

Air Quality

Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) monitors both radioactive and nonradioactive emissions at several facilities on site to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act. In addition, the Laboratory conducts ambient air monitoring to verify local air quality and assess possible environmental impacts from Laboratory operations.

During 2008, BNL facilities released a total of 2,650 curies of short-lived radioactive gases. Oxygen-15 and carbon-11 emitted from the Brookhaven Linac Isotope Producer constituted 99 percent of the site's radiological air emissions.

Since natural gas prices were comparatively lower than residual fuel prices from January through October of 2008, the Central Steam Facility used natural gas to meet most of the heating and cooling needs of the Laboratory's major facilities during this period. As a result, annual facility emissions of particulate matter and sulfur dioxide were considerably lower in 2008 than in the years 1996 and 2003 to 2005, when residual fuel satisfied more than 90 percent of BNL's major facility heating and cooling needs.

4.1 RADIOLOGICAL EMISSIONS

Federal air quality laws and DOE regulations that govern the release of airborne radioactive material include 40 CFR 61 Subpart H: National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPs)—part of the Clean Air Act (CAA), and DOE Order 5400.5, Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment. Under NESHAPs Subpart H, facilities that have the potential to deliver an annual radiation dose of greater than 0.1 mrem (1 μ Sv) to a member of the public must be continuously monitored for emissions. Facilities capable of delivering radiation doses below that limit require periodic, confirmatory monitoring. Although not required, BNL has one facility that is continuously monitored, the Brookhaven Linac Isotope Producer (BLIP). Periodic monitoring is conducted at one active facility, the Target Processing Laboratory (TPL), and one inactive facility, the High Flux Beam Reactor (HFBR). Figure 4-1 indicates the locations of these monitored facilities, and Table 4-1 presents the airborne release data from each of these facilities during 2008. Annual emissions from monitored facilities are discussed

in the following sections of this chapter. Also discussed is a fourth inactive facility, the Evaporator Facility, which was periodically monitored in past years. The associated radiation dose estimates are presented in Chapter 8, Table 8-4.

4.1.1 Brookhaven Medical Research Reactor

In August 2000, DOE announced that the Brookhaven Medical Research Reactor (BMRR) would be permanently shut down due to a reduction of research funding. Until it stopped operating in late December 2000, the BMRR was fueled with enriched uranium, moderated and cooled by “light” (ordinary) water, and was operated intermittently at power levels up to 3 MW, thermal. Air from the interior of the containment building was used to cool the neutron reflector surrounding the core of the reactor vessel. As air was drawn through the reflector, it was exposed to a neutron field, resulting in activation of the argon fraction of the air. This produced argon-41 (Ar-41), an inert, radioactive gas (half-life 1.8 hours). After passage through the reflector, the air was routed through a roughing filter and a high-efficiency



Figure 4-1. Air Emission Release Points Subject to Monitoring.

particulate air (HEPA) filter to remove any particulate matter. Charcoal filters were also used to remove radioiodines produced during the fission process. Following filtration, the air was exhausted to the atmosphere through a 150-foot stack adjacent to the reactor containment building. This air was continuously monitored for Ar-41 emissions.

After the BMRR stopped operating, continuous Ar-41 monitoring was reduced to periodic, semi-annual monitoring to confirm that radionuclide concentrations remained below detection limits. In January 2003, the remaining fuel was removed from the BMRR reactor vessel, eliminating the last significant source for radio-

nuclide emissions. The sole remaining BMRR emission source was evaporation of the cooling water, which contained the radioactive isotope tritium (H-3, half-life 12.3 years), produced by neutron activation when the BMRR operated. In January 2005, EPA approved BNL's petition to discontinue emissions monitoring at the BMRR. As a result, sample collection was stopped in 2006 and all removable radioactive materials were shipped off site to a disposal facility.

In 2008, the BMRR remained in a "cold" shutdown mode as a radiological facility. During regular periodic inspections of the facility, tritium samples were collected to quantify the tritium content in the humid air enclosed within

the facility. Tritium concentrations inside the building were very low and do not pose any dose risk.

4.1.2 High Flux Beam Reactor

When the HFBR operated, “heavy” water was used as a neutron moderator and fuel coolant. Heavy water, or D₂O, is water composed of a nonradioactive isotope of hydrogen known as deuterium. When exposed to neutron fields generated inside a reactor vessel, deuterium becomes activated and produces radioactive tritium. As a result of the transfer of fuel elements from the reactor, the spent fuel storage pool contained tritiated heavy water (HTO) from the HFBR system. In 1997, a plume of tritiated groundwater was traced back to a leak in the pool. Consequently, the HFBR was put in standby mode, the pool was pumped out, and the HTO from the pool was properly disposed of as radioactive waste. The pool was replaced with a double lined in accordance with Suffolk County Article 12 regulations (SCDHS 1993) and remained empty while the facility was in a standby mode.

