-95	6.12E+02	6.12E+02	6.12E+02	6.12E+02	6.12E+02
Sr-90	1.63E+02	1.63E+02	1.63E+02	1.63E+02	1.63E+02

- The plutonium alpha mixture is assessed as 100% Pu-239. Am-241 and Pu-241 are assessed based on 6% weapons-grade plutonium mixture.
- Ru-103/106 is assumed to be 100% Ru-106 due to its longer half-life.

Table 5-24. RU contaminant intakes per unit activity of uranium (Bq/Bq U).

Radionuclide	1961–1962	1963–1965	1966–1975	1976–1985	1986–2002
Uranium	1.00E+00	1.00E+00	1.00E+00	1.00E+00	1.00E+00
Pu–alpha ^a	1.17E–03	8.21E–04	8.14E–04	8.07E–04	8.02E–04
Pu–241	1.21E–02	8.47E–03	5.23E–03	3.24E–03	2.00E–03
Am–241	7.76E–07	5.45E–07	1.07E–04	1.71E–04	2.09E–04
Np–237	4.04E–04	2.84E–04	2.84E–04	2.84E–04	2.84E–04
Tc–99	1.49E–01	1.05E–01	1.05E–01	1.05E–01	1.05E–01
Th–232	1.61E–06	1.13E–06	1.13E–06	1.13E–06	1.13E–06
Th–228	1.13E–06	7.91E–07	7.91E–07	7.91E–07	7.91E–07
Ru–103/106 ^b	1.61E–01	1.13E–01	1.13E–01	1.13E–01	1.13E–01
Zr–95	2.42E–02	1.70E–02	1.70E–02	1.70E–02	1.70E–02
Nb–95	2.42E–02	1.70E–02	1.70E–02	1.70E–02	1.70E–02
Sr–90	6.46E–03	4.53E–03	4.53E–03	4.53E–03	4.53E–03

- a. The plutonium alpha mixture is assessed as 100% Pu-239. Am-241 and Pu-241 are assessed based on 6% weapons-grade plutonium mixture.
- b. Ru-103/106 is assumed to be 100% Ru-106 due to its longer half-life.

5.6.2 Environmental Monitoring Period, 1975 to 1984

All intakes in this period should be assessed as environmental intakes in accordance with the environmental dose TBD (ORAUT 2017c).

5.6.3 Remediation Period, 1985 to 2002

Because WSSRAP conducted an extensive, state-of-the-art internal dosimetry program during remediation to detect and evaluate intakes of 100 mrem CEDE or more for “all occupational radionuclide intakes in a year (other than radon, thoron, and their progeny)” (DOE 2001b, p. 36), it is reasonable to expect a worker’s file to contain a detailed report of the pertinent data used for the assessment. It is also reasonable to expect the data will be self-explanatory and can be used by the DR as found. If necessary, a detailed description of the internal dosimetry program is available in the revisions of the WSSRAP technical basis manuals (DOE 1991, 1994, 1997, 1998a, 1998b, 1998c, 2000a, 2001b).

In addition to assessing specific intakes, the DR should assess the environmental intakes in accordance with the environmental dose TBD (ORAUT 2017c).

5.7 SUMMARY OF INSTRUCTIONS TO DOSE RECONSTRUCTORS

Table 5-25. Instructions to DRs.

Operational period, 1957 to 1966	
Intake	Data/Information to be used
U-234, U-235, U-238	Primary: Individual uranium bioassay data. Supplemental: Workgroup data (Tables 5-8 through 5-17). Default isotopic assumptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NU, before 1961; • NU, recycled, 1961 to 1962; • EU (1%), recycled, 1963 to 1966, specific activity of 0.973 pCi/μg; and • RU contaminants (see Section 5.2.4 and 5.6.1.3.3).
Uranium impurities and decay products (less radon)	Building 101, Building 103, Building 105 before separations: assigned based on uranium bioassay (Table 5-21). Others: NA, assume pure uranium after separations.
Thorium (Th-232 and Th-228) and Ra-228 (1963–1966)	Use calculated intake rates based on DWA estimates for workers involved in thorium processing (Table 5-22). Th-228 activity equal to Th-232 activity. Ra-228 activity equal to two times Th-232 activity.
Radon	12.4 WLM/yr for 100% occupancy for 2,000 hours.
Thoron (1963–1966)	2.9E-03 and 3.5E-02 WLM/yr, for 50th and 95th percentiles, respectively.

Environmental monitoring period, 1975 to 1984

Intake	Data/Information to be used
Any	All intakes in this period should be assessed as environmental intakes using ORAUT-TKBS-0028-4 (ORAUT 2017c).

