

# 11 POTABLE WATER

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## POTABLE WATER MONITORING

<b>DQO START DATE</b>	January 1, 2003
<b>REVISION NUMBER/DATE</b>	Rev. 4, November 30, 2007
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### SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES

There is one proposed change to the potable water monitoring program planned for 2008. Granular activated carbon vessels installed at Wells 10, 11, and 12 are no longer needed and are in the process of being disconnected. Once disconnection is complete, quarterly sampling for VOCs will include collection of raw water samples only. Years of data showing no significant impact of volatile compounds on groundwater quality enabled these systems to be disconnected. However, due to possible regulatory changes, compliance sampling requirements may change in 2008. Any changes will be incorporated into this plan when received.

### DESCRIPTION AND TECHNICAL BASIS

BNL maintains six potable water wells, a water treatment plant, and a distribution system to supply drinking water and water for heating and cooling purposes. In doing so, the Laboratory is considered a public water supplier and must meet the requirements of the SDWA. The laboratory's six potable wells are screened in the mid Upper Glacial aquifer. This EPA-designated sole source aquifer is susceptible to contamination. The quality of the water supply is protected through (1) a comprehensive program of engineered and operational controls of existing aquifer contamination and potential sources of new contamination, (2) groundwater monitoring, and (3) potable water treatment and monitoring. The Laboratory has enacted a monitoring program to demonstrate compliance with the SDWA regulations under the guidance of the SCDHS. The objective of the potable water compliance monitoring efforts is to ensure that the concentrations of regulated contaminants present in the domestic water system are less than the maximum contaminant levels specified by regulation. Monitoring is conducted at the supply wellheads, the water treatment plant, and within the distribution system.

BNL's Source Water Assessment concluded that the Upper Glacial aquifer at BNL is susceptible to contamination. A number of potential sources of groundwater contamination are within 2 years of travel to supply wells. In addition, some supply wells are located on the margins of existing contamination. To provide early warning of impacts to potable water supply wells, the Laboratory also conducts surveillance monitoring to discern trends in declining water quality.

### DRIVERS FOR MONITORING BEING CONDUCTED UNDER THIS PROGRAM

<u>  x  </u>	Compliance
<u>  x  </u>	Support compliance
<u>  x  </u>	Surveillance
<u>      </u>	Restoration

The SDWA establishes minimum national standards for levels of contaminants in drinking water. These standards assure that water quality is healthy and wholesome for public consumption and include primary standards (health-based) and secondary standards (aesthetics-based). The contaminants that are regulated under the primary standards include microorganisms, inorganic chemicals, synthetic organic chemicals, volatile organic chemicals, radionuclides, and disinfection byproducts. It also establishes a program for the protection of sole source aquifers and implements an underground injection control program that regulates and restricts the subsurface emplacement of fluids. Potable water system monitoring requirements are contained in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 141-149) and in the New York State Sanitary Code (10 NYCRR Part 5). Because BNL distributes domestic water to more than 25 users, the Laboratory's water supply is considered a public water system, and therefore must meet the performance and monitoring requirements specified by the SDWA and follow corresponding state regulations. These requirements include specific chemical and radiological monitoring and the enforcement of a strict cross connection control program. The SDWA requirements are implemented at the state level by NYSDOH and locally by SCDHS, which specifies yearly the locations and frequency of sample collection, as well as the required methods used in sample analysis.

In addition to federal and state water quality regulations, under DOE Order 5400.5, Radiation Protection of the Public and Environment, DCGs were established for radionuclides not covered by existing federal or state regulations. A DCG is the concentration of a radionuclide in air or water that, under conditions of continuous exposure for 1 year by one exposure mode (i.e., ingestion of water, submersion in air, or inhalation), would result in an effective dose equivalent of 100 mrem (1 mSv). DOE Order 5400.5 states that public water systems either operated by DOE directly or through a DOE contractor shall not cause persons consuming the water to receive an effective dose equivalent greater than 4 mrem (0.04 mSv) in a single year, which is consistent with SDWA requirements.

## **DATA QUALITY OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS**

### **Step 1: State the Problem**

To assure the quality of groundwater, the quality of drinking water during treatment and distribution, and to confirm compliance with federal and state drinking water regulations, the Laboratory performs monitoring of the BNL potable water supply.

### **Step 2: Identify the Decision**

Does the Laboratory's potable water supply comply with the federal and state drinking water standards?

Is the groundwater quality at the wellhead declining such that the Groundwater Protection Contingency Plan should be implemented?