The HFBR continued in standby mode until November 1999, when DOE declared that it was to be permanently shut down. Residual

Table 4-1. Airborne Radionuclide Releases from Monitored Facilities.

Facility	Nuclide	Half-Life	Ci Released
HFBR	Tritium	12.3 years	2.01E+1
BLIP	Carbon-11	20.4 minutes	8.56E+2
	Oxygen-15	122 seconds	1.77E+3
	Tritium	12.3 years	4.57E-2
TPL - Bldg. 801	Germanium-68	270.8 days	1.16E-8
	Selenium-75	119.8 days	1.36E-8
Total			2.65E+3

Notes:
 Ci = 3.7E+10 Bq
 BLIP = Brookhaven Linac Isotope Producer
 HFBR = High Flux Beam Reactor (operations were terminated in November 1999)
 TPL = Target Processing Laboratory

tritium in water in the reactor vessel and piping systems continues to diffuse into the building’s air through valve seals and other system penetrations, though emission rates are much lower than during the years of operation (Figure 4-2).

As shown in Figure 4-2, the increase in emissions in 2003 was attributed to evaporative losses when HTO remaining in the reactor core was pumped out for approved disposal. In 2004, the downward trend in emissions resumed: the

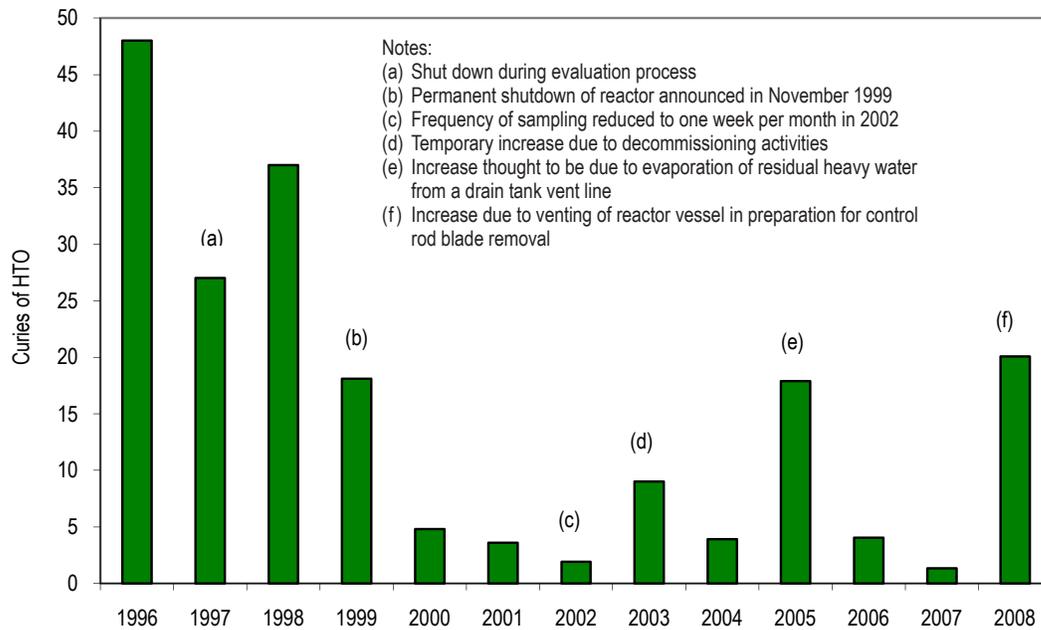


Figure 4-2. High Flux Beam Reactor Tritium Emissions, (1996–2008).

level dropped from 9.0 Ci (the 2003 value) to 3.94 Ci. In 2005, tritium emissions climbed to 17.9 Ci, apparently due to evaporation of residual heavy water through an open drain-tank vent line. In 2006, tritium emissions dropped to 4.03 Ci, a level consistent with 2004 emissions. In 2007, the downward trend continued, as tritium emissions fell to 1.33 Ci. The rise in tritium emissions in 2008 to 20.06 Ci was due to periodic venting of the reactor vessel when domestic water was added to the reactor vessel in preparation for the removal of the HFBR control rod blades. Air emissions from the HFBR facility have been monitored since 2002 via air sampling of the building at a frequency of one week per month. During the periodic venting of the reactor vessel, air sampling of the building was performed weekly.