Remediation period, 1985 to 2002

Intake	Data/Information to be used
Any	The worker's file will contain a detailed report of the pertinent data to be used for assessment of specific intakes. Environmental intakes should also be assigned using ORAUT-TKBS-0028-4 (ORAUT 2017c).

5.8 ATTRIBUTIONS AND ANNOTATIONS

Where appropriate in this document, bracketed callouts have been inserted to indicate information, conclusions, and recommendations provided to assist in the process of worker dose reconstruction. These callouts are listed here in the Attributions and Annotations section, with information to identify the source and justification for each associated item. Conventional References, which are provided in the next section of this document, link data, quotations, and other information to documents available for review on the Project's Site Research Database (SRDB).

- [1] Rich, Bryce. Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) Team. Health Physicist. August 2010.
This statement is based on experience.
- [2] Potter, Eugene. ORAU Team. Health Physicist. August 2010.
This statement assumes equilibrium with ²²⁸Th, which is in 65% equilibrium with ²³²Th.

- [3] Rich, Bryce. ORAU Team. Health Physicist. August 2010.
This statement is based on experience.

- [4] Potter, Eugene. ORAU Team. Health Physicist. August 2010.
This is a reasonable estimate for the size of the processing area.

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GLOSSARY

absorption type

Categories for materials according to their rates of absorption from the respiratory tract to the blood, which replaced the earlier inhalation clearance classes. Defined by the International Commission on Radiological Protection, the absorption types are F: deposited materials that are readily absorbed into blood from the respiratory tract (fast solubilization), M: deposited materials that have intermediate rates of absorption into blood from the respiratory tract (moderate rate of solubilization), and S: deposited materials that are relatively insoluble in the respiratory tract (slow solubilization).

activity median aerodynamic diameter (AMAD)

Diameter of a unit density sphere with the same terminal settling velocity in air as that of the aerosol particle whose activity is the median for the entire aerosol.

acute exposure

Radiation exposure to the body delivered in a short period. See *chronic exposure*.

becquerel (Bq)

International System unit of radioactivity equal to 1 disintegration per second; 1 curie equals 37 billion (3.7×10^{10}) Bq.

bioassay

Measurement of amount or concentration of radionuclide material in the body (in vivo measurement) or in biological material excreted or removed from the body (in vitro measurement) and analyzed for purposes of estimating the quantity of radioactive material in the body. Also called radiobioassay.

bioassay procedure

Procedure used to determine the kind, quantity, location, and retention of radionuclides in the body by direct (in vivo) measurements or by analysis of material excreted or removed from the body (in vitro).

body burden

Amount of radioactive material in an individual's body at a particular point in time.

chronic exposure

Radiation dose to the body delivered in small amounts over a long period (e.g., days or years). See *acute exposure*.

curie (Ci)

Traditional unit of radioactivity equal to 37 billion (3.7×10^{10}) becquerels, which is approximately equal to the activity of 1 gram of pure ^{226}Ra .

depleted uranium (DU)

Uranium with a percentage of ^{235}U lower than the 0.7% found in natural uranium.

dose

In general, the specific amount of energy from ionizing radiation that is absorbed per unit of mass. Effective and equivalent doses are in units of rem or sievert; other types of dose are in units of rad, rep, or grays.

dose equivalent

In units of rem or sievert, product of absorbed dose in tissue multiplied by a weighting factor and sometimes by other modifying factors to account for the potential for a biological effect from the absorbed dose. See *dose*.

dosimetry

Measurement and calculation of internal and external radiation doses.

enriched uranium (EU)

Uranium in which processing has increased the proportion of ^{235}U to ^{238}U to above the natural level of 0.7% by mass. Reactor-grade uranium is usually about 3.5% ^{235}U ; weapons-grade uranium contains greater than 90% ^{235}U .

exposure

(1) In general, the act of being exposed to ionizing radiation; see *acute exposure* and *chronic exposure*. (2) Measure of the ionization produced by X- and gamma-ray photons in air in units of roentgens.

inhalation class

Former respiratory tract inhalation classification scheme developed by the International Council on Radiological Protection for inhaled material according to its rate of clearance from the pulmonary region of the lung. Materials were classified as D (days, half-life less than 10 days), W (weeks, 10 to 100 days), or Y (years, more than 100 days). See *absorption type*, which superseded this concept.

insoluble

Having very low solubility. No material is absolutely insoluble. See *absorption type*.

intake

Radioactive material taken into the body by inhalation, absorption through the skin, injection, ingestion, or through wounds.

internal dose

Dose received from radioactive material in the body.

