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# 1.0 Introduction

This Report to the Director on the Fermilab Environment documents the performance of Fermilab’s environmental protection program. The report presents the status of environmental objectives for the laboratory and documents the compliance status of environmental requirements under the scope of Fermilab’s Environmental Management System (EMS). The laboratory has maintained certification for the EMS to the International Organization for Standards (ISO) 14001 standard since 2007. The EMS provides Fermilab a practical framework from which to assess and manage the environmental impacts of site operations.

The Fermilab site consists of 6,800 acres of mixed use land. The primary features of the site include the accelerator complex and associated building infrastructure, an interconnected industrial cooling water system, a housing complex for visiting researchers (the Village), row crop agriculture, and natural areas in various states of restoration consisting primarily of tall grass prairie, forest, and wetlands. Fermilab is America’s premier particle physics laboratory with a mission to drive discovery in particle physics, encouraging pioneering research by operating world-class accelerators and detector facilities. Founded in 1967, Fermilab has been operated by Fermi Research Alliance LLC (FRA) since 2007.

Fermilab’s environmental monitoring and surveillance program provides for the measurement and interpretation of the impact of Fermilab operations on the environment. Surveillance and monitoring tasks are conducted to confirm compliance with established standards and specific permit limits, as well as ensure early detection of an unplanned pollutant release. The location and frequency of sampling are based on established routines, operational considerations and process assessments as well as historic levels of pollutants found at a particular location. Sampling points are selected based on the potential for adverse impacts. Additionally, samples of effluents and environmental media such as soil and groundwater are collected on the site and at the site boundary. These samples are analyzed and results are compared to applicable guidelines and standards. Discussed in this report are the results of Fermilab’s environmental monitoring and surveillance activities, compliance with all specific environmental regulations, and our progress on environmental restoration, waste management and corrective action activities. The report is arranged by environmental topic and specific environmental compliance requirement.

# 2.0 Summary of Significant Environmental Issues

*Federal Sustainability Goals*

In December 2014 Fermilab issued the annual Site Sustainability Plan. This plan outlines the laboratory’s progress towards achieving goals the Department of Energy (DOE) has committed to in its Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan, as required by Executive Order 13514. This Order commits the federal government to measure, manage and develop a strategy to reduce its own greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. In addition, agencies must increase energy efficiencies, reduce fleet petroleum consumption, conserve water and reduce waste. The GHG emission reduction goals have long term targets that mature in 2020, with other related goals having shorter time frames. Fermilab’s sustainability progress is summarized in additional sections in this report.

*Tritium Discharges*

The generation of tritium is an expected outcome of operating the accelerator complex and it has been monitored throughout the history of the laboratory. Detectable amounts of tritium have been observed in surface water discharges from the site since 2005 and Fermilab maintains permits to release tritium from regulated points. Additionally Fermilab monitors the sanitary effluent discharged from the site to the municipal waste water treatment plants of Batavia and Warrenville/Naperville. Low concentrations of tritium are regularly recorded in the discharge to Batavia.

In response to the persistence of observable tritium and the expectation that future operations will generate additional tritium, the Fermilab Director formed a Tritium Working Group beginning in 2012. This group works to identify, manage and mitigate to the extent possible tritium generated as a result of laboratory operations. Additional details concerning the management of tritium can be found in various sections of this report.

# 3.0 Ecological Stewardship

The Director of Fermilab established the Ecological Land Management (ELM) Committee to recommend management practices based on sound ecological principles that enhance the natural resources of the laboratory. The ELM committee, in conjunction with FESS Site Services and Roads & Grounds, oversees the management of nearly 2,500 acres of natural areas, which include 1,000 acres of tall grass prairie plantings, oak savannas, open-water marshes, wetlands, and forests. The primary goal is to increase biodiversity of native flora and fauna while enhancing functional services of these ecological systems. This type of site stewardship includes prescribed burning, controlling invasive species, monitoring threatened & endangered species, surveying plants and wildlife and collecting seed from over 250 native species to spread into recently restored areas. Some of this work is carried out by trained natural areas volunteers that are provided by Fermilab Natural Areas, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation.

Fermilab manages wildlife resources to preserve the Fermilab ecosystem while still conducting the primary mission of the laboratory. The Lab has a Nuisance Animal permit issued by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) that allows for the trapping and elimination of nuisance animals. During 2014, 30 reports of nuisance wildlife were received, resulting in the transfer and release of 8 animals on site. No animals were euthanized. Fermilab manages the population of whitetail deer on site to preserve the ecosystem by contracting annually with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services Group to reduce the herd to an optimum number. Vegetation studies, accident reports and aerial surveillance indicated that no removals were necessary, so the activity was not required in 2014. Therefore, no whitetail deer were removed.

# 4.0 Sustainability

Fermilab is committed to minimizing the environmental impact of site operations. In response to goals established by the Department of Energy to improve the department’s environmental footprint, Fermilab has developed a Site Sustainability Plan that documents the laboratory’s contribution towards meeting the goals. The primary emphasis of the plan is on the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The plan also addresses more broad ranging goals that include operating buildings more efficiently, reducing water consumption, reduced fossil fuel consumption for vehicle fleets and improved energy consumption of computer data centers. An outline of the primary goals and Fermilab’s status in 2014 is provided below. A summary of GHG emissions is further described in section 7.2