4.1.3 Brookhaven Linac Isotope Producer

Protons from the Linear Accelerator (Linac) are sent via an underground beam tunnel to the BLIP, where they strike various metal targets to produce new radionuclides for medical diagnostics. The activated metal targets are transferred to the TPL in Building 801 for separation and shipment to various radiopharmaceutical research laboratories. During irradiation, the targets become hot and are cooled by a continuously recirculating water system. The cooling water also becomes activated during the process, producing secondary radionuclides. The most significant of these radionuclides are oxygen-15 (O-15, half-life 122 seconds) and carbon-11 (C-11, half-life 20.4 minutes). Both of these isotopes are released as gaseous, airborne emissions through the facility's 33-foot stack. Emissions of these radionuclides are dependent on the current and energy of the proton beam used to manufacture the radioisotopes.

In 2008, BLIP operated over a period of 23 weeks, during which 856 Ci of C-11 and 1,774 Ci of O-15 were released. Tritium produced from activation of the target cooling water was also released, but in a much smaller quantity, 4.57 E-2 Ci. Combined emissions of C-11 and O-15 were approximately 4 percent higher than 2007 levels, primarily due to increased hours of operation in 2008.

4.1.4 Evaporator Facility

In the past, liquid waste generated on site that contained residual radioactivity was accumulated at the Waste Concentration Facility (WCF) in Building 811. At this facility, reverse osmosis was used to remove suspended solids and a high percentage of radionuclides from the liquid. Because tritium is an isotope of hydrogen, it could not be removed from aqueous wastes. The tritiated water that remained following waste concentration was transferred to the Evaporator Facility in Building 802B, where it was converted to steam and released as an airborne emission. The Evaporator Facility was constructed primarily to reduce the amount of tritiated water released to the Peconic River through the BNL Sewage Treatment Plant (STP). Emissions from the Evaporator Facility were previously directed to the same stack used by the HFBR to exhaust building air. This method was preferable to releases to surface water because there was virtually no potential for the airborne emissions to influence groundwater (the primary drinking water source on Long Island), and the potential for the released tritium to contribute to an off-site dose was minimized by atmospheric dispersion.

No aqueous waste has been processed at the WCF since 2001. As a result, the Evaporator Facility has not been used and has produced no emissions of tritiated water vapor. Because generation rates of aqueous wastes containing residual radioactivity are expected to remain low, it is no longer cost effective to process the waste in the same manner. Wastes are now solidified and sent to an approved off-site disposal facility. As a result, planning is underway to decommission the Evaporator Facility. Subject to funding availability, the plans also call for demolishing the Building 802B stack and decontaminating the WCF.

4.1.5 Target Processing Laboratory

As mentioned in Section 4.1.3, metal targets irradiated at the BLIP are transported to the TPL in Building 801, where isotopes are chemically extracted for radiopharmaceutical production. Airborne radionuclides released during the extraction process are drawn through multistage HEPA and charcoal filters and then vented to the

HFBR stack. The types of radionuclides that are released depend on the isotopes chemically extracted from the irradiated metal targets, which may change from year to year. Annual radionuclide quantities released from this facility are very small, typically in the μCi to mCi range. In 2008, the total release from the TPL was 0.025 μCi . See Table 4-1 for details of the radionuclides released in 2008.

4.1.6 Additional Minor Sources

Several research departments at BNL use designated fume hoods for work that involves small quantities of radioactive materials (in the μCi to mCi range). The work typically involves labeling chemical compounds and transferring material between containers using pipettes. Due to the use of HEPA filters and activated charcoal filters, the nature of the work conducted, and the small quantities involved, these operations have a very low potential for atmospheric releases of any significant quantities of radioactive materials. Compliance with NESHAPs Subpart H is demonstrated through the use of an inventory system that allows an upper estimate of potential releases to be calculated. Facilities that demonstrate compliance in this way include Buildings 463, 490, 490A, 510, 535, 555, 725, 801, and 830, where research is conducted in the fields of biology, medicine, high energy physics, chemistry, applied and materials science, advanced technology, and environmental sciences. See Table 8-4 in Chapter 8 for the calculated dose from these facility emissions.

4.1.7 Nonpoint Radiological Emission Sources

Nonpoint radiological emissions from a variety of diffuse sources were evaluated in 2008 for compliance with NESHAPs Subpart H. Diffuse sources evaluated included planned research, environmental restoration, and waste management activities. The EPA-approved CAP88-PC dose modeling computer program was used to calculate the possible dose to members of the public from each of the planned activities. The evaluations determined whether NESHAPs permitting and continuous monitoring requirements were applicable, or whether periodic confirmatory sampling was needed to

ensure compliance with Subpart H standards for radionuclide emissions. Chapter 8 discusses the NESHAPs evaluations of the research, environmental restoration, and waste management activities that occurred in 2008.