internal dose assessment

Estimation of an intake of radioactive material and the consequent radiation dose based on bioassay or other measurements in the work environment.

in vitro bioassay

Measurements to determine the presence of or to estimate the amount of radioactive material in the excreta or in other biological materials removed from the body.

in vivo bioassay

Measurements of radioactive material in the human body using instrumentation that detects radiation emitted from the radioactive material in the body.

ionizing radiation

Radiation of high enough energy to remove an electron from a struck atom and leave behind a positively charged ion. High enough doses of ionizing radiation can cause cellular damage. Ionizing particles include alpha particles, beta particles, gamma rays, X-rays, neutrons, high-speed electrons, high-speed protons, photoelectrons, Compton electrons, positron/negatron pairs from photon radiation, and scattered nuclei from fast neutrons.

isotope

One of two or more atoms of a particular element that have the same number of protons (atomic number) but different numbers of neutrons in their nuclei (e.g., ^{234}U , ^{235}U , and ^{238}U). Isotopes have very nearly the same chemical properties.

lung solubility type

See *absorption type*.

minimum detectable activity or amount (MDA)

Smallest amount (activity or mass) of an analyte in a sample that can be detected with a probability β of nondetection (Type II error) while accepting a probability α of erroneously deciding that a positive (nonzero) quantity of analyte is present in an appropriate blank sample (Type I error).

minimum detectable concentration (MDC)

Minimum detectable activity (or amount) in units of concentration. See *minimum detectable activity*.

monitoring

Periodic or continuous determination of the presence or amount of ionizing radiation or radioactive contamination in air, surface water, groundwater, soil, sediment, equipment surfaces, or personnel (for example, bioassay or alpha scans). In relation to personnel, monitoring includes internal and external dosimetry including interpretation of the measurements.

natural uranium (NU)

Uranium as found in nature, approximately 99.27% ^{238}U , 0.72% ^{235}U , and 0.0054% ^{234}U by mass. The specific activity of this mixture is 2.6×10^7 becquerel per kilogram (0.7 microcuries per gram).

occupational dose

Internal and external ionizing radiation dose from exposure during employment. Occupational dose does not include that from background radiation or medical diagnostics, research, or treatment, but does include dose from occupationally required radiographic examinations that were part of medical screening.

rad

Traditional unit for expressing absorbed radiation dose, which is the amount of energy from any type of ionizing radiation deposited in any medium. A dose of 1 rad is equivalent to the absorption of 100 ergs per gram (0.01 joules per kilogram) of absorbing tissue. The rad has been replaced by the gray in the International System of Units (100 rads = 1 gray). The word derives from radiation absorbed dose.

rem

Traditional unit of radiation dose equivalent that indicates the biological damage caused by radiation equivalent to that caused by 1 rad of high-penetration X-rays multiplied by a quality factor. The sievert is the International System unit; 1 rem equals 0.01 sievert. The word derives from roentgen equivalent in man; rem is also the plural.

routine monitoring

Monitoring carried out at regular intervals during normal operations.

working level (WL)

Unit of concentration in air of the short-lived decay products of ^{222}Rn (^{218}Po , ^{214}Pb , ^{214}Bi , and ^{214}Po) and ^{220}Rn (^{216}Po , ^{212}Pb , ^{212}Bi , ^{212}Po) defined as any combination of the short-lived radioactive progeny of radon or thoron in 1 liter of air, without regard to the degree of equilibrium, that results in the ultimate emission of 1.30×10^5 megaelectron-volts of alpha energy; 1 working level equals 2.083×10^{-5} joules per cubic meter.

working level month (WLM)

Unit of exposure to radon progeny defined as exposure for 1 working month (170 working hours) to a potential alpha energy concentration of 1 working level; 1 working level month equals 1 working level times 170 hours, which is 0.00354 joule-hours per cubic meter.

**ATTACHMENT A
DUST CONCENTRATIONS FOR THORIUM PRODUCTION JOBS**

Table A-1. DWA dust concentrations for thorium production jobs (alpha dpm/m³).^a

**Sampling Plant, Building 101, extracted Th-natural,
Sampling work group, cost center^b 0402**

Job description^c	Period^d	Workers per day	1963	1964	1965	1966	Notes
Oven drying ThO ₂ sol-pan transfer	Mar 1965	2	N/A	N/A	3	N/A	Test date: Mar 30, 1965. Five ovens operated on a 24-hour cycle at 400 lb/oven. Experimental, intermittent operation.
Oven drying ThO ₂ sol-vacuum unload	Aug 1965	2	N/A	N/A	16	N/A	Test date: Aug 9, 1965. Experimental, intermittent operation.
Repackaging ThO ₂ feeds for digestion-drum dumping	Apr–Aug 1966	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	9	Total project operating time estimated at 1 week or 10 shifts intermittent operation.
Repackaging ThO ₂ feeds for digestion-hopper packaging	Apr–Aug 1966	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	Total project operating time estimated at 1 week or 10 shifts.
Repackaging ThO ₂ feeds for digestion-outgoing drum conveyor	Apr–Aug 1966	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	7	Total project operating time estimated at 1 week or 10 shifts (empty drums).

