6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL MEASUREMENTS AND MONITORING PROGRAMS

6.1 RADIOLOGICAL MONITORING

6.1.1 Effluent Monitoring Program

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requires, pursuant to 10 CFR 20 (CFR, 2003q) that licensees conduct surveys necessary to demonstrate compliance with these regulations and to demonstrate that the amount of radioactive material present in effluent from the facility has been kept as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA). In addition, the NRC requires pursuant to 10 CFR 70 (CFR, 2003b), that licensees submit semiannual reports, specifying the quantities of the principal radionuclides released to unrestricted areas and other information needed to estimate the annual radiation dose to the public from effluent discharges. The NRC has also issued Regulatory Guide 4.15 – Quality Assurance for Radiological Monitoring Programs (Normal Operations) – Effluent Streams and the Environment (NRC, 1979) and Regulatory Guide 4.16 – Monitoring and Reporting Radioactivity in Releases of Radioactive Materials in Liquid and Gaseous Effluent from Nuclear Fuel Processing and Fabrication Plants and Uranium Hexafluoride Production Plants (NRC, 1985) that reiterate that concentrations of hazardous materials in effluent must be controlled and that licensees must adhere to the ALARA principal such that there is no undue risk to the public health and safety at or beyond the site boundary.

Refer to Figure 6.1-1, Effluent Release Points and Meteorological Tower, and Figure 6.1-2, Modified Site Features With Proposed Sampling Stations and Monitoring Locations. Effluents are sampled as shown in Table 6.1-1, Effluent Sampling Program. For gaseous effluents, continuous air sampler filters are analyzed for gross alpha and beta each week. The filters are composited quarterly and an isotopic analysis is performed. For liquids, a grab sample is taken for isotopic analysis post-treatment prior to discharge to the Treated Effluent Evaporative Basin.

Public exposure to radiation from routine operations at the National Enrichment Facility (NEF) may occur as the result of discharge of liquid and gaseous effluents, including controlled releases from the uranium enrichment process lines during decontamination and maintenance of equipment. In addition, radiation exposure to the public may result from the transportation and storage of uranium hexafluoride (UF_6) feed cylinders, product cylinders, and Uranium Byproduct Cylinders (UBCs). Of these potential pathways, discharge of gaseous effluent has the highest possibility of introducing facility-related uranium into the environment. The plant's procedures and facilities for solid waste and liquid effluent handling, storage and monitoring result in safe storage and timely disposition of the material. ER Section 1.3, Applicable Regulatory Requirements and Required Consultations, accurately describes all applicable Federal and New Mexico State standards for discharges, as well as required permits issued by local, New Mexico and Federal governments.

Compliance with 10 CFR 20.1301 (CFR, 2003q) is demonstrated using a calculation of the total effective dose equivalent (TEDE) to the individual who is likely to receive the highest dose in accordance with 10 CFR 20.1302(b)(1) (CFR, 2003q). The determination of the TEDE by pathway analysis is supported by appropriate models, codes, and assumptions that accurately represent the facility, site, and the surrounding area. The assumptions are reasonably

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of Louisiana Energy Services, L.P.

Docket No. 70-3103 Official Exhibit No. LES 2

OFFERED by: (Applicant/Licensee) Intervenor _____

NRC Staff Other _____

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conservative, input data is accurate, and all applicable pathways are considered. ER Section 4.12, Public and Occupational Health Impacts, presents the details of these determinations.

The computer codes used to calculate dose associated with potential gaseous and liquid effluent from the plant follow the methodology, for pathway modeling, described in Regulatory Guide 1.109 (NRC, 1977c), and have undergone validation and verification. The dose conversion factors used are those presented in Federal Guidance Reports Numbers 11 (EPA, 1988) and 12 (EPA, 1993a).

Administrative action levels are established for effluent samples and monitoring instrumentation as an additional step in the effluent control process. All action levels are sufficiently low so as to permit implementation of corrective actions before regulatory limits are exceeded. Effluent samples that exceed the action level are cause for an investigation into the source of elevated radioactivity. Radiological analyses will be performed more frequently on ventilation air filters if there is a significant increase in gross radioactivity or when a process change or other circumstances cause significant changes in radioactivity concentrations. Additional corrective actions will be implemented based on the level, automatic shutdown programming, and operating procedures to be developed in the detailed alarm design. Under routine operating conditions, radioactive material in effluent discharged from the facility complies with regulatory release criteria.