| **Goal #** | **DOE Goal** | **Fermilab Performance Status through FY2014** | **Planned Actions & Contribution** | **Risk of Non-attainment** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **GOAL 1: Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Inventory** | | | | |
| 1.1 | 28% Scope 1 & 2 GHG reduction by FY 2020 from a FY 2008 baseline (2014 target: 19%) | 49.3% reduction in FY2014 due to gradual accelerator startup | Use RECs[[1]](#footnote-1) to meet this goal after as HEMSF[[2]](#footnote-2) loads increase in 2015 | Low |
| 1.2 | 13% Scope 3 GHG reduction by FY 2020 from a FY 2008 baseline (2014 target: 5%) | Met goal for T&D losses using RECs | Must continue to use RECs to meet T&D [[3]](#footnote-3)portion of this goal | Medium (for non-T&D portions of this goal) |
| **GOAL 2: Buildings, ESPC Initiative Schedule, and Regional & Local Planning** | | | | |
| 2.1 | 30% energy intensity (Btu per gross square foot) reduction by FY 2015 from a FY 2003 baseline (2014 target: 27%) | 24.5% reduction due to exceptionally cold weather | Investigate new measures to reduce energy consumption | Medium |
| 2.2 | EISA Section 432 energy and water evaluations | Met goal for this 4 year cycle | Continue in next 4 year cycle | Low |
| 2.3 | Individual buildings metering for 90% of electricity (by October 1, 2012); for 90% of steam, natural gas, and chilled water (by October 1, 2015) (2014 target: 90% and 75%, respectively) | Electrical metered 88% and other categories are below the goal | Will continue to implement metering in new facilities | M (except for natural gas) |
| 2.4 | Cool roofs, unless uneconomical, for roof replacements unless project already has CD-2 approval. New roofs must have thermal resistance of at least R-30. | Added 11,490 Sq. Ft. of cool roofs in FY2014. | Fermilab will continue to assess the cost-effectiveness of cool roofs | Low |
| 2.5 | 15% of existing buildings greater than 5,000 gross square feet (GSF) are compliant with the Guiding Principles (GPs) of HPSB by FY 2015 (2014 target: 13%) | In FY2014, Fermilab added one existing building compliant with 100% of GP | Fermilab plans to have 3 buildings 100% compliant with GP by the end of FY2015 | High (Financial Risks) |
| 2.6 | All new construction, major renovations, and alterations of buildings greater than 5,000 GSF must comply with the GPs. | The OTE Building was designed and constructed as LEED-NC Gold | All new construction is subjected to GP review during design | Medium |
| 2.7 | Efforts to increase regional and local planning coordination and involvement | Established new public transportation shuttle to commuter train line | Maintain positive relationships with neighboring communities | Low |
| **GOAL 3: Fleet Management** | | | | |
| 3.1 | 10% annual increase in fleet alternative fuel consumption by FY 2015 relative to a FY 2005 baseline (2014 target: 136% cumulative since 2005) | Greater than 90% increase in alternative fuels since 2005 – greater than 10% per year | Continue to convert to AFV vehicles wherever feasible and maintain goal of 100% | Low |
| 3.2 | 2% annual reduction in fleet petroleum consumption by FY 2020 relative to a FY 2005 baseline (2014 target: 18% cumulative since 2005) | This goal is met | Continue current practices | Low |
| 3.3 | 100% of light duty vehicle purchases must consist of alternative fuel vehicles (AFV) by FY 2015 and thereafter (75% FY 2000 – 2015) | This goal is met. | Continue the policy of purchasing AFV vehicles. | Low |
| **GOAL 4: Water Use Efficiency and Management** | | | | |
| 4.2 | 20% water consumption (Gal) reduction of industrial, landscaping, and agricultural (ILA) water by FY 2020 from a FY 2010 baseline (2014 target: 8%) | Used 2.4% more than baseline year | Investigate additional useable storm water storage | High (Technical) |
| 4.2 | 20% water consumption (Gal) reduction of industrial, landscaping, and agricultural (ILA) water by FY 2020 from a FY 2010 baseline (2013 target:6%) | Used 6.1% less than the baseline year | Use ESPC to investigate measures to retain more storm water | High |
| **GOAL 5: Pollution Prevention and Waste Reduction** | | | | |
| 5.1 | Divert at least 50% of non-hazardous solid waste, excluding construction and demolition debris, by FY 2015 | This goal is met | Continue current practices | Low |
| 5.2 | Divert at least 50% of construction and demolition materials and debris by FY 2015 | This goal is met | Continue current practices | Low |
| **GOAL 6: Sustainable Acquisition** | | | | |
| 6.1 | Procurements meet requirements by including necessary provisions and clauses in 95% of applicable contracts | This goal is met | Continue current practices | Low |
| **GOAL 7: Electronic Stewardship and Data Centers** | | | | |
| 7.1 | All core data centers are metered to measure a monthly Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE) of 100% by FY 2015 (2014 target: 90%) | This goal is met. | Continue current practices | Low |
| 7.2 | Core data centers maximum annual weighted average PUE of 1.4 by FY 2015 (2014 target: 1.5) | Mean PUE for FY2014 was 1.58 | Seeking funding for further upgrades to achieve the goal | Low |
| 7.3 | Power management – 100% of eligible PCs, laptops, and monitors with power management actively implemented and in use by FY 2012 | This goal is met | Continue with current policies, including replacing older equipment with newer | Low |
| 7.4 | Electronic Stewardship – 95% of eligible electronics acquisitions meet EPEAT standards | This goal is met | Continue current practices | Low |
| **Goal 8: Renewable Energy** | | | | |
| 8.1 | 20% of annual electricity consumption from renewable sources by FY 2020 (2014 target:7.5%) | Exceeded goal | Must use RECs to meet this goal while investigating cost effective RE | Low |
| **Goal 9: Climate Change Adaptation** | | | | |
| 9.1 | Address DOE Climate Change Adaptation Plan goals | Climate Change Adaptation planning is included as Goal 9.1 | | |
| **Goal 10 : Energy Performance Contracts** | | | | |
| 10.1 | Utilization of Energy Performance Contracts | Unable to secure a new contract this year | | |

# 5.0 Environmental Management System (EMS)

Fermilab recognizes the importance of maintaining an Environmental Management System (EMS). The EMS is the organizational framework that enables Fermilab to minimize environmental impacts. The system functions via an ongoing cycle that focuses on planning, implementing, evaluating and improving environmental performance. This process is used as means to continuously focus on the environmental aspects of laboratory operations to ensure compliance with regulations and to demonstrate that the laboratory is functioning in an environmentally responsible manner. In addition, the elements of the EMS have been aligned with the principles of Fermilab’s ESH&Q Management System to form a combined management system that address facility operational liabilities that have the potential to impact individuals and/or the environment.

Fermilab’s EMS was formally established in 2005 in accordance with DOE and Executive Order requirements. The EMS has been certified to the ISO 14001 standard since August 2007. ISO requires re-registration to the standard every three years. Fermilab successfully completed a comprehensive third party audit of the entire facility and became re-registered to the standard in July 2013.

To maintain certification, the laboratory undertakes semi-annual independent audits that demonstrate continuous conformance with the standard. These audits focus on rotating segments of Fermilab operations to ensure that EMS elements are being properly addressed across the facility and have occurred every year since becoming registered.

As part of the EMS, Fermilab routinely evaluates its operations internally and seeks to improve environmental performance. The laboratory’s significant environmental aspects have been identified and were reviewed in 2014. In areas were change is desired or required, goals are established with measureable targets that seek to improve a particular aspect of operations. In particular, the goals outlined in our Site Sustainably Plan document areas of significant emphasis where the laboratory is pursuing change.

# 6.0 Environmental Monitoring and Surveillance

The goal of the Fermilab Environmental Monitoring Program is to assist laboratory management in decision-making by providing data relevant to impacts that Fermilab operations have on the surrounding environment. This program includes effluent monitoring which is used to confirm compliance with permits, generally at a particular point. Environmental surveillance is conducted at various locations to intercept the pathway of potential pollutants to receptors such as plants, animals or members of the public. Fermilab collects environmental data for reporting purposes or whenever it is necessary or useful in conducting the business of the laboratory. Line organizations have the responsibility to recognize and understand the environmental aspects of their operations and to conduct their work in an environmentally sound manner.

The pathways for the most likely movement of chemical and radioactive materials from Fermilab operations to the public are the atmosphere, surface water, groundwater, and via the roadways (transportation of materials to and from the site). Environmental surveillance consists of collecting and analyzing samples of various media and by measuring penetrating radiation (e.g. muons) within and at the site boundaries.

Ground and surface waters are sampled at locations near operating areas, potential contamination sources and along potential transport pathways. In addition to air and water surveillance, samples of soil are collected and analyzed for radioactivity to ascertain whether there is build-up of radioactive materials in the environment due to long-term operations.

Surface water, air, groundwater, soil and sediment samples are analyzed for radionuclide concentrations. Surface waters are also monitored for potential chemical constituents. While levels of penetrating radiation are in some places measurable near operational areas on the site, the levels decrease rapidly with distance from the sources. External penetrating radiation and airborne emissions are commonly below instrument detection levels at the site boundary and must be estimated to provide information about the maximum potential radiation doses to offsite populations. The results of the environmental surveillance program are interpreted and compared with environmental standards where applicable. The Fermilab Environmental Monitoring Plan, which is maintained by the ESH&Q Section, provides more details.

## 6.1 Air Quality

Fermilab is not a significant source of chemical air pollution and is registered with the IEPA’s Registration of Smaller Sources (ROSS) program. This is a relatively new program administered by IEPA and is available to facilities that emit only minor amounts of air pollution.

6.1.1 Radioactive Air Emissions

Airborne radionuclides are normally released to the atmosphere from operating target stations. Measures to keep these releases as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA) are incorporated into the operating processes and procedures at these facilities and in design efforts for new projects. Monitoring is conducted at targeting areas where air emissions are considered a significant contributor to the overall transport of radioactive materials offsite. In addition, a small quantity of airborne radionuclides is contributed by the operation of the Magnet Debonding Oven when operating. Fermilab has declared in its air permit application to the IEPA that total activity released from the lab would average no greater than 2000 Curies in a year with a maximum of 9000 Curies in a year; current and planned operations are far below these levels.

The radiation doses potentially received by the offsite public due to Fermilab operations are calculated from data gathered through environmental surveillance of the onsite sources. Selected vent stacks are monitored directly with stack monitors and indirectly by taking soil samples in the vicinity of the stacks. The dose for the air pathway is calculated using a Gaussian plume computer simulation model called Clean Air Act Assessment Package-1988 (CAP88PC Version 4.0). This model was created by the USEPA to predict the movement of airborne radionuclides and its use is dictated by regulations governing hazardous air pollutants at 40 CFR 61. Maximum calculated concentrations off-site are predicted to be below the level that could be detected by direct monitoring.

In 2014 the accelerators and the experiments operated throughout the calendar year. Operation of the debonding oven, when radioactive components are being burned, is a potential source of tritium. In 2014 the debonding oven burned thirty two radioactive cones, which were removed from the Booster Radio-Frequency (RF) Cavities for refurbishing. The Muon-Ring (formerly the Anti‑Proton Area) stack, did not use any proton beam, Main Injector, SeaQuest experiment (E-906), the BNB (Booster Neutrino Beamline) and NuMI stacks are estimated to have released a total of 74.9 Curies in 2014. These radioactive air emissions were approximately 3.7% of the annual average (2000 Curies) expected from operations as acknowledged in the air pollution permit application on file with the IEPA. Doses to the public from emissions in 2014 continued to be well below the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standard of 10 mrem/year and also much less than the EPA’s continuous monitoring threshold of 0.1 mrem/year. Using the CAP‑88PC Version 4.0, Gaussian dispersion model, the highest dose equivalent to any member of the public was estimated to be 0.0187 mrem.

Fermilab’s 2014 Radionuclide Air Emissions Annual Report will be submitted to the DOE Fermi Site Office (FSO) in May 2015. The report is distributed by the DOE FSO to the USEPA and IEPA.

6.1.2 Non-Radioactive Air Emissions

In 2014 Fermilab continued to operate under the ROSS program. Registration for ROSS is required for facilities such as Fermilab that emit air pollution in very minor amounts. Even though Fermilab no longer operates under a Lifetime Operating Permit it continues to monitor the sources named in this permit. Managing the sources according to the former permit allows Fermilab to demonstrate compliance with the conditions under the ROSS program. This also allows for continuity in the event that Fermilab returns to being a permitted source. The sources Fermilab continues to monitor include the following:

1. Magnet debonding oven;
2. One 15 mmBTU and one 11.55 mmBTU natural gas-fired boilers at the Central Utility Building (CUB);
3. One 12,000-gallon gasoline storage tank with a stage 1 vapor balance system
4. Various radionuclide emission stacks;
5. 2,200 horsepower standby diesel generator;
6. Cavity Processing Lab (CPL).

The Illinois Pollution Control Board adopted rule amendments to the Stage 2 vapor recovery equipment program in December, 2013 (35 IAC 218.586). The amendments required existing gasoline dispensing facilities (such as Fermilab’s Fuel Service Center) to decommission such equipment by December 31, 2016. Fermilab’s stage 2 vapor balance system for the gasoline storage tank dispensing system was decommissioned in August, 2014. Notifications were sent to the Illinois EPA Bureau of Air as required.

## 6.2 Penetrating Radiation

Operation of the Fermilab accelerator and associated beamlines produces ionizing radiation such as neutrons and muons. Beamlines and experiments are designed so that most of the radiation is absorbed before reaching the ground surface and outdoor areas. The neutrons are absorbed by shielding. The remaining radiation that emerges above the surface presents a very small potential for radiation dose. Small muon fields have been measured in conjunction with the operation of the Fixed Target beamlines in the past. Only the Meson Test (MTest), Meson Center (MCenter) and Neutrino Muon beamlines (E906) operated in 2014. The maximum muon dose offsite due to the operation of MTest, MCenter and E-906 was 0.099 mrems. Both the BNB and NuMI experiments have the potential to produce measurable muon flux; however, the 8 GeV energy protons used in BNB are too low in energy to produce muons that can escape the bulk shielding surrounding the experiment. The NuMI beamline bends the beam down so that the muons produced are absorbed deep underground as part of the beamline design.

Another potential source of exposure to ionizing radiation is the centralized radioactive materials storage area referred to as the Railhead. This source of penetrating radiation was monitored continuously in 2014 by a large ionization chamber located in the Railhead colloquially called a ‘Hippo.’ The Hippo measurements are supplemented by a number of environmental dosimeters placed around the storage area and by periodic onsite surveys. Based on measurements made, it is estimated that radioactive materials stored at the Railhead contributed no directly measureable equivalent dose at the site boundary in 2014. The maximum penetrating radiation equivalent dose in 2014 to an individual at the nearest offsite house was thus estimated to be less than 0.099 mrems, and not directly measureable.

## 6.3 Surface Water Quality (except TWG summary)

Fermilab releases minor amounts of contaminants to surface water bodies. As part of the management of these discharges the laboratory holds National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits that govern releases to surface water from stormwater runoff, cooling water, effluents from various onsite construction projects, and pesticide applications. In addition to monitoring for the physical and chemical parameters required by NPDES permits, samples of surface water are taken monthly from selected water bodies and analyzed for radionuclides. These surface waters are sampled for radionuclides based upon their potential for contamination. Fermilab Environment, Safety, and Health Manual Chapter 8026 Surface Water Protection describes regulatory aspects and responsibilities of the surface water program.

Aqueous process wastewaters are directed to sanitary sewers and ultimately discharged to publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) in Batavia and Warrenville/Naperville. Wastewater discharges are controlled by criteria described in FESHM 8025 Wastewater Discharge to Sanitary Sewers.

### 6.3.1 Cooling Water System

Fermilab requires large amounts of non-contact cooling water that is circulated through various surface water bodies to dissipate heat. Fermilab’s site-specific NPDES permit authorizes the treatment of the Industrial Cooling Water system (ICW) and the discharge of commingled cooling water and storm water runoff to surface waters through outfalls to Kress, Indian and Ferry Creeks. The outfalls are points that designate the location at which cooling water becomes Waters of the State. A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan required by this NPDES permit covers storm water discharges into cooling waters from designated solid waste management units (SWMUs), industrial activity areas, and services support areas. (Also see Section 7.12 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.)

In 2014 Fermilab contracted a state-licensed applicator to treat a limited number of ponds for algae and pond weeds by applying herbicide.  An ongoing zebra mussel infestation of the ICW system pipes and pumping infrastructure was managed by using a continuous feed of NaClO (sodium hypochlorite) solution at the Casey’s Pond intake to the ICW system.

### 6.3.2 Non-Radioactive Releases to Surface Water

Monitoring for non-radiological chemical constituents in surface water was limited to NPDES permit parameters (temperature, flow, pH, and chlorine) this year. Discharge Monitoring Reports for six different outfalls were submitted monthly to the IEPA.

In 2014 there were two exceedances of the NPDES permit for chlorine discharges to Kress Creek. Following the first exceedance in January 2014, a total chlorine analyzer was installed in conjunction with an existing free chlorine analyzer at Casey’s pond pump house to provide additional data for chlorine injection into the ICW system. The second exceedance was due to incorrect amounts of chlorine being injected because the analyzers’ reagents had been inadvertently switched. To further reduce the possibility of exceeding our discharge limits a plan is being developed for a dechlorination system in proximity to the Kress Creek outfall.

### 6.3.3 Radioactive Releases to Surface Water

Numerous sumps collect and drain water from building footings and from under beamline tunnels in the Tevatron, Main Injector, and the Experimental Areas. Water collected by these sumps often contains detectable concentrations of radionuclides (primarily tritium, 3H) that have been leached by rainwater from radioactive soil near beam targets and absorbers or released accidentally to sumps due to losses from beamline cooling water systems. These sumps discharge to ditches and ponds onsite.

In addition, water is also collected from the NuMI tunnel system. NuMI tunnel water contains measurable concentrations of tritium and the primary source of the tritium comes from water contact with components within the tunnel. The water that is collected consists primarily of groundwater that has infiltrated into the tunnel. This high-quality water is pumped from the tunnel and directed into the ICW system where it is used primarily for make-up water for the Central Utilities Building (CUB) cooling towers. Excess NuMI water and effluent from the towers is directed to the ICW pond system.

Fermilab continued to discharge measureable concentrations of tritium to surface waters off site. The concentrations measured were well below the DOE Order 458.1 Derived Concentration Standard of 1,900 pCi/ml. Releases depend on pond levels and the operational mode of the accelerator complex. Fermilab’s site-specific NPDES permit includes monitoring requirements for tritium at all six outfalls. In 2014 for the first time, measurable tritium (above 1 pCi/ml) was discharged to Kress Creek at the outfall. Monthly data from measurements taken at site boundary locations are made publicly available through the *Tritium at Fermilab* website. Monitoring for radioactivity in surface water continues to be a primary component of Fermilab’s routine environmental surveillance program.

### 6.3.4 Releases to Sanitary Sewers

Fermilab maintains an onsite piping system for the conveyance of sanitary effluent. This effluent is directed to the cities of Batavia and Warrenville/Naperville for treatment. In addition Fermilab operates three systems that require pretreatment prior to release to the sewers. These operations require wastewater pretreatment permits issued by IEPA. The permits are as follows.

* + - 1. Individual industrial wastewater pre-treatment permit that allows Fermilab to discharge wastewater effluent from deionized water regeneration operations occurring at the CUB to the City of Batavia sanitary sewer treatment works.
      2. Individual industrial wastewater pretreatment permit that allows for metal finishing wastewater from the Technical Division’s Cavity Processing laboratory (CPL) at Industrial Building 4 (IB4) to be discharged to the City of Batavia sanitary sewer treatment works.
      3. Individual industrial wastewater pretreatment permit that allows for metal finishing wastewater from the Technical Division’s village operations to be discharged to the City of Naperville Reclamation Plant. Discharges covered under this permit have not occurred since the permit was issued in 2011. Fermilab will allow this permit to expire in 2015 as it is no longer needed. These operations have moved to IB3 and will be covered in the CPL permit described above.

Monitoring stations, located at the site boundary, sample sewer discharges to the municipalities of Batavia and Warrenville. The discharge at these locations is a mixture of all effluents contributing to that sanitary sewer system. Analytical results for metals are compared to municipal discharge limits to track compliance. Fermilab occasionally exceeds the limits for iron released to Warrenville. This did not occur in 2014. Aging pipes are suspected to be the source of the exceedances. These exceedances have been discussed with the municipalities.

Low levels of tritium have been detected in effluent discharged to the Batavia treatment works since August 2005. All discharges in 2014 were well below DOE Order 458.1 Derived Concentration Standards (total tritium 5 curies, concentration less than 9,500 pCi/ml) and are summarized below. No other isotopes were detected.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Total Tritium** | **0.089 Curies** |
| **Average Concentration** | 0.245 pCi/ml |
| **Highest Concentration** | 3.3 pCi/ml |
| **Total Sanitary Volume** | 34,106 kGal |

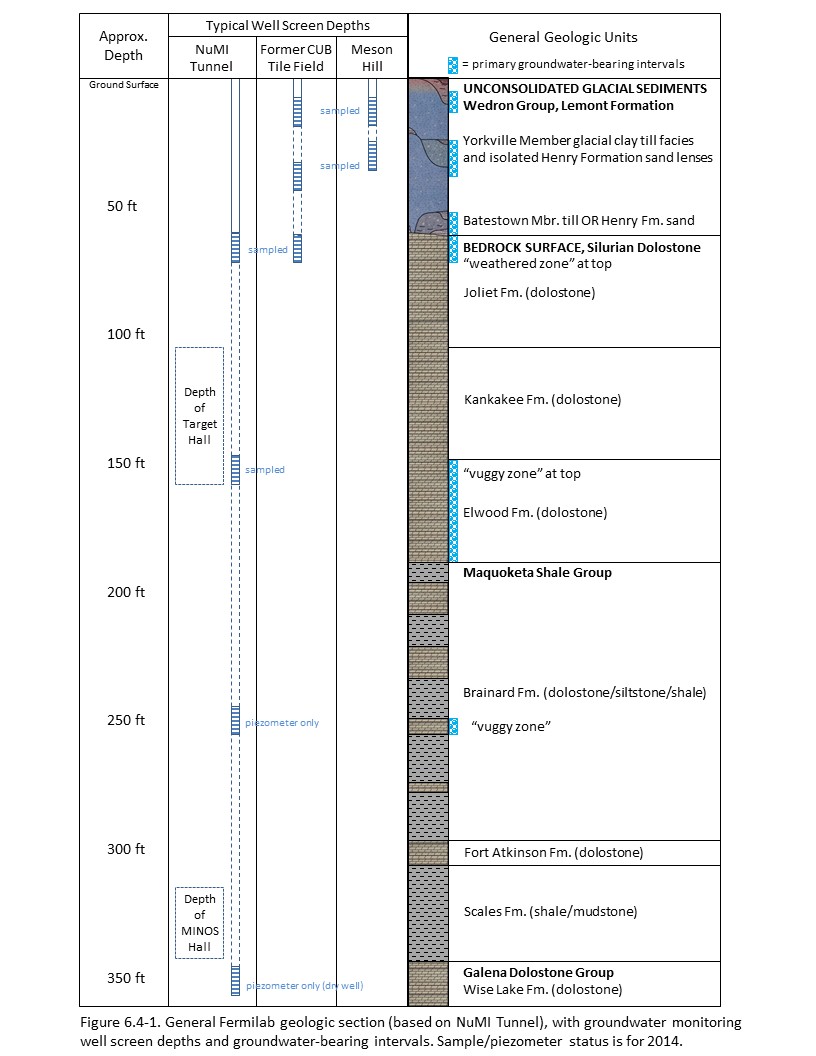
Fermilab’s Tritium Working Group continued to investigate sources of tritium into both the sanitary sewer system and the Industrial Cooling Water system. As part of this effort a concerted effort was undertaken investigate sources of tritium in the sanitary system in the southern sections of the system. A video inspection of the sewer system showed a leak into the system near the Linac. Subsequent sampling that isolated that area of the sewer showed that the leak did not contain tritium.

## 

## 6.4 Groundwater Quality

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) publishes groundwater quality standards (35 IAC 620) and defines Class I groundwater as a non-degradable resource, which is to be highly protected. Water residing in or near the Silurian dolostone bedrock aquifer, the upper surface of which is 50 to 80 feet below the ground surface in the Joliet Formation at Fermilab (Figure 6.4-1), as well as water in the overlying Batestown Member or Henry Formation, is classified as the top of Class I groundwater. Water in the glacial deposits overlying the Batestown or lowermost Henry has been demonstrated to be Class II water requiring less-stringent standards.

The locations of groundwater monitoring wells are shown in Figure 6.4-2, with approximate screen depth intervals for wells related to sampling programs illustrated in Figure 6.4-1. In 2014 ten glacial and Silurian dolostone (Joliet Formation) monitoring wells at the Central Utility Building (CUB) Pipe and Clay Tile Field and eight glacial wells at Meson Hill were sampled as part of ongoing RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) corrective actions at these locations. During 2006, the Meson and Neutrino Soil Activation Areas were removed from the RFI as a Solid Waste Management Unit; however, under the Lab’s environmental surveillance program, sampling continues in the five Joliet Formation wells in this region. For informational purposes, and as a courtesy, the results are reported to the IEPA annually. Four background wells (Joliet Formation) were sampled to assess tritium levels at the up gradient (north) edge of the laboratory property (BMW-1 through BMW-4) and two Joliet Formation wells were sampled to assess tritium levels near the NuMI Target Hall(S-1426-1 and S-1426-2, replacing S-1273 from previous years). An additional 124 wells with various screen depth intervals (Figure 6.4-2) are used as piezometers (pore-water pressure measuring apparatus) to gather information on groundwater flow directions site-wide. These data are used in conceptualizing the horizontal and vertical transport of potential contaminants from past and present operational areas of concern.





### 6.4.1 Radionuclides in Groundwater

U.S. Department of Energy policy on groundwater protection as expressed in DOE O458.1 is consistent with the Illinois Class I groundwater standard of 20 pCi/ml. Twenty seven samples were collected from eleven locations for radionuclide analysis. Tritium and accelerator-produced radionuclides were not detected in any Class I groundwater samples during 2014.

There are six “sump” wells at the Booster Neutrino Berm that are routinely sampled for tritium. They are not true groundwater wells, but rather drain the interior, interstitial space and exterior of the dual-liner system around the decay pipe via lateral pipes. Water in these sump wells originates from surface infiltration that makes its way through a damaged portion of the liner system near the north end, adjacent to MI-13A. Tritium results in these wells has fluctuated between non-detect and 12,900 pCi/ml and is routed to Pond F or it is drummed for disposal if the holding tank concentration exceeds 1,900 pCi/ml. In early 2014 a temporary surface cover was installed over the north end of the berm to reduce the volume of infiltrating water into the decay pipe liner system and in late 2014 a permanent surface cover and drain system was installed. Tritium concentrations and infiltrating water volumes in the Booster Neutrino Berm sump wells will continue to be monitored to evaluate the potential impact to groundwater.

### 6.4.2 Chemicals in Groundwater

In 2014, semi-annual groundwater sampling events were conducted at two Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs). Chemical analyses were performed on these samples as required by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Facility Investigation (RFI). (See Section 7.13.2 RFI Activities.)

# 7.0 Compliance with Specific Environmental Requirements

The following sections are a summary of Fermilab’s compliance with key environmental requirements.

## 7.1 Clean Air Act

Open burn permits to allow prairie/land management burning, maintenance of Meson Hill, and fire extinguisher training were renewed by the IEPA in 2013. The annual air emissions report for 2013 was not required due to Fermilab’s registration as a ROSS source. The annual radionuclide emissions report was submitted to the USEPA in June 2014.

In 2013 the actual annual air emissions for Criteria Air Pollutants (carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, and volatile organic materials), were 2.92 tons per year, much less than the maximum allowed for a ROSS site.

Doses to the public from radioactive emissions in 2013 continued to be well below the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standard of 10 mrem/year, and also much less than the EPA’s continuous monitoring threshold of 0.1 mrem/year. In 2013 an estimated 24.7 Curies were released from various sources (see section 6.1.1 Radioactive Emissions). The CAP-88PC2 dispersion model calculated the maximum dose equivalent delivered to a member of the public (at the boundary of the Lab) to be 0.0053 mrem/year in 2013.

Fermilab is registered with the Clean Fuel Fleet Program (CFFP); one of several programs the IEPA has implemented to help improve air quality in the Chicago ozone non-attainment area.

In 2013 Fermilab did not exceed reporting thresholds under the U.S EPA’s Mandatory Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule.

## 7.2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reporting under Executive Order 13514

In October 2009, Executive Order (EO) 13514 took effect and directed federal agencies to account, report and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions using 2008 as the baseline year. In support of the Department of Energy’s (DOE’s) effort to comply, EO 13514 was added to the Fermilab contract. As a result, GHG data for fiscal year 2014 was collected and submitted to DOE via the Consolidated Energy Data Report. GHGs are divided into three categories: Scope 1, 2, and 3. Scope 1 emissions are direct emissions from activities directly controlled by Fermilab (boilers, emergency generators, fleet vehicles, and fugitive emissions). Scope 2 emissions are indirect emissions and for Fermilab include only purchased electricity. Scope 3 emissions are other indirect emissions such as employee air travel, wastewater treatment, electrical transmission and distribution losses, waste, ground travel, and employee commuting. Fermilab’s baseline data is shown in Table 1 below. FY2012, FY2013 and FY2014 emissions are also shown. The performance status indicates that Fermilab has made a 49.3% reduction in Scopes 1 and 2 emissions over the baseline year. A primary factor in the reductions over the past 2 years is due to the shutdown, upgrades and gradual restart of the accelerator complex. Scope 3 emissions were reduced by more than 35%. Electrical transmission and distribution losses associated with purchased power are Fermilab’s most significant source of Scope 3 emissions.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Fermilab’s Greenhouse Gas Emissions** | | | | | |
| **DOE Goal** | **Baseline** | **FY 2012** | **FY 2013** | **FY 2014** | **Performance Status (FY 2014)** |
| 28% **Scope 1 & 2** GHG reduction by FY 2020 from a FY 2008 baseline  (metric tons equivalent CO2) | 384,366.1 | 171,274.7 | 143,423.3 | 194,901.6 | -49.3% |
| 13% **Scope 3** GHG reduction by FY 2020 from a FY 2008 baseline  (MT CO2e) | 29,502.5 | 17,694.6 | 14,325.7 | 19,154.7 | -35.1% |

Fermilab is committed to assist DOE in meeting reduction goals of 28% for Scopes 1 and 2, and 13% for Scope 3 by 2020. Fermilab intends to use renewable energy certificates based on our purchased power consumption as a primary mechanism to reduce Scope 2 emissions.

## 7.3 Underground Storage Tanks and Fuels

The three underground storage tanks (USTs) in use at Site 38 Fuel Dispensing Facility were operated and maintained per current UST standards. An Illinois State Fire Marshall compliance inspection was conducted on 11/26/2013 and our Underground Storage Tank Motor Fuel Dispensing Permit was approved. The UST system continues to be inspected on a semi-annual basis by a qualified subcontracted vendor, and on a daily, monthly, and quarterly basis by a Class A certified Underground Storage Tank operator. The inspection activity ensures that the internal and external leak detection systems are functioning properly. Per IEPA and USEPA rule changes, the Stage II vapor recovery function of the fuel dispensers were decommissioned in 2014. Additionally, work was completed at the same time to replace the Diesel and Gasoline spill buckets and the drop tube for the E85 UST. There were no compliance issues identified in 2014.

Fermilab continues to decrease the utilization of petroleum based fuels. Fermilab has reduced petroleum usage by 9% in the past year. 79% of Fermilab vehicles use alternate fuels (approximately 49,500 gallons of E85 and 20,000 gallons of biodiesel), with several medium and heavy-duty vehicles operating on biodiesel fuels

## 7.4 The Endangered Species Act of 1973

Impact to endangered species is considered as part of Fermilab’s environmental reviews under NEPA. The project area and impact to protected species to critical habitat are questions explicitly asked on the environmental review form that all projects must complete prior to construction. No compliance issues were identified in 2014.

## 7.5 Executive Order 11988, “Floodplain Management”

Impact to floodplains is considered as part of Fermilab’s environmental reviews under NEPA. Project information, such as total project area or if filling is required, are questions explicitly asked on the environmental review form that all projects must complete prior to construction. No flood plain issues were encountered during 2014.

## 7.6 Clean Water Act Section 404 (and Executive Order 11990, “Protection of Wetlands”)

Pre-evaluation of Fermilab activities in wetlands continued to be accomplished through the NEPA and construction design review processes. The Lab continued to use task manager/construction coordinator training to instruct participants in how to ensure that potential work areas are screened for the presence of wetlands and to be aware of all aspects of environmental compliance management. The Lab conducted several wetland delineation activities as part of project planning, and one CWA Section 404 permit was obtained for the Short Baseline Neutrino Project.

## 7.7 Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)

In 2014, the use of pesticides and herbicides at Fermilab were handled in accordance with FIFRA. Fermilab adheres to the principles of Integrated Pest Management in order to minimize pollution and adverse environmental impacts.

## 7.8 Illinois Department of Natural Resources “Rules for Construction and Maintenance of Dams”

The Department of Energy holds an Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) issued permit that classifies the Main Injector berm as a small *Class III* dam. The dam provides limited flood control to areas downstream from the Lab in the Indian Creek watershed. Fermilab reports to IDNR annually on the condition of the dam, and on a five-year cycle Fermilab is required to perform a comprehensive inspection and file a detailed report on the condition of this structure. A comprehensive inspection was conducted in April of 2013 and an “Owners Maintenance Report” was transmitted to the IDNR by DOE. No non-routine action items were identified during the 2013 comprehensive inspection

## 7.9 The Migratory Bird Treaty Act

Fermilab maintains a proactive approach at protecting the Canada goose population onsite. Fermilab contracts with a firm to use dogs to harass geese in order to displace them from heavily populated areas on the site. The firm holds a valid permit from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to pursue this activity, which was carried out during March and April. Fermilab also possesses a Nuisance Wildlife Control Permit issued by the IDNR that allows for the destruction of Canada goose nests if they become a safety hazard. The permit allows the Lab to destroy up to ten nests each year. During 2014, 1 nest containing 3 eggs was destroyed.

For some background, the U.S. legislature passed the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (MBTA) to protect birds from the high demand for feather plumes for women’s hats during the time period. MBTA applies to over 1,000 species of birds, including the ubiquitous American robin. Migratory species are those whose individuals migrate between countries by "normal ecological processes." Because the law prohibits a broad range of activities, the interpretation of what constitutes a violation fluctuates. Thus, inadvertently affecting migratory birds during construction or other activities could have serious repercussions. However, the courts have usually held to a narrower interpretation and in the early 2000s, guidance was passed that directed agencies to outline a plan to avoid harming migratory birds and to take proactive steps to conserve bird populations. A Department of Energy [memorandum of understanding](http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/Partnerships/DOEMOUfinalsignature.pdf) (MOU) with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was finalized in 2006 and provides a number of measures designed to "protect and conserve" migratory bird habitat to the fullest extent practicable. Fermilab addresses this MOU by evaluating migratory bird impacts during the normal course of conducting environmental reviews under [NEPA](http://www.fnal.gov/pub/today/archive/archive_2012/today12-08-22.html) to avoid or minimize impacts to even the most common birds as much as reasonable.

## 7.10 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Compliance with this Act requires federal agencies to evaluate their proposed actions to determine the potential effects on the quality of the ‘human environment,’ which includes many different aspects of the natural environment, the built environment, and human health prior to carrying out those actions.

In addition, the Council on Environmental Quality and DOE NEPA regulations as well as DOE Order 451.1 prescribe an evaluation process to ensure that the proper level of review is performed before a commitment of resources is made. During 2014, Fermilab met the NEPA requirements by continuing to implement a program to review all proposed activities and evaluate their potential effects; this program is set forth in the *Fermilab Environment, Safety and Health Manual* (FESHM) Chapter 8060 – *National Environmental Policy Review.* Most of the reviewed activities were considered categorically excluded administrative actions requiring no formal documentation (found in 10 CFR 1021 Appendix A) or those fitting within the list of DOE preapproved Fermilab site wide categorically excluded routine maintenance activities. However, 15 projects/actions did need to be addressed by submitting environmental evaluation notification forms to DOE; DOE then formally determined that all 15 of the projects were ‘Categorically Excluded’ (see definition below) per 10 CFR 1021 Appendix B or were within the scope of a previous environmental assessment. These determinations are posted on the DOE Fermi Site Office website. In addition, another Fermilab site wide generic categorical exclusion was approved by DOE in 2014 for *Small Scale Research and Development Projects and Conventional Laboratory Operations.*

*Categorical exclusions* (CXs) are categories of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and for which, therefore, neither an *Environmental Assessment* nor an *Environmental Impact Statement* is required.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) is currently being prepared for the Long Baseline Neutrino Facility (LBNF) project. Sub‐ contractors have been retained to prepare the document and assist DOE in the overall process and to provide information and analysis from the Far Site in South Dakota. The EA will analyze potential impacts at both Fermilab and the Sanford Underground Research Facility in South Dakota. The Proposed Action and 2 Alternative Actions are being considered. Impacts from the project as well as cumulative impacts resulting from other reasonably foreseeable actions are included in the Assessment.

## 7.11 National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Archaeological Resources Protection Act, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990

Compliance with these Acts, as well as with DOE Order 450.1 was accomplished through the NEPA review process that included an evaluation of all proposed land‐disturbing projects in 2014 to assess any potential impacts on historic resources. No compliance issues were identified in 2014. Additionally, the DOE required Cultural Resources Management Plan (CRMP), following guidelines outlined in DOE Publication DOE/EH‐0501, was revised (originally issued in 2002) and finalized in 2014. The CRMP assures continued compliance with the above listed Acts by providing a comprehensive overview for the locations and status of all cultural resources within the Fermilab site boundaries thereby facilitating future NEPA reviews

A site visit was conducted by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) and Kane County Historical Society Representatives on May 7, 2014 to determine eligibility of four Fermilab properties for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). IHPA concurred with the conclusions in Appendix F of the *Archaeological and Architectural Assessment of Historic Properties within the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, Batavia Township, Kane County and Winfield Township, DuPage County, Illinois* report, issued in 2013, that Site 65 and Site 67 barns and the residences at Site 29 and Site 58 were not eligible for the NRHP.

Annually, a questionnaire on Federal archaeological activities is requested by the Department of the Interior. Fermilab submitted its responses in February of 2014.

## 7.12 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)

The IEPA has issued Fermilab three National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits that were active in 2014. In addition, Fermilab holds three industrial wastewater pretreatment operating permits issued by IEPA (also covered under NPDES regulations and are described under Releases to Sanitary Sewers). The permits are listed below.

1. Illinois General NPDES Storm Water Permit for Construction Activities is required for all projects that disturb greater than one acre. In 2014 there were four projects requiring such a permit to be in place:
   1. NoVA Near Detector
   2. Liquid Argon Test Facility
   3. Muon Campus Project
   4. OTE IARC Building
2. An individual (specifically tailored to an individual facility) NPDES permit covers combined storm water and non-contact cooling water discharges associated with industrial activities. Six outfalls are associated with this permit: Outfall 001 to Ferry Creek, Outfall 002 to Kress Creek, and Outfalls 003, 004, 005, and 006 to Indian Creek. Outfalls 004, 005 and 006 were added to the permit during the last permit renewal. Outfall 004 covers potential discharges from the MINOS ICW holding tank and Outfalls 005 and 006 cover storm water overflow discharges from the Main Injector pond system. The NPDES permit dictates that water temperature, pH, flow, and tritium is to be monitored at all six outfalls; chlorine concentration is monitored at the Kress and Indian Creek outfalls. The monitoring results are reported to the IEPA on a monthly basis. A new permit was issued in April 2014 from the IEPA.
3. Illinois NPDES General Permit for Pesticide Application Point Source Discharges covers pesticide applications performed by Fermilab personnel. This includes any algae or weed control applications near ditches or ponds. This is a newer permit for the IEPA and Fermilab received coverage in July 2012.

## 7.13 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA)

RCRA governs the management of hazardous waste. Fermilab maintains a permit under RCRA to manage for disposal or reclamation hazardous waste generated at the laboratory. Radioactive waste is not governed under RCRA and is managed following DOE requirements. Fermilab does not treat, or dispose of regulated waste on site. All wastes are properly disposed though licensed waste handling, transport or disposal facilities. An annual Hazardous Waste Report is transmitted to IEPA and radioactive waste summaries are provided to DOE Fermi Site Office.

### 7.13.1 Regulated Waste Disposal and Reclamation

The following volumes of regulated waste including radioactive waste and non-radioactive waste were managed for disposal by Fermilab’s Hazard Control Technology Team (HCTT) in 2014.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Waste Material** | **Cubic Meters** |
| **Non-Routine Hazardous Waste (RCRA + TSCA)** | 13.0 |
| **Routine Hazardous Waste (RCRA + TSCA)** | 4.8 |
| **Non-Routine Non-Hazardous Special Waste** | 20.3 |
| **Routine Non-Hazardous Special Waste** | 17.3 |
| **De-Classified Special Wastes** | 4.0 |
| **Dumpster/Landfill Waste** | 6,152 |
| **Radioactive Waste (DOE regulated)** | 103 |

In addition the following volumes of waste were generated by Fermilab and managed for reclamation/recycling by the HCTT 2014.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Waste Material** | **Kilograms** |
| **Ethylene Glycol** | 7,563 |
| **Lead Acid Batteries** | 5,216 |
| **Non PCB Fluorescent Light Ballasts** | 640 |
| **Mercury Containing Lamps** | 14,572 |
| **Mercury Containing Equipment** | 6 |
| **Non PCB Capacitors** | 190 |
| **Oil Filters** | 272 |
| **Safety Kleen Solvent** | 1,033 |
| **Used Oil** | 20,000 |
| **Universal Waste Batteries** | 271 |

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### 7.13.2 RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) Activities

**CUB Pipe and Clay Tile Field (SWMU 12)**

At SWMU 12, the pipes and clay tiles, along with all chromate-contaminated soil and gravel, have previously been removed. Contaminated soil was disposed of properly and the surrounding soil was sampled and analyzed. On a semi-annual frequency, Fermilab continues to sample monitoring wells installed at this unit. All ten monitoring wells at SWMU 12 were sampled during the 2nd and 4th quarters of 2014.

The following table summarizes the 2014 results at SWMU 12 from wells with results above either the Class I or Class II Groundwater Quality Standards.

Glacial deposit well MWD1 produced 2nd and 4th quarter total chloride results of 1160 mg/L and 1220 mg/L, respectively. The Class II Groundwater Quality Standard is 200 mg/L.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Glacial Deposit Monitoring Wells** | |  |  | 2Q14 | 4Q14 |
| PARAMETER | | Class II GW Quality Standard |  | Well CUBD1 MWD1 | Well CUBD1 MWD1 |
| INORGANIC (mg/L) | |  |  |  |  |
| Chloride, Total | | 200 |  | 1160 | 1220 |
| Lead, Total | | 0.1 |  | U | U |
|  | |  |  |  |  |
|  | Grey Shading = Above the Class II GW Quality Standard | | | |  |
| U = Undetected | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | |  |  |  |
| **Bedrock Monitoring Wells** | |  | 2Q14 | 2Q14 | 4Q14 |
| PARAMETER | | Class I GW Quality Standard | Well CUBBd3 MW7B | Well CUBBd4 MW6B | None |
| INORGANIC (mg/L) | |  |  |  |  |
| Chloride, Total | | 200 | 3 | 24 |  |
| Lead, Total | | 0.0075 | 0.009 | 0.011 |  |
|  | |  |  |  |  |
|  | Grey Shading = Above the Class I GW Quality Standard | | | |  |
| U = Undetected | |  |  |  |  |

Bedrock wells MW6B and MW7B produced 2nd quarter total lead results of 0.011 mg/L and 0.009 mg/L, respectively. The Class I groundwater quality standard is 0.0075 mg/L. There were no lead results above the Class I groundwater quality standard in 4th quarter.

**Meson Hill (SWMU 13)**

Closure activities for Meson Hill were completed in 1998. This included moving concrete, grading, installing a clay cap and a layer of topsoil, hydro-seeding, and a site inspection. Fermilab continues sampling all monitoring wells installed at this unit on a semi-annual frequency, but an additional quarterly round was collected during 1st Quarter 2014 to support data analysis efforts to prepare an affidavit to cease groundwater monitoring at Meson Hill (SWMU 13). Analysis of groundwater from the monitoring wells screened within the upper Quaternary deposits has previously shown elevated concentrations of total dissolved sulfate and associated total dissolved solids above the 99% confidence level and Class II groundwater standard.

An Assessment Monitoring Plan was developed, reviewed and accepted by the IEPA in 2001 as a result of the continued monitoring results of elevated concentrations of total dissolved sulfates and associated total dissolved solids, and implemented and reported to the IEPA during 2002. The plan was developed to determine the source of the increase, concentrations and extent of sulfate migration, and assess any potential threat to human health and the environment. Results from the study indicated natural conditions were the source of the detected sulfate concentrations and that there was no potential threat to human health and the environment.

A directive was received from IEPA in August 2002 requiring the replacement of the background monitoring well at the RCRA unit. A post closure modification request was developed and forwarded to IEPA detailing the investigation, installation and sample process for the proposed background-monitoring well. IEPA responded in January 2003 approving the post closure modification request with conditions and modifications. The new background monitoring well was installed on May 22, 2003. Sampling of this monitoring point began with the 2nd quarter 2003 semi-annual monitoring and continued through the 4th quarter 2004. New 99% confidence levels were proposed in a modification request for Fermilab’s post- closure care plan during 2005. New 99% confidence levels were received from IEPA in a directive to Fermilab during 2006. All eight of the monitoring wells at SWMU 13 were sampled during the 1st, 2nd and 4th quarters of 2014.

The following table summarizes the 2014 results at Meson Hill from wells with results above either the Class II Groundwater Quality Standards or site-specific 99% Upper Confidence Limits from the background well (G108).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | |
|  | Criteria | | 1Q14 | 4Q14 |
| PARAMETER | Class II GW Quality Standard | 99% Upper Confidence Limit | Well G108 | Well G103 |
| INDICATOR, Filtered (mg/L) |  |  |  |  |
| Ammonia (as N), Dissolved | N/A | 0.19 | U | U (P) |
| Arsenic, Dissolved | 0.2 | 0.01 | U | U |
| Cadmium, Dissolved | 0.05 | 0.004 | U | U |
| Chloride, Dissolved | 200 | 477 | 20 | 149 (H) |
| Iron, Dissolved | 5.0 | 0.83 | U | U |
| Lead, Dissolved | 0.1 | 0.01 | U | U |
| Manganese, Dissolved | 10.0 | 0.198 | U | 0.028 |
| Mercury, Dissolved | 0.01 | 0.0004 | U | U |
| Sulfate, Dissolved | 400 | 468 | 130 | 64 |
| Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) | 1200 | 1715 | 582 | 690 |
| INDICATOR, Unfiltered (mg/L) |  |  |  |  |
| Cyanide, Total | 0.6 | 0.20 | U | U |
| Phenols, Total Recoverable | 0.1 | 0.023 | U | U |
| Total Organic Carbon (TOC) | N/A | 5.7 | 1.8 | 1.5 (H) |
| Total Organic Halogens (TOX) | N/A | 0.075 | U (S) | U (S) |
| INORGANIC, Unfiltered (mg/L) |  |  |  |  |
| Chromium, Total | 1.0 | N/A | 0.006 | 1.91 |
| Iron, Total | 5.0 | N/A | 7.15 | 0.12 |
| Lead, Total | 0.1 | N/A | U | U |
| Sulfate, Total | 400 | N/A | 123 | 59 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Bold = Outside the 99% Upper Confidence Limit of Background Levels** | | | | |
| Grey Shading = Above the Class II GW Quality Standard | | |  |  |
| U = Undetected  S = Analyte was subcontracted to another laboratory for analysis |  |  |  |  |
| P = Preservation adjusted in lab |  |  |  |  |
| H = Holding time exceeded |  |  |  |  |

The elevated concentration of total iron during the 1st quarter is attributed to background conditions. The elevated concentration of total chromium during the 4th quarter is attributed to the inclusion in the sample of sediments that have precipitated and settled at the bottom of the well. These results are typical of conditions since 2010 showing that Meson Hill has not impacted groundwater, which was the basis for the November 2014 submission to Illinois EPA of the Affidavit for Certification of Post-Closure Care for Non-Hazardous Waste Facilities.

## 7.14 Safe Drinking Water Act

Fermilab’s domestic water is purchased from the City of Warrenville. In addition, Fermilab retains four private wells at three sites (Site 29 [two wells], Site 53 [Buffalo Barn], and Site 56 [Horse Barn]). Private wells do not require any water treatment or sampling. Estimates of water withdrawn from these wells are reported annually to the Illinois State Water Survey.

## 7.15 Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) TITLE III or Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986 (EPCRA)

Under these regulations Fermilab is required to provide the USEPA, State, and local officials with an annual accounting of hazardous, toxic, and extremely hazardous chemicals used or stored onsite in quantities greater than their respective reporting thresholds as defined in SARA Title III Section 313. Fermilab had no chemicals that exceeded the reporting threshold in calendar year 2014.

As required by Section 312 of SARA Title III, Fermilab will submit a Tier II Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory (2014) to state and local emergency services and disaster agencies in February 2015.

## 7.16 Oil Spill Prevention

Fermilab’s Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan is in compliance with 40 CFR 112 – Oil Pollution Prevention. This US EPA-enforced regulation states that any facility that has the capacity to use or store more than 1,320 gallons of oil (petroleum, plant or animal oils and fats) must write and implement a SPCC Plan that encompasses every oil source with the capacity of 55 gallons or more. A Fermilab ES&H Manual (FESHM) chapter and SPCC training for oil handling employees describe the Fermilab SPCC Plan. Training must be repeated annually according to the regulation.

Fermilab has more than 600,000 gallons of oil on site including more than 350 oil-filled transformers. All the Division/Section/Center Environmental Officers work to ensure the oil sources owned by their organizations are in compliance (provided with secondary containment, inspected as required, etc.).

Due to changes in oil sources, the SPCC Plan was re-certified by a Professional Engineer as meeting the requirements of the regulation. The P.E. certification occurred in February 2014, and was approved by the Fermilab Directorate (Chief Operating Officer and ESH&Q Director) and the DOE-Fermi Site Office Manager the same month. Facilities Engineering Services Section (FESS) provided the P.E. certification.

## 7.17 Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA)

In 2014, the Accelerator Division continued its program to phase out the use of PCBs, when opportunities occurred. This involved removing the remaining PCB capacitors from Linac quadrupole power supplies, and replacing them with non-PCB capacitors.  Additional PCB capacitors were removed from power supplies that were located in PS5 service building.  All capacitors were disposed of properly. This has reduced the PCB inventory by 792 pounds.  Further reductions are being planned.

Groundwater at Main Ring service buildings B1 and B4 was determined to be PCB-contaminated as a result of seepage of groundwater into the excavations after the completion of the phased cleanup in 2002.  These locations could not be declared “clean” so Fermilab requested approval from EPA to classify the residual PCB contamination as “disposed in place.”  EPA approved the request with some conditions that included Fermilab placing a notice to the deed that identified the location of the contaminated groundwater and indicate that its use is restricted.  This was accomplished in June of 2010.  The laboratory was also required to notify the Agency in writing, at least 10 days prior to conducting any excavation activities that involve the removal of soil or other material in the area where the contaminated groundwater exists.  If groundwater is encountered, it must be sampled, and all results must be reported to EPA.  Several internal mechanisms were created to ensure that these requirements were met, including placing signs at the affected locations, adding the locations to the Geographic Information System (GIS), and modifying ESH&Q review procedures.

# 8.0 Pollution Prevention and Waste Minimization

Fermilab continues to make progress minimizing waste and reducing pollution. In FY2014, Fermilab recycled 743 tons of material through a combination of office/ residential type recycling and recycling of scrap metals, wood, tires, etc. 74% of waste material generated was diverted to recycling. This amount does not include electronics.

Fermilab recycles or donates for reuse 100% of eligible used computer equipment. Approximately 6 tons of computing and electronic equipment including servers, printers, laptops, monitors, cellphones, PDAs, TVs etc. were recycled. Another 6 tons were donated for reuse through DOE’s Computers for Learning program.

Permanent dumpsters dedicated to recycling construction and demolition debris were staged on site. Fermilab has these dumpsters to encourage recycling of materials from small-scale construction projects. Fermilab Time and Materials (T&M) contractors have been directed to use these dumpsters for waste generated from projects. Including large scale projects, approximately 1070 tons of construction waste (94% of the total waste generated) was recycled in 2014.

Other notable pollution prevention measures include:

* In May 2014, the cafeteria food service provider started composting their kitchen scraps, coffee grounds and paper towels. During the latter half of 2014, 4.17 metric tons of food and compostable waste was diverted from the landfill and hauled to a compost facility.
* The kitchen’s grease traps are cleaned out every two months and the “sludge” is taken to an anaerobic digester at either Fair Oaks Dairy Farm in Indiana or the Downers Grove sanitation district. It is mixed with other organic waste as fuel to create electricity. In 2014, 6.8 metric tons of sludge was converted to energy.
* Several surrounding municipalities dispose of their residential fall leaf refuse on Fermilab’s agricultural fields. In 2014, 17,500 cubic yards (roughly 793 tons) were incorporated into the fields as a soil amendment after composting.
* It is common practice at Fermilab for project engineers, technicians, and physicists to reuse or reconfigure old equipment for new experiments.
* The laboratory is implementing a comprehensive managed print services initiative and all printers were inventoried throughout the site. Unless there was a stated need, personal printers were removed from individual areas.  To a greater extent, departments now are sharing printers that are on networked services.  Printers are defaulted to double-sided printing and black/white ink.  There is now a select, limited choice of new printers, all of which are EPEAT registered.
* Grid Computing Center received the Energy Star Award for the fourth consecutive year. The cold aisle containment installed at the Grid Computing Center last fall resulted in a 14% reduction in energy used for cooling. The Grid Computing Center (GCC) became the first Fermilab building to attain 100 percent of the Guiding Principles for High Performance and Sustainable Buildings, a federal mandate to dramatically increase the efficiency and sustainability of federally owned buildings.
* The fleet management team at Fermilab has a fleet monitoring program that minimizes idling time and promotes efficient driving, which both lead to less fuel use.  They also continually evaluate the fleet size to insure the appropriate number of vehicles. Only alternative fuel vehicles are purchased.

# 9.0 Radiological Clearance of Property and Metals Release Suspension

Fermilab has operated an active scrap metal recycling program for many years. The program includes policies and procedures to ensure that the DOE secretarial mandates regarding the moratorium and suspension on the release of scrap metals from departmental sites is not violated. Historically, as a general operating principle, Fermilab has not released radioactive metals as scrap. Beginning in 2000, to comply with the suspension directive, the laboratory began holding non-radioactive scrap metals originating from radiological areas (as defined 10CFR 835). This material has been accumulating since the suspension became effective. Direct impacts as a result of the suspension include the loss of scrap revenue, the costs associated with the management and storage of this material and the potential future cost of disposal if it cannot be scrapped.

In 2014 Fermilab continued to operate a metals recycling program that has a rigorous material screening process and has incorporated numerous ongoing improvements that have been made since 2000. An enhanced Material Move Request form (MMR) is used to clearly identify and document which metals are eligible for recycling. These metals are then subjected to multiple hand held radiation surveys and must pass successfully through the vehicle scrap monitor before leaving the site.

“Recycling Packages” are created for metals being disposed from posted Radioactive Material Areas. Recycling packages also include a precise description of the metals to be released, with pictures, area surveys of the building where the metals were removed, and a summary of the timeline that tracks the location of the materials for the duration that they were on site. In 2014, 610 metric tons of various metals met Fermilab’s release requirements and were recycled.

# 10.0 Conclusion

The operations at Fermilab during 2014 had no significant adverse impact on the environment or on public safety. An emphasis on compliance with regulations and requirements and environmental stewardship remains a high priority for the laboratory.

1. Renewable Energy Certificates [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. High Energy Mission Specific Facilities [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Electrical transmission and distribution losses associated with power supply from the electrical grid. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)