**Refinery, Building 103, extracted and reextracted Th-232 and progeny,
Digest-Raffinate work group, cost center 0501**

Job description^c	Period^d	Workers per day	1963	1964	1965	1966	Notes
Hopper feed & digestion	Apr–May 1966	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	Test date: Apr 22, 1966. One hopper (15,000 pounds) made 1 tank batch, 20,000 lb/d product on first cycle; recycle is liquid feed.
Raffinate treatment & disposal	May–Sep 1966	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	None.
Misc. digestion of drummed scrap-wet feed	May–Sep 1966	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	4	Test date: May 3, 1966. Material was damp to wet; floor sweepings were used as feed. Nonroutine job.

**ATTACHMENT A
DUST CONCENTRATIONS FOR THORIUM PRODUCTION JOBS (continued)**

**Refinery Pot Room, Building 103, extracted Th-natural,
Pot Room work group, cost center 0502^e**

Job description^c	Period^d	Workers per day	1963	1964	1965	1966	Notes
Pot denitration & sol drying-hand transfers	Nov–Dec 1963; May–Aug 1964	6	88	88	N/A	N/A	Test dates: Nov 1963 and May 1964. Airline masks used to enter pot sections.
Pot denitration (crystals) & sol drying-vacuum unload	Aug–Dec 1964	6	N/A	60	N/A	N/A	Test samplings for vacuuming and packaging collected from Sep 1964 to Oct 1965. Airline masks prescribed for entrance into pot or packaging sections. Small crucibles packaged.
Pot denitration (liquor) & sol drying-vacuum unload	Jan–Aug 1965	6	N/A	N/A	48	N/A	Airline masks prescribed for packaging and unloading; half-face dust respirators (Comfo) for misc. attending duties in pot sections. Small crucibles packaged.
Sol drying (fluid bed sol)-vacuum unload	Aug 1965–Jan 1966; Jun–Sep 1966	6	N/A	N/A	38	38	Packaging in small crucibles (500 lb). Comfo respirators prescribed in pot sections.
Pot denitration-hand unload & bucket dump to sol tank	Oct–Nov 1965	6	N/A	N/A	144	N/A	Pot denitration used for special project and to maintain production at scheduled rate when fluid bed was down. Airline masks prescribed for dumping and scooping. Comfo respirators were used for vacuuming and packaging activities.
Pot denitration & sol drying-hand transfers	Nov–Dec 1963; May–Aug 1964	6	88	88	N/A	N/A	Test dates: Nov 1963 and May 1964. Airline masks used to enter pot sections.
ThO ₂ repackaging-multi-purpose hood	Aug 1964	2	N/A	260	N/A	N/A	Short-term operation. Airline masks used in hood.
DWA index for the Pot room work group	Apr 1964–Dec 1965	N/A	N/A	78	50	N/A	For Apr-Dec 1964, approximately 45% of the effort (manpower) was on thorium jobs. For 1965, approximately 50% of the effort was on thorium jobs. Results are yearly indices and represent DWAs for 3 job titles.

**ATTACHMENT A
DUST CONCENTRATIONS FOR THORIUM PRODUCTION JOBS (continued)**

**Extraction Plant, Building 105, extracted Th and Th-232 progeny,
Extraction work group, no cost center code**

Job description^c	Period^d	Workers per day	1963	1964	1965	1966	Notes
Pumper decanter, pulse column, strippers, and NOK (product liquor)	Jun-Sep 1966	9	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	None