Compliance is demonstrated through effluent and environmental sampling data. If an accidental release of uranium should occur, then routine operational effluent data and environmental data will be used to assess the extent of the release. Processes are designed to include, when practical, provision for automatic shutdown in the event action levels are exceeded. Appropriate action levels and actions to be taken are specified for liquid effluents and gaseous releases. Data analysis methods and criteria used in evaluating and reporting environmental sample results are appropriate and will indicate when an action level is being approached in time to take corrective actions.

The effluent monitoring program falls under the oversight of the NEF Quality Assurance (QA) program. Therefore, it is subject to periodic audits conducted by the facility QA personnel. Written procedures will be in place to ensure the collection of representative samples, use of appropriate sampling methods and equipment, proper locations for sampling points, and proper handling, storage, transport, and analyses of effluent samples. In addition, the plant's written procedures also ensure that sampling and measuring equipment, including ancillary equipment such as airflow meters, are properly maintained and calibrated at regular intervals. Moreover, the effluent monitoring program procedures include functional testing and routine checks to demonstrate that monitoring and measuring instruments are in working condition. Employees involved in implementation of this program are trained in the program procedures.

The NEF will ensure that isokinetic sampling conditions are maintained in all instances where pitot probes are used to sample for particulates within ducts with moving air streams. This will be accomplished by implementing the following criteria, where practical: 1) calibrating air sampling equipment so that the air velocity in the sampling probe is made equivalent to the air stream velocity in the duct being sampled; 2) maintaining the axis of the sampling probe head parallel to the air stream flow lines in the ductwork; 3) sampling (if possible) at least ten duct diameters downstream from a bend or obstruction in the duct; and 4) using shrouded-head air sampling probes when they are available in the size appropriate to the air sampling situation. Particle size distributions will be determined from process knowledge or measured to estimate and compensate for sample line losses and momentary non-isokinetic conditions.

The NEF will ensure that sampling equipment (pumps, pressure gages and air flow calibrators) are calibrated by qualified individuals. All air flow and pressure drop calibration devices (e.g., rotometers) will be calibrated periodically using primary or secondary air flow calibrators (wet test meters, dry gas meters or displacement bellows). Secondary air flow calibrators will be calibrated annually by the manufacturer(s). Air sampling train flow rates will be verified and/or calibrated with tertiary air flow calibrators (rotometers) each time a filter is replaced or a sampling train component is replaced or modified. Sampling equipment and lines will be inspected for defects, obstructions and cleanliness. Calibration intervals will be developed based on manufacturer's recommendations and nuclear industry operating experience.

6.1.1.1 Gaseous Effluent Monitoring

As a matter of compliance with regulatory requirements, all potentially radioactive effluent from the facility is discharged only through monitored pathways. See ER Section 4.12.2.1, Routine Gaseous Effluent, for a discussion of pathway assessment. The effluent sampling program for the NEF is designed to determine the quantities and concentrations of radionuclides discharged to the environment. The uranium isotopes ^{238}U, ^{236}U, ^{235}U and ^{234}U are expected to be the prominent radionuclides in the gaseous effluent. The annual uranium source term for routine gaseous effluent releases from the plant has been conservatively assumed to be 8.9 MBq (240 μCi) per year, which is equal to twice the source term applied to the 1.5 million SWU plant described in NUREG-1484 (NRC, 1994a). This is a very conservative annual release estimate used for bounding analyses. Additional details regarding source term are provided in ER Section 4.12, Public and Occupational Health Impacts. Representative samples are collected from each release point of the facility. Because uranium in gaseous effluent may exist in a variety of compounds (e.g., depleted hexavalent uranium, triuranium octoxide, and uranyl fluoride), effluent data will be maintained, reviewed, and assessed by the facility's Radiation Protection Manager, to assure that gaseous effluent discharges comply with regulatory release criteria for uranium. Table 6.1-1, Effluent Sampling Program, presents an overview of the effluent sampling program.

The gaseous effluent monitoring program for the NEF is designed to determine the quantities and concentrations of gaseous discharges to the environment.

Gaseous effluent from the NEF, which has the potential for airborne radioactivity (albeit in very low concentrations) will be discharged through the Separations Building Gaseous Effluent Vent System (GEVS), the Technical Services Building (TSB) GEVS, the Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities Exhaust Filtration System, and portions of the TSB Heating Ventilating and Air Conditioning (HVAC) System that provide the confinement ventilation function for areas of the TSB with the potential for contamination (Decontamination Workshop, Cylinder Preparation Room and the Ventilated Room). Monitoring for each of these systems is as follows:

- Separations Building GEVS: This system discharges to a stack on the TSB roof. The Separations Building GEVS provides for continuous monitoring and periodic sampling of the gaseous effluent in the exhaust stack in accordance with the guidance in NRC Regulatory Guide 4.16 (NRC, 1985). The GEVS stack sampling system provides the required samples. The exhaust stack is equipped with monitors for alpha radiation and HF.

- TSB GEVS: This system discharges to an exhaust stack on the TSB roof. The TSB GEVS provides for continuous monitoring and periodic sampling of the gaseous effluent in the exhaust stack in accordance with the guidance in NRC Regulatory Guide 4.16 (NRC, 1985). The TSB GEVS stack sampling system provides the required samples. The exhaust stack contains monitors for alpha radiation and HF.
- The Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities Exhaust Filtration System: This system discharges through a stack on the Centrifuge Assembly Building (CAB). The Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities Exhaust Filtration stack sampling system provides for continuous monitoring and periodic sampling of the gaseous effluent in the exhaust stack in accordance with the guidance in NRC Regulatory Guide 4.16 (NRC, 1985). The exhaust stack is provided with an alpha radiation monitor and an HF monitor.
- TSB HVAC System (confinement ventilation function portions): This system maintains the room temperature in various areas of the TSB, including some potentially contaminated areas. For the potentially contaminated areas (Ventilated Room, Decontamination Workshop and Cylinder Preparation Room), the confinement ventilation function of the TSB HVAC system maintains a negative pressure in these rooms and discharges the gaseous effluent to an exhaust stack on the TSB roof. The stack sampling system provides for continuous monitoring and periodic sampling of the gaseous effluent from the rooms served by the TSB HVAC confinement ventilation function in accordance with the guidance in NRC Regulatory Guide 4.16 (NRC, 1985).

The gaseous effluent sampling program supports the determination of quantity and concentration of radionuclides discharged from the facility and supports the collection of other information required in reports to be submitted to the NRC. A minimum detectable concentration (MDC) of at least 3.7×10^{-11} Bq/ml (1.0×10^{-15} µCi/ml) is a program requirement (NRC, 2002b) for all gross alpha analyses performed on gaseous effluent samples. That MDC value represents <2% of the limit for any uranium isotope. Table 6.1-2, Required Lower Level of Detection for Effluent Sample Analyses, summarizes detection requirements for effluent sample analyses.

6.1.1.2 Liquid Effluent Monitoring

Liquid effluents containing low concentrations of radioactive material, consisting mainly of spent decontamination solutions, floor washings, liquid from the laundry, and evaporator flushes, is expected to be generated by the NEF. Table 6.1-3, Estimated Uranium in Pre-Treated Liquid Waste from Various Sources, provides estimates of the annual volume and radioactive material content in liquid effluent by source prior to processing. Uranium is the only radioactive material expected in these wastes. Potentially contaminated liquid effluent is routed to the Liquid Effluent Collection and Treatment System for treatment. Most of the radioactive material is removed from waste water in the Liquid Effluent Collection and Treatment System through a combination of clean-up processes that includes precipitation, evaporation, and ion exchange. Post-treatment liquid waste water is sampled and undergoes isotopic analysis prior to discharge to assure that the released concentrations are well below the concentration limits established in Table 3 of Appendix B to 10 CFR 20 (CFR, 2003q).

After treatment, the effluent is released to the double-lined Treated Effluent Evaporative Basin, which includes leak detection monitoring. Concentrated radioactive solids generated by the liquid treatment processes at the facility are handled and disposed of as low-level radioactive waste.

The design basis uranium source term for routine liquid effluent discharge to the Treated Effluent Evaporative Basin has been conservatively estimated to be 14.4 MBq (390 μCi) per year. There is no offsite release of liquid effluents to unrestricted areas. ER Section 4.12, Public and Occupational Health Impacts, provides additional details regarding effluent source terms.

Representative sampling is required for all batch liquid effluent releases. Liquid samples are collected from each liquid batch and analyzed prior to any transfer. Isotopic analysis is performed prior to discharge. The MDC for analysis of liquid effluent are presented in Table 6.1-2, Required Lower Level of Detection for Effluent Sample Analyses. The liquid effluent sampling program supports the determination of quantities and concentrations of radionuclides discharged to the Treated Effluent Evaporative Basin and supports the collection of other information required in reports submitted to the NRC.

Periodic sampling of liquid effluent is required since these effluents are treated in batches. Representative sampling is assured through the use of tank agitators and recirculation lines. All collection tanks are sampled before the contents are sent through any treatment process. Treated water is collected in Monitor Tanks, which are sampled before discharge to the Treated Effluent Evaporative Basin.

NRC Information Notice 94-07 (NRC, 1994b) describes the method for determining solubility of discharged radioactive materials. Note that liquid effluents at the NEF are treated such that insoluble uranium is removed as part of the treatment process. Releases are in accordance with the ALARA principle.

General site stormwater runoff is routed to the Site Stormwater Detention Basin. The UBC Storage Pad Stormwater Retention Basin collects rainwater from the UBC Storage Pad as well as cooling tower blowdown water. Approximately 174,100 m^3 (46 million gal) of stormwater are expected to be collected each year by the two basins. Both of these basins will be included in the site Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program. See ER Section 6.1.2.

6.1.2 Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program

The Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program (REMP) at the NEF is a major part of the effluent compliance program. It provides a supplementary check of containment and effluent controls, establishes a process for collecting data for assessing radiological impacts on the environs and estimating the potential impacts on the public, and supports the demonstration of compliance with applicable radiation protection standards and guidelines.

The primary objective of the REMP is to provide verification that the operations at the facility do not result in detrimental radiological impacts on the environment. Through its implementation, the REMP provides data to confirm the effectiveness of effluent controls and the effluent monitoring program. In order to meet program objectives, representative samples from various

environmental media are collected and analyzed for the presence of plant-related radioactivity. The types and frequency of sampling and analyses are summarized in Table 6.1-4, Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program. Environmental media identified for sampling consist of ambient air, groundwater, soil/sediment, and vegetation. All environmental samples will be analyzed onsite. However, samples may also be shipped to a qualified independent laboratory for analyses. The MDCs for gross alpha (assumed to be uranium) in various environmental media are shown in Table 6.1-5, Required MDC for Environmental Sample Analyses. Monitoring and sampling activities, laboratory analyses, and reporting of facility-related radioactivity in the environment will be conducted in accordance with industry-accepted and regulatory-approved methodologies.

The Quality Control (QC) procedures used by the laboratories performing the plant's REMP will be adequate to validate the analytical results and will conform with the guidance in Regulatory Guide 4.15 (NRC, 1979). These QC procedures include the use of established standards such as those provided by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), as well as standard analytical procedures such as those established by the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC).

Monitoring procedures will employ well-known acceptable analytical methods and instrumentation. The instrument maintenance and calibration program will be appropriate to the given instrumentation, in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.

The NEF will ensure that the onsite laboratory and any contractor laboratory used to analyze NEF samples participates in third-party laboratory intercomparison programs appropriate to the media and analytes being measured. Examples of these third-party programs are: 1) Mixed Analyte Performance Evaluation Program (MAPEP) and the DOE Quality Assurance Program (DOEQAP) that are administered by the Department of Energy; and 2) Analytics Inc, Environmental Radiochemistry Cross-Check Program. The NEF will require that all radiological and non-radiological laboratory vendors are certified by the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP) or an equivalent state laboratory accreditation agency for the analytes being tested.

Reporting procedures will comply with the requirements of 10 CFR 70.59 (CFR, 2003b) and the guidance specified in Regulatory Guide 4.16 (NRC, 1985). Reports of the concentrations of principal radionuclides released to unrestricted areas in effluents will be provided and will include the Minimum Detectable Concentration (MDC) for the analysis and the error for each data point.

The REMP includes the collection of data during pre-operational years in order to establish baseline radiological information that will be used in determining and evaluating impacts from operations at the plant on the local environment. The REMP will be initiated at least 2 years prior to plant operations in order to develop a sufficient database. The early initiation of the REMP provides assurance that a sufficient environmental baseline has been established for the plant before the arrival of the first uranium hexafluoride shipment. Radionuclides in environmental media will be identified using technically appropriate, accurate, and sensitive analytical instruments. Data collected during the operational years will be compared to the baseline generated by the pre-operational data. Such comparisons provide a means of assessing the magnitude of potential radiological impacts on members of the public and in demonstrating compliance with applicable radiation protection standards.

During the course of facility operations, revisions to the REMP may be necessary and appropriate to assure reliable sampling and collection of environmental data. The rationale and actions behind such revisions to the program will be documented and reported to the appropriate regulatory agency, as required. REMP sampling focuses on locations within 4.8 km (3 mi) of the facility, but may also include distant locations as control sites. REMP sampling locations have been determined based on NRC guidance found in the document, "Offsite Dose Calculation Manual Guidance: Standard Radiological Effluent Controls for Boiling Water Reactors" (NRC, 1991), meteorological information, and current land use. The sampling locations may be subject to change as determined from the results of periodic review of land use.

Atmospheric radioactivity monitoring is based on plant design data, demographic and geologic data, meteorological data, and land use data. Because operational releases are anticipated to be very low and subject to rapid dilution via dispersion, distinguishing plant-related uranium from background uranium already present in the site environment is a major challenge of the REMP. The gaseous effluent is released from roof-top discharge points, or resuspension of particles from the Treated Effluent Evaporative Basin, which will result in ground-level releases. A characteristic of ground-level plumes is that plume concentrations decrease continually as the distance from the release point increases. It logically follows that the impact at locations close to the release point is greater than at more distant locations. The concentrations of radioactive material in gaseous effluent from the NEF are expected to be very low concentrations of uranium because of process and effluent controls. Consequently, air samples collected at locations that are close to the plant would provide the best opportunity to detect and identify plant-related radioactivity in the ambient air. Therefore, air-monitoring activities will concentrate on collection of data from locations that are relatively close to the plant, such as the plant perimeter fence or the plant property line. Air monitoring stations will be situated along the site boundary locations of highest predicted atmospheric deposition, and at special interest locations, such as a nearby residential area and business. In addition, an air monitoring station will be located next to the Treated Effluent Evaporative Basin in order to measure for particulate radioactivity that may be being resuspended into the air from sediment layers when the basin is dry.

A control sample location will be established beyond 8 km (5 mi) in an upwind sector (the sector with least prevalent wind direction). Refer to ER Sections 3.6, Meteorology, Climatology and Air Quality and 4.6, Air Quality Impacts, for information on meteorology and atmospheric dispersion. All environmental air samplers operate on a continuous basis with sample retrieval for a gross alpha and beta analysis occurring on a biweekly basis (or as required by dust loads).

Vegetation and soil samples, both from on and offsite locations will be collected on a quarterly basis in each sector during the pre-operational REMP. This is to assure the development of a sound baseline. During the operational years, vegetation and soil sampling will be performed semiannually in eight sectors, including three with the highest predicted atmospheric deposition. Vegetation samples may include vegetables and grass, depending on availability. Soil samples will be collected in the same vicinity as the vegetation samples.

Groundwater samples from onsite monitoring well(s) will be collected semiannually for radiological analysis. The locations of the groundwater sampling (monitoring) wells are shown on Figure 6.1-2, Modified Site Features with Proposed Sampling Stations and Monitoring Locations. The rationale for the locations is based on the slope of the red bed surface at the base of the shallow sand and gravel layer and the groundwater gradient in the 70 m (230 ft)

groundwater zone to the south under the NEF site and proximity to key site structures. Two monitoring wells will be located down-gradient of the site basins, two will be located down-gradient of the UBC Storage Pad and one will be located up-gradient of the UBC Storage Pad and all site facilities.

The background monitoring well, located in the NNW sector of the NEF site, is also shown on Figure 6.1-2. This background monitoring well is located up-gradient of the NEF and cross-gradient from the WCS facility. This location is intended to avoid potential contamination from both facilities, i.e., NEF and/or WCS. Monitoring at this location will occur in both the shallow sand and gravel layer on top of the red bed and in the 70-m (230-ft) groundwater zone. Groundwater in the sand and gravel layer was not encountered at the NEF site during groundwater investigations. Although not an aquifer, it will be monitored since it is the shallowest layer under the NEF site. The 70-m (230 ft) zone contains the first occurrence of groundwater beneath the NEF. Although not strictly meeting the definition of an aquifer, which requires that the unit be able to transit "significant quantities of water under ordinary hydraulic gradients," this layer will also be monitored.

Other surrounding industrial activities, the Wallach Quarry and the Sundance Services "produced water" lagoons north of the NEF site have some potential to introduce contaminants that could reach the background monitoring well. The contaminants of concern for those facilities should be readily differentiated from potential contaminants from the NEF.

Sediment samples will be collected semiannually from both of the stormwater runoff retention/detention basins onsite to look for any buildup of uranic material being deposited. With respect to the Treated Effluent Evaporative Basin, measurements of the expected accumulation of uranic material into the sediment layer will be evaluated along with nearby air monitoring data to assess any observed resuspension of particles into the air.

The site septic systems will receive only typical sanitary wastes. No plant process related effluents will be introduced into the septic systems. Each septic tank will, however, be periodically sampled (prior to pumping) and analyzed for isotopic Uranium. The septic tanks are upstream of the leach fields. Any Uranium that is in the system that could reach the leach fields would be detected in the septic tanks. Therefore, no sampling will be performed at the leach fields.

Direct radiation in offsite areas from processes inside the facility building is expected to be minimal because the low-energy radiation associated with the uranium will be shielded by the process piping, equipment, and cylinders to be used at the NEF. However, the Uranium Byproduct Cylinders (UBCs) stored on the UBC Storage Pad may have an impact in some offsite locations due to direct and scatter (skyshine) radiation. The offsite impact from the UBC storage has been evaluated and is discussed in ER Section 4.12, Public and Occupational Health Impacts.

The conservative evaluation showed that an annual dose equivalent of < 0.2 mSv (20 mrem) is expected at the highest impacted area at the plant perimeter fence.

Because the offsite dose equivalent rate from stored UBCs is expected to be very low and difficult to distinguish from the variance in normal background radiation beyond the site boundary, demonstration of compliance will rely on a system that combines direct dose equivalent measurements and computer modeling to extrapolate the measurements. Environmental thermoluminescent dosimeters (TLDs) placed at the plant perimeter fence line or other location(s) close to the UBCs will provide quarterly direct dose equivalent information.

The direct dose equivalent at offsite locations will be estimated through extrapolation of the quarterly TLD data using the Monte Carlo N-Particle (MCNP) computer program (ORNL, 2000a) or a similar computer program.

Figure 6.1-2, Modified Site Features With Proposed Sampling Stations and Monitoring Stations, indicates the location of REMP sampling locations.

The REMP may be enhanced during the operation of the facility as necessary to maintain the collection and reliability of environmental data based on changes to regulatory requirements or facility operations. The REMP includes administrative action levels (requiring further analysis) and reporting levels for radioactivity in environmental samples.

The REMP falls under the oversight of the facility's Quality Assurance (QA) program. Therefore, written procedures to ensure representative sampling, proper use of appropriate sampling methods and equipment, proper locations for sampling points, and proper handling, storage, transport, and analyses of effluent samples will be a key part of the program. In addition, written procedures ensure that sampling and measuring equipment, including ancillary equipment such as airflow meters, are properly maintained and calibrated at regular intervals. Moreover, the REMP implementing procedures will include functional testing and routine checks to demonstrate that monitoring and measuring instruments are in working condition.

The design status of leak detection (and mitigation procedures) for ponds and tanks has not yet progressed to final design. The NEF will conform with leak detection recommendations required in NUREG-1520 (NRC, 2002b).

Each year, the NEF will submit a summary report of the environmental sampling program to the NRC, including all associated data as required by 10 CFR 70 (CFR, 2003b). The report will include the types, numbers, and frequencies of environmental measurements and the identities and activity concentrations of facility-related nuclides found in environmental samples, in addition to the MDC for the analyses and the error associated with each data point. Significant positive trends in activities will also be noted in the report, along with any adjustment to the program, unavailable samples, and deviation to the sampling program.

TABLES

Table 6.1-1 Effluent Sampling Program

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Effluent	Sample Location	Sample Type	Analysis-Frequency
Gaseous	Separative Building GEVS Stack TSB GEVS Stack TSB HVAC Stack Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities Exhaust Filtration System Stack	Continuous Air Particulate Filter	Gross Alpha/Beta-Weekly Isotopic Analysis[a] - Quarterly
	Process Areas	Continuous Air Particulate Filter*	Gross Alpha/Beta - Weekly Isotopic Analysis[a] - Quarterly
	Non-Process Areas	Continuous Air Particulate Filter*	Gross Alpha/Beta-Quarterly
Liquid	Monitor Tank	Representative Grab Sample	Isotopic Analysis[a] Post-Treatment - Prior to Discharge.

[a] Isotopic analysis for ^{234}U, ^{235}U, ^{236}U, and ^{238}U.

*As required to complement bioassay program.

Table 6.1-2 Required Lower Level Of Detection For Effluent Sample Analyses

Effluent Type	Nuclide	MDC[a] in Bq/ml (μCi/ml)
Gaseous	^{234}U	3.7×10^{-13} (1.0×10^{-17})
	^{235}U	3.7×10^{-13} (1.0×10^{-17})
	^{236}U	3.7×10^{-13} (1.0×10^{-17})
	^{238}U	3.7×10^{-11} (1.0×10^{-17})
	Gross Alpha	3.7×10^{-11} (1.0×10^{-15})
Liquid	^{234}U	1.4×10^{-4} (3.0×10^{-9})
	^{235}U	1.4×10^{-4} (3.0×10^{-9})
	^{236}U	1.4×10^{-4} (3.0×10^{-9})
	^{238}U	1.4×10^{-4} (3.0×10^{-9})

[a] These MDCs are less than 2% of the limits in 10 CFR 20 Appendix B, Table 2 Effluent Concentrations

Table 6.1-3 Estimated Uranium In Pre-Treated Liquid Waste From Various Sources

Source	Typical Annual Quantities, m^3 (gals)	Typical Annual Uranic Content, kg (lbs)*
Laboratory/floor washings/miscellaneous condensates	23.14 (6112)	16 (35)
Degreaser water	3.71 (980)	18.5 (41)
Citric acid	2.72 (719)	22 (49)
Laundry effluent water	405.80 (107,213)	0.2 (0.44)
Hand wash & shower water	2100 (554,820)	None
TOTAL	2,355 (669,844)	56.7 (125)

*Uranic quantity is before treatment. After treatment, approximately 1% of 0.57 kg (1.26 lb) of uranic material is expected to be discharged into the Treated Effluent Evaporative Basin.

Table 6.1-4 Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program

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Sample Type	Minimum Number of Sample Locations	Sampling and Collection Frequency	Type of Analysis
Continuous Airborne Particulate	7	Continuous operation of air sampler with sample collection as required by dust loading but at least biweekly. Quarterly composite samples by location.	Gross beta/gross alpha analysis each filter change. Quarterly isotopic analysis on composite sample.
Vegetation	8	1 to 2-kg (2.2 to 4.4-lb) samples collected semiannually	Isotopic analysis[a]
Groundwater	2	4-L (1.06-gal) samples collected semiannually	Isotopic analysis[a]
Basins	1 from each of 3 basins[b]	4-L (1.06-gal) water sample/1 to 2-kg (2.2 to 4.4-lb) sediment sample collected quarterly	Isotopic analysis[a]
Soil	8	1 to 2-kg (2.2 to 4.4-lb) samples collected semiannually	Isotopic analysis[a]
Septic Tank(s)	1 from each affected tank	1 to 2-kg (2.2 to 4.4-lb) sludge sample from the affected tank(s) prior to pumping	Isotopic analysis[a]
TLD	16	Quarterly	Gamma and neutron dose equivalent

[a] Isotopic analysis for ^{234}U, ^{235}U, ^{236}U, and ^{238}U.

[b] Site Stormwater Detention Basin, UBC Storage Pad Stormwater Retention Basin and Treated Effluent Evaporative Basin.

Note:
Physiochemical monitoring parameters are addressed separately in ER Section 6.2, Physiochemical Monitoring.

Table 6.1-5 Required MDC For Environmental Sample Analyses

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