### **Step 3: Identify Inputs to the Decision**

Inputs necessary to support the decisions in Step 2 are listed below.

- Federal and State potable water system monitoring requirements in 40 CFR 141-149 and 10 NYCRR Part 5
- NYSDEC Long Island Well Permit 1-4722-00032/00113

- BNL Annual Potable Water Sampling Plan
- SCDHS Annual Minimum Monitoring Requirements for BNL
- BNL Source Water Assessment for Drinking Water Supply Wells
- BNL Monthly Water Treatment Plant Reports
- Annual Consumer Confidence Report
- Collection and analysis of samples performed according to EPA, state, or other regulatory agency standards or guidelines
- EP Procedure O&M-WTF-006, Collection of Potable Water Samples
- Analytical results for the supply wells and distribution system

#### **Step 4: Define the Study Boundaries**

The study boundary includes the BNL supply wells, treatment systems, water treatment plant, and the distribution system. In accordance with SDWA requirements, potable water samples are collected at the wellhead, post treatment, and from the distribution system. The specific location for collecting each sample is contingent upon the type of analysis, method of water treatment, and the purpose of the sample (i.e., to assess groundwater quality or impacts of distribution system piping). Yearly requirements are developed under the guidance of SCDHS and usually exceed the sampling requirements under the SDWA. To assess source water quality, water samples are collected typically at the wellhead. Analytes assessed at the wellhead include VOCs, pesticides and synthetic organic chemicals, inorganics, and bacteriology. To assess the efficiency of water treatment systems, samples are collected immediately post treatment for VOCs and/or inorganic analysis. To ensure that the potable water is not corrosive to the BNL distribution system, that the piping system material is sound, and to ensure proper disinfection, analyses for asbestos, trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, and inorganics are conducted on water samples collected at the point of consumption.

#### **Step 5: Develop the Decision Rule**

##### Decision 1

*Does the Laboratory's potable water supply comply with the federal and state drinking water standards?*

The analytical data generated from the potable water monitoring programs are compared with the drinking water standards.

**If** the comparison shows the data to be below regulatory limits, **then** the water supply operations and monitoring continue.

**If** this comparison yields a violation of a regulatory standard, **then** stakeholders are notified and long- and short-term corrective actions are taken in accordance with the SDWA and the Groundwater Protection Contingency Plan. Additional samples will be collected as required by the drinking water regulations and an evaluation will be conducted under the Groundwater Protection Contingency Plan Subject area to determine the cause of contamination.

##### Decision 2

*Is the groundwater quality at the wellhead declining such that the Groundwater Protection Contingency Plan should be implemented?*

Analytical data generated from the potable water monitoring program will be evaluated and compared with historical levels to ensure that existing engineered and operational controls of known aquifer contamination are working correctly and to ensure potential sources of new contamination are located.

**If** this evaluation reveals that a contaminant is present at levels approaching drinking water standards, **then** an evaluation will be conducted under the BNL Groundwater Protection Contingency Plan to determine the source of the contaminant and to identify any operational controls needed to manage the groundwater contaminant.

#### **Step 6: Specify Acceptable Error Tolerances**

National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWRs, or “primary standards”) are legally enforceable standards that apply to public water systems. Primary standards protect public health by limiting the levels of contaminants in drinking water. EPA has issued drinking water standards, or Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), for more than 80 contaminants. MCLs are set based on known or anticipated adverse human health effects, the ability of various technologies to remove the contaminant, the effectiveness of the technologies, and the cost of treatment. In addition, EPA has established National Secondary Drinking Water Regulations that set nonmandatory water quality standards for 15 contaminants. EPA does not enforce these secondary maximum contaminant levels (SMCLs), but New York State does regulate some of the contaminants. They are established only as guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color, and odor. These contaminants are not considered to present a risk to human health at the SMCL.

The Laboratory’s compliance monitoring program exceeds the requirements issued by SCDHS in their oversight of the implementation of the SDWA. The Laboratory performs more analyses on a greater frequency and collects additional samples under the surveillance program to ensure the highest quality drinking water. The Laboratory should maintain this heightened sampling program, because the standards are health-based. A violation of the standards could produce adverse health effects for the Laboratory population and visitors on site, regulatory violations and fines, and well as a loss of employee, public, and regulatory confidence.