**Metals Plant, Building 301, extracted Th-natural,
Metals-other than Reduction work group, cost center 0702**

Job description^c	Period^d	Workers per day	1963	1964	1965	1966	Notes
High-firing 1,000 lb crucibles at recast (furnace)	Nov-Dec 1963; May-Sep 1964	6	21	21	N/A	N/A	Test dates included Dec 1963, May 1964, and Oct 1964. Airline masks used for entrance into enclosure for thermocouple change and inspection; operation performed 7 days/week.
TNT repackaging	Oct-Dec 1964	2	N/A	3	N/A	N/A	Test date: Oct 5, 1964. For part of this period, crushing was done externally by electric grabs and transferred to the refinery without repacking TNT.
High-firing 500 lb crucibles in billet heaters	Sep 1964-Jan 1966; Jun-Sep 1966	3	N/A	11	11	11	Test date Nov 4, 1964. Four heaters were installed, each handling a 500-lb crucible on a 24-hour cycle.
Repackaging ThO ₂ in recast enclosure	Oct-Dec 1965; Jan 1966; Jun-Sep 1966	2	N/A	N/A	2060 (55)	55	The DWA result of 2,060 dpm/m ³ is for Oct 1965; airline masks and cover clothing were used inside the transfer enclosure, which exhausted to the dust collector. Test dates: Sep 16, 1965 (experimental batch) and Sep 27, 1965; improvements were recommended. The DWA result of 55 dpm/m ³ is for Nov 1965 and later. Test dates: Feb 24, 1966 and Jul 14, 1966. Airline masks were used for all scooping operations.

**ATTACHMENT A
DUST CONCENTRATIONS FOR THORIUM PRODUCTION JOBS (continued)**

Job description^c	Period^d	Workers per day	1963	1964	1965	1966	Notes
Kiln calcining of NLO sump cake	Apr–Jul 1966	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	20	Test dates: Apr 21, 1966; Jun 8–9, 1966. Comfo (MSA) dust respirators used on dumping platform and at packaging stations. Feed was normally wet, ranging from damp to a surface water layer.
DWA index for the Metals (other than Reduction) work group	May 1964–Dec 1965	N/A	N/A	17	113	N/A	For 1964, approximately 50% of the (manpower) effort was on thorium jobs, but none (on thorium) during the first 4 mo. For 1965, approximately 60% of effort was on thorium jobs. Results are yearly indices and represent DWAs for 2 to 3 job titles.

**Scrap Plant, Building 403
extracted Th-natural, Scrap Plant work group, cost center code 0601^f**

Job description^c	Period^d	Workers per day	1963	1964	1965	1966	Notes
TNT crystals-repackaging	Nov–Dec 1963; May–Sep 1964	6	15	15	N/A	N/A	Equivalent ThO ₂ production rate of 1 ton/d.
ThO ₂ repackaging-from recast crucibles	Nov–Dec 1963; May–Sep 1964	6–8	290	290	N/A	N/A	After Sep 1964, smaller crucibles were used. Airline masks were used on all scooping operations; operations conducted inside multi-purpose walk-in hoods. Exhaust was filtered by auto-air-mat (paper rolls). Manpower for 1964 was variable (5 in May to 15 in Jul); normal manpower was 6 to 8. ThO ₂ repackaging included screening, blending, and product packaging.
ThO ₂ repackaging-from billet heater crucibles	Sep 1964–Oct 1965	4	N/A	20	20	N/A	Test date: May 24, 1965. Airline masks used on all scooping operations. Shallow crucibles could be scooped with breathing zone more distant from the opening than with recast crucibles (lower concentrations observed). Long-handled scoops were used in the blender drum.

**ATTACHMENT A
DUST CONCENTRATIONS FOR THORIUM PRODUCTION JOBS (continued)**

Job description^c	Period^d	Workers per day	1963	1964	1965	1966	Notes
Fluid bed denitration-product to drums	May–Jul 1965	6	N/A	N/A	44	N/A	Test date Jun 1965. Experimental use of NLO liquor during May.
Fluid bed denitration-wet feed & product	Aug 1965–Jan 1966; Jun–Sep 1966	6	N/A	N/A	29	29	Liquor feed and sol product at 1 ton/d production rate.
DWA index for Scrap Plant work group	Nov 1963–Dec 1965	N/A	180	117	28	N/A	The 1963 index was for a 6-man group (Nov-Dec) with 17% of manpower on thorium. The 1964 index was for a 6-man group with 60% of manpower on thorium. The 1965 index was for a 12-man group (Jan-Jun) and a 6-man group (Jul-Dec) with 80% of manpower on thorium. Results are yearly indices and represent DWAs for 2 to 3 job titles.

- a. N/A = not applicable.
- b. Cost center refers to an employer charge code. Cost center codes are published in some TBDs and can be used to identify employee work areas.
- c. Job Title is the term used in the referenced report; this term more accurately represents a task description rather than an employee job title.
- d. Period was recorded from the air sampling data sheets and was estimated if date ranges were incomplete.
- e. Manpower in this group ranged from 18 to 21 workers during 1963 through 1965; base production rate of ThO₂ was 1 ton/d.
- f. Average production rate of ThO₂ was 1 ton/d.