4.2 FACILITY MONITORING

In the past, potential sources of radioactive emissions have been monitored at the BMRR, HFBR, Evaporator Facility, TPL, and BLIP. Because the BMRR and HFBR are permanently shut down and the Evaporator Facility has not processed any aqueous wastes since 2001, no particulate sampling was conducted at these facilities in 2008.

The samplers in the TPL exhaust duct and the exhaust stack for BLIP are equipped with glass-fiber filters that capture samples of airborne particulate matter generated at these facilities (see Figure 4-3 for locations). The filters are collected and analyzed weekly for gross alpha and beta activity. Particulate filter analytical results for gross alpha and beta activity in 2008 are reported in Table 4-2. The average gross alpha and beta airborne activity levels for samples collected from the BLIP exhaust stack were 0.1101 and 1.3934 pCi/m^3 , respectively. Annual average gross alpha and beta airborne activity levels for samples collected from the TPL were 0.0026 and 0.0313 pCi/m^3 , respectively.

4.3 AMBIENT AIR MONITORING

As part of the Environmental Monitoring Program, air monitoring stations are in place around the perimeter of the BNL site (see Figure 4-3 for locations). Samples are collected using equipment at six blockhouse stations and three pole-mounted, battery-powered silica-gel samplers. The blockhouses are fenced to control access and protect costly sampling equipment. In 2003, the number of pole-mounted samplers used for airborne tritium monitoring was reduced from 16 to three because historical air surveillance data revealed that tritium concentrations at most sampling stations were below minimum detection limits (MDLs).

At each blockhouse, vacuum pumps draw air through columns where particulate matter is captured on a glass-fiber filter. Particulate filters

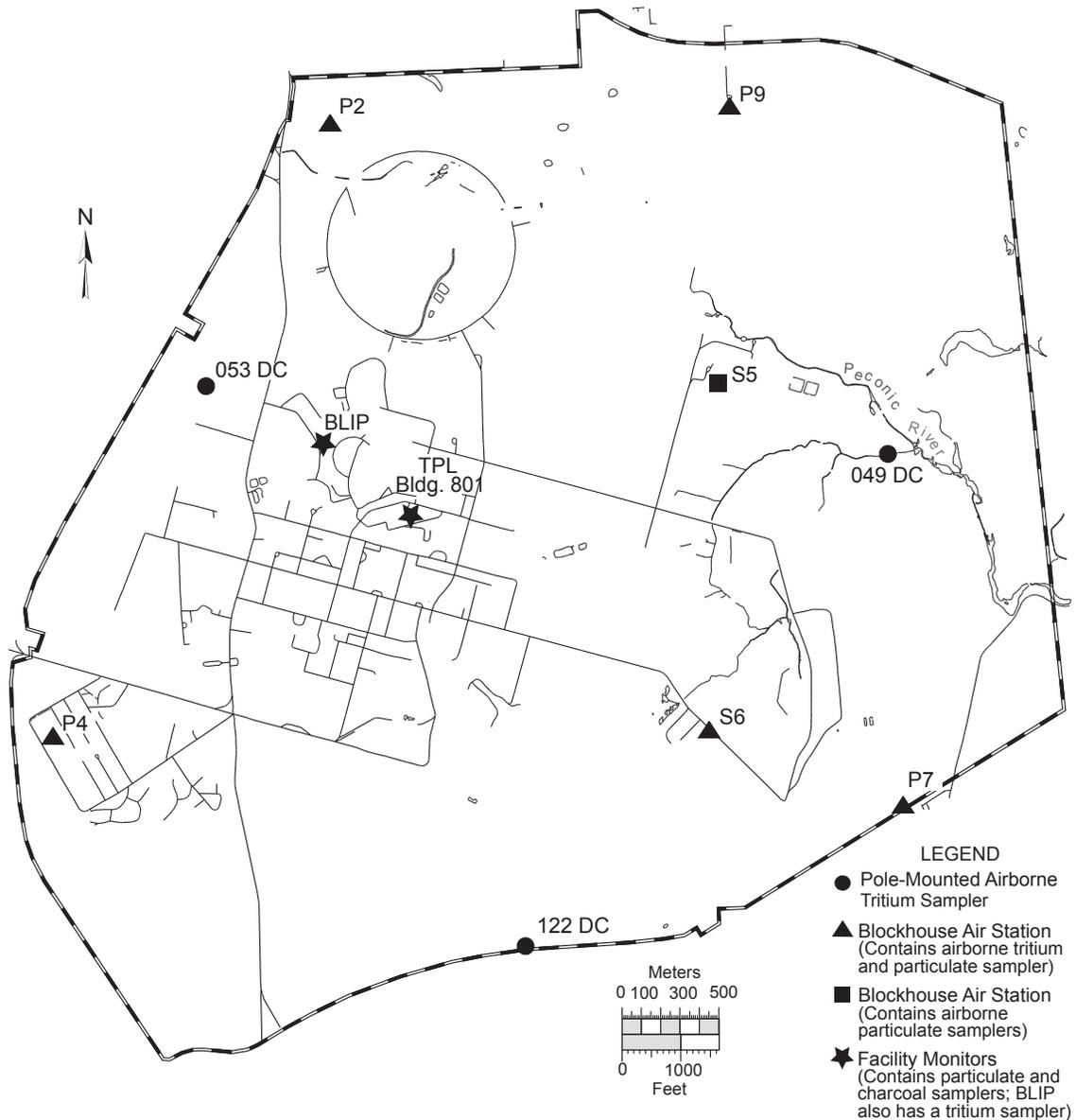


Figure 4-3. BNL On-Site Ambient Air Monitoring Stations.

are collected weekly and are analyzed for gross alpha and beta activity using a gas-flow proportional counter. Also, water vapor for tritium analysis is collected on silica-gel absorbent material for processing by liquid scintillation analysis. In 2008, silica-gel samples were collected every two weeks.

4.3.1 Gross Alpha and Beta Airborne Activity

Particulate filter analytical results for gross alpha and beta airborne activity are reported in Table 4-3. Validated samples are those not rejected due to equipment malfunction or other factors

(e.g., sample air volumes were not acceptable). The annual average gross alpha and beta airborne activity levels for the six monitoring stations were 0.0123 and 0.0149 pCi/m³, respectively. Annual gross beta activity trends recorded at Station P7 are plotted in Figure 4-4. The results for this location are typical for the site. The trend shows seasonal variation in activity within a range that is representative of natural background levels. The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) received duplicate filter samples that were collected at Station P7 using a sampler they provided. These samples were

Table 4-2. Gross Activity in Facility Air Particulate Filters.

Facility Monitor		Gross Alpha	Gross Beta
		(pCi/m ³)	
BLIP	N	39	39
	Max.	0.3270 ± 0.2180	8.3800 ± 0.5070
	Avg.	0.1101 ± 0.1102	1.3934 ± 0.2447
	MDL	0.1640*	0.2332*
TPL - Bldg. 801	N	51	51
	Max.	0.0079 ± 0.0027	0.2890 ± 0.0113
	Avg.	0.0026 ± 0.0018	0.0313 ± 0.0040
	MDL	0.0023*	0.0032*

Notes:
 See Figure 4-3 for sample station locations.
 All values shown with a 95% confidence interval.
 BLIP = Brookhaven Linac Isotope Producer
 MDL = Minimum Detection Limit
 N = Number of validated samples collected
 TPL = Target Processing Laboratory
 *Average MDL for all samples taken at this location

collected weekly and analyzed by the NYSDOH laboratory for gross beta activity only. The analytical results found were comparable to the Station P7 samples analyzed by General Engineering Lab, an analytical laboratory contracted by BNL. New York State’s analytical results for gross beta activity at the Laboratory were between 0.0013 and 0.0190 pCi/m³, with an average concentration of 0.0094 pCi/m³. BNL results ranged from 0.0038 to 0.0262pCi/m³, with an average concentration of 0.0106 pCi/m³. As part of a statewide monitoring program, NYSDOH also collects air samples in Albany, New York, a control location with no potential to be influenced by nuclear facility emissions. In 2008, NYSDOH reported that airborne gross beta activity at that location varied between 0.0050 and 0.0300 pCi/m³, and the average concentration was 0.0124 pCi/m³. Sample results measured at the Laboratory generally fell within this range, demonstrating that on-site radiological air quality was consistent with that observed at locations in New York State not located near radiological facilities.

4.3.2 Airborne Tritium

Airborne tritium in the form of HTO is monitored throughout the BNL site. In addition to the five blockhouses containing tritium samplers,

Table 4-3. Gross Activity Detected in Ambient Air Monitoring Particulate Filters.

Sample Station		Gross Alpha	Gross Beta
		(pCi/m ³)	
P2	N	49	49
	Max	0.0036 ± 0.0010	0.0241 ± 0.0018
	Avg.	0.0018 ± 0.0007	0.0152 ± 0.0014
	MDL	0.0005*	0.0007*
P4	N	44	44
	Max	0.0036 ± 0.0010	0.0297 ± 0.0020
	Avg.	0.0016 ± 0.0006	0.0140 ± 0.0013
	MDL	0.0005*	0.0007*
P7	N	48	48
	Max	0.0032 ± 0.0009	0.0262 ± 0.0019
	Avg.	0.0011 ± 0.0005	0.0106 ± 0.0011
	MDL	0.0005*	0.0006*
P9	N	47	47
	Max	0.0056 ± 0.0013	0.0253 ± 0.0021
	Avg.	0.0016 ± 0.0006	0.0160 ± 0.0015
	MDL	0.0005*	0.0009*
S5	N	31	31
	Max	2.8400 ± 1.0800	0.1550 ± 0.0169
	Avg.	0.0938 ± 0.0358	0.0208 ± 0.0020
	MDL	0.0286*	0.0012*
S6	N	48	48
	Max	0.0043 ± 0.0016	0.0325 ± 0.0030
	Avg.	0.0017 ± 0.0007	0.0147 ± 0.0014
	MDL	0.0006*	0.0009*
Grand Average		0.0123 ± 0.0208	0.0149 ± 0.0012

Notes:
 See Figure 4-3 for sample station locations.
 All values shown with a 95% confidence interval.
 MDL = Minimum Detection Limit
 N = Number of validated samples collected
 *Average MDL for all samples taken at this location

three pole-mounted monitors used for tritium sampling are located at or near the Laboratory’s property boundary (see Figure 4-3 for locations). On average, observed concentrations of tritium at the sampling stations in 2008 were slightly higher than concentrations observed in 2007. Table 4-4 lists the number of validated samples collected at each location, the maximum value observed, and the annual average concentration. Validated samples are those not rejected due to equipment malfunction or other

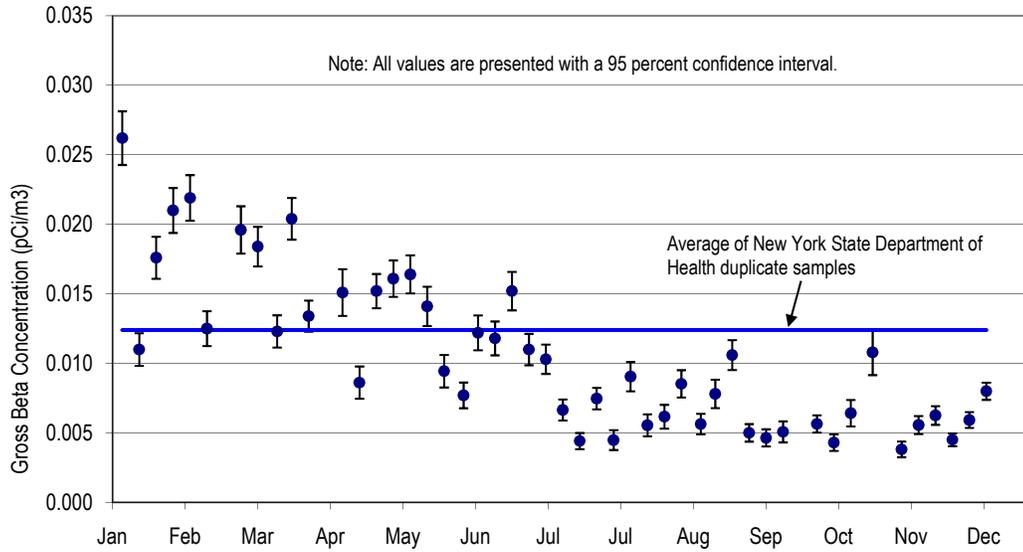


Figure 4-4. Airborne Gross Beta Concentration Trend Recorded at Station P7.

factors (e.g., a battery failure in the sampler, frozen or supersaturated silica gel, insufficient sample volumes, or the loss of sample during preparation at the contract analytical laboratory). Airborne tritium samples were collected every two weeks from each sampling station during 2008; however, the contract laboratory rejected numerous samples because moisture captured on silica gel was insufficient for analysis. The average tritium concentrations at all of the sampling locations, with the exception of sampling Station P2, were less than the typical MDL, which ranged from 4.0 to 13.0 pCi/m³. The relative increase in average tritium concentrations at sampling stations appears to have been influenced by the periodic venting of the HFBR reactor vessel that commenced in June 2008 in preparation for the removal of control rod blades.

4.4 NONRADIOLOGICAL AIRBORNE EMISSIONS

Various state and federal regulations governing nonradiological releases require facilities to conduct periodic or continuous emission monitoring to demonstrate compliance with emission limits. The Central Steam Facility (CSF) is the only BNL facility that requires monitoring for nonradiological emissions. The Laboratory has several other emission sources subject to state and federal regulatory requirements that do not require emission monitoring (see Chapter 3 for

more details). The CSF supplies steam for heating and cooling to major BNL facilities through an underground steam distribution and condensate grid. The location of the CSF is shown in Figure 4-1. The combustion units at the CSF are designated as Boilers 1A, 5, 6, and 7. Boiler 1A, which was installed in 1962, has a heat input of 16.4 MW (56.7 million British thermal units [MMBtu] per hour). Boiler 5, installed in 1965,

Table 4-4. Ambient Airborne Tritium Measurements in 2008.

Sample Station	Wind Sector	Validated Samples	Maximum (pCi/m ³)	Average (pCi/m ³)
049	E	8	13.3 ± 9.5	4.3 ± 5.9
053	NW	19	72.5 ± 8.0	6.1 ± 3.7
122	SSE	2	8.3 ± 11.5	4.2 ± 7.1
P2	NNW	6	69.2 ± 13.0	18.3 ± 8.5
P4	WSW	12	73.7 ± 6.8	12.2 ± 2.8
P7	ESE	20	54.9 ± 6.4	5.1 ± 3.3
P9	NE	21	24.9 ± 3.0	4.3 ± 2.9
S6	SE	22	81.4 ± 8.7	10.5 ± 3.2
Grand Average				7.6 ± 2.4

Notes:
 See Figure 4-3 for station locations.
 Wind sector is the downwind direction of the sample station from the HFBR stack.
 All values reported with a 95% confidence interval.
 Typical minimum detection limit for tritium is between 1.0 and 10.0 pCi/m³.
 DOE Order 5400.5, Air Derived Concentration Guide, is 100,000 pCi/m³.

has a heat input of 65.3 MW (225 MMBtu/hr). The newest units, Boilers 6 and 7, were installed in 1984 and 1996, and each has a heat input of 42.6 MW (147 MMBtu/hr). For perspective, National Grid’s Northport, New York power station has four utility-sized turbine/generator boilers, each with a maximum rated heat input of 1,082 MW (3,695 MMBtu/hr).

Because of their design, heat inputs, and dates of installation, Boilers 6 and 7 are subject to Title 6 of the New York Code, Rules, and Regulations (NYCRR) Part 227-2, and the Federal New Source Performance Standard (40 CFR 60 Subpart Db: Standards of Performance for Industrial-Commercial-Institutional Steam Boilers). These boilers are equipped with continuous emission monitors to measure nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and Boiler 7 is equipped with a continuous opacity monitor to comply with Subpart Db opacity monitoring requirements. After a new continuous opacity monitor for Boiler 6 was voluntarily brought online in 2004, emissions

on both boilers are now continuously monitored for opacity. To measure combustion efficiency, the boilers are also monitored for carbon dioxide (CO₂). Continuous emission monitoring results from the two boilers are reported quarterly to EPA and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

From May 1 to September 15 (the peak ozone period), compliance with the 0.30 lbs/MMBtu (129 ng/J) NO_x emission standard for No. 6 oil and the 0.20 lbs/MMBtu (86 ng/J) NO_x emission standard for No. 2 oil and natural gas is demonstrated by calculating the 24-hour average emission rate from continuous emission monitoring system readings and comparing the value to the emission standard. During the remainder of the year, the calculated 30-day rolling average emission rate is used to establish compliance. Boiler 6 and 7 opacity levels are recorded as 6-minute averages. Measured opacity levels cannot exceed 20 percent opacity, except for one 6-minute period per hour of not more

Table 4-5. Central Steam Facility Fuel Use and Emissions (1996 – 2008).

Year	Annual Fuel Use and Fuel Heating Values						Emissions			
	No. 6 Oil (10 ³ gals)	Heating Value (MMBtu)	No. 2 Oil (10 ³ gals)	Heating Value (MMBtu)	Natural Gas (106 ft ³)	Heating Value (MMBtu)	TSP (tons)	NO _x (tons)	SO ₂ (tons)	VOCs (tons)
1996	4,782.55	703,991	52.77	7,388	0.00	0	14.0	104.9	109.0	0.7
1997	3,303.43	484,613	10.23	1,432	190.65	194,463	13.7	83.5	75.1	1.0
1998	354.28	52,283	9.44	1,322	596.17	608,093	2.7	75.1	8.9	1.7
1999	682.76	78,335	2.77	388	614.98	627,280	5.1	53.5	16.7	1.8
2000	2,097.32	309,317	0.82	115	342.40	349,248	9.5	81.6	45.0	1.2
2001	3,645.10	538,847	3.40	476	103.96	106,039	17.5	80.4	77.8	0.8
2002	2,785.04	407,518	0.29	41	220.62	225,030	15.4	62.4	53.8	1.0
2003	4,290.94	628,765	402.06	56,288	0.98	1,000	22.8	75.3	107.1	0.6
2004	4,288.76	628,063	2.45	343	0.11	109	16.4	81.9	104.7	2.4
2005	4,206.12	618,590	0.87	122	0.00	0	15.2	80.4	93.1	2.4
2006	2,933.00	432,430	0.22	30	191.35	195,177	11.8	66.9	66.3	2.2
2007	2,542.85	374,432	0.00	0	263.04	268,301	9.7	77.3	59.3	2.2
2008	1,007.49	148,939	0.10	736	496.48	506,406	5.7	46.7	23.0	1.9
Permit Limit (in tons)							113.3	159.0	445.0	39.7

Notes:
 NO_x = Oxides of Nitrogen
 SO₂ = Sulfur Dioxide
 TSP = Total Suspended Particulates
 VOCs = Volatile Organic Compounds

than 27 percent opacity. In 2008, there were no measured exceedances of the NO_x emission standards for either boiler. In addition, there were no 6-minute periods when Boiler 6 or Boiler 7 opacity measurements exceeded the opacity limit during soot blowing intervals. Changes in the sequence of the soot blowing cycle for Boiler 6 that were made in August 2005 have proven effective in eliminating most opacity exceedances due to soot blowing. Similar changes made to the soot blowing cycle on Boiler 7 after the installation of a new soot blowing controller in March 2006 have also been successful in eliminating soot blowing opacity exceedances from this boiler. While there are no regulatory requirements to continuously monitor opacity for Boilers 1A and 5, surveillance monitoring of visible stack emissions is a condition of BNL's Title V operating permit. Daily observations of stack gases recorded by CSF personnel throughout the year showed no visible emissions, with opacity levels lower than the regulatory limits established for these boilers.

To satisfy continuous emissions monitoring system quality assurance requirements of the Laboratory's Title V operating permit, a relative accuracy test audit (RATA) of the Boilers 6 and 7 continuous emissions monitoring systems for NO_x and CO₂ was conducted in November 2008. The results of the RATA demonstrated that Boiler 6 and 7 NO_x and CO₂ continuous emissions monitoring systems met RATA acceptance criteria, which are defined in 40 CFR 60 Appendix B Specifications 2 and 3.

In 2008, residual fuel prices from January through October exceeded those of natural gas. As a result, natural gas was used to supply 95

percent of the heating and cooling needs of BNL's major facilities during these months. Natural gas supplied approximately 77 percent of major facility heating and cooling needs for the year. By comparison, in 2004 and 2005, residual fuel satisfied more than 99.9 percent of the major facility heating and cooling needs. Consequently, 2008 emissions of particulates, NO_x, and sulfur dioxide (SO₂) were 9.5, 33.7, and 70.1 tons less than the respective totals for 2005. All emissions were well below the respective permit limits of 113.3, 159, and 445 tons. Table 4-5 shows fuel use and emissions since 1996.

REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 40 CFR 60 Subpart Db. *Standards of Performance for Industrial-Commercial-Institutional Steam Boilers*. 52 FR 47842, Dec. 16, 1987, as amended 72 FR 32742, June 13, 2007.
- 40 CFR 61 Subpart H. *National Emission Standards for Emissions of Radionuclides Other Than Radon From Department of Energy Facilities*. 54 FR 51695, Dec. 15, 1989, as amended at 67 FR 57166, Sept. 9, 2002.
- DOE Order 5400.5. 1990. *Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment*. U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC. Change 2: 1-7-93.
- NYCRR Part 227-2. Title 6. *Reasonably Available Control Technology for Oxides of Nitrogen*. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Albany, NY. Amended 1-28-04.
- Shlein, Bernard, et al., eds. 1998. *Handbook of Health Physics and Radiological Health, Third Edition*. Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore, MD.
- SCDHS. 1993. *Suffolk County Sanitary Code Article 12: Toxic and Hazardous Material Storage and Handling Controls*. Suffolk County Department of Health Services, New York.
- USC Title 42, Chapter 85. *Air Pollution Prevention and Control (Clean Air Act)*, 1990.