Historically the Laboratory’s drinking water has been in full compliance with the requirements of the SDWA and has not violated any maximum contaminant level standard. Some wells were shut down in the early to mid 1980s due to 1,1,1-trichloroethane (TCA) groundwater contamination. Operational controls were installed (granulated activated carbon filtration) to remove the contamination before distribution. Current monitoring of these systems has shown the levels of VOCs to be much less than the drinking water standard; consequently, the carbon filtration systems are being removed. Water removed from the western well field (wells #4, #6, and #7) has exceeded the secondary contaminant levels (aesthetic, not health-based) for color and iron, because there are naturally high levels of this element in the groundwater on Long Island. However, this water is treated at the WTP to remove the iron. After treatment, the water meets all primary and secondary standards.

#### **Step 7: Optimize the Design**

The following table summarizes the potable water monitoring programs. As discussed in Step 6, the Laboratory’s compliance monitoring program exceeds the requirements issued by SCDHS in their oversight of the implementation of the SDWA. Furthermore, BNL’s compliance monitoring program is supplemented by the surveillance program.

**TOTAL SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS COSTS FOR POTABLE WATER MONITORING PROGRAM****Annual Cost Impact Due to Proposed Change: None**

2008 POTABLE WATER COMPLIANCE MONITORING PROGRAM		
Analysis	Sampling Location	Frequency
Bacteriological	Distribution System	7 times per month
	Supply wells	1 per quarter
	Air Stripper Towers	1 per quarter
Inorganic Compounds	Distribution System	2 per year
	Supply Wells	1 per year
Nitrate/Nitrite	Distribution System	2 per year
	Supply Wells	1 per year
Asbestos	Distribution System	1 per year
Water Quality	Distribution System	1 per quarter
Principal Organic Compounds, Vinyl Chloride, and MTBE	Supply Wells	1 per quarter
	Treated Water	1 per quarter
Synthetic Organic Compounds and Pesticides	Supply Wells	2 composite samples per year
Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids	Distribution System	2 per year
Lead and Copper	Distribution System	20 samples once every three years
2008 POTABLE WATER SURVEILLANCE MONITORING PROGRAM		
Analysis	Sampling Location	Frequency
Radiological (gross alpha and beta, Sr-90, and gamma analysis)	Supply Wells	1 per quarter
Volatile Organic Compounds	Supply Wells pre- and post-GAC treatment	1 per quarter
Tritium	Supply Wells	1 per quarter

2008 POTABLE WATER MONITORING COSTS*			
Compliance Program	Frequency/Year	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Bacteriological	120 per year	\$12.50	\$1,500
Inorganic Chemicals	8 per year	\$104	\$832
Nitrate/Nitrite	8 per year	\$19	\$152
Asbestos	1 per year	\$126	\$126
Water Quality	12 per year	\$21	\$252
Principal Organic Contaminants, Vinyl Chloride, and MTBE	28 per year	\$236	\$6,608
Synthetic Organic Contaminants and Pesticides	2 per year (EPA 504, 515.1, 531.1, 547, 548, & 549)	\$614.50	\$1,229
	6 per year for (EPA 505 & 525.1)	\$420.50	\$2,523
Lead and Copper	20, once every 3 years	\$0	\$0
Radiological (gross alpha and beta, gamma analysis, and Sr-90)	24 per year	\$210	\$5,040
Tritium	24 per year	\$30	\$720
Trihalomethanes	2 per year	\$125	\$250
Haloacetic Acids	2 per year	\$100	\$200
QA/QC Costs		20%	\$3,886
<b>Compliance Program Subtotal</b>			<b>\$23,318</b>
Environmental Surveillance	Frequency/Year	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Volatile Organic Compounds	36 per year	\$80	\$2,880

Data Quality Objectives – Potable Water

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Anions	6 per year	\$30	\$180
Metals	6 per year	\$110	\$660
QA/QC Costs		20%	\$744
<b>Environmental Surveillance Program Subtotal</b>			<b>\$4,464</b>
<b>Sampling Program Costs*</b>	<b>Frequency/Year</b>	<b>Unit Cost</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
Compliance Sampling*	24 sampling events	\$277.50	\$6,660
Surveillance Monitoring	0 sampling events	\$277.50	\$0
<b>Sampling Program Subtotal</b>			<b>\$6,660</b>
<b>Potable Water Monitoring Program Total Cost</b>			<b>\$34,442</b>

\* Compliance sampling is conducted by the Plant Engineering Division except for the radiological sampling, which is completed by EWMSD. Only costs incurred by EWMSD for sampling are detailed.

See Appendix B for the monitoring program for this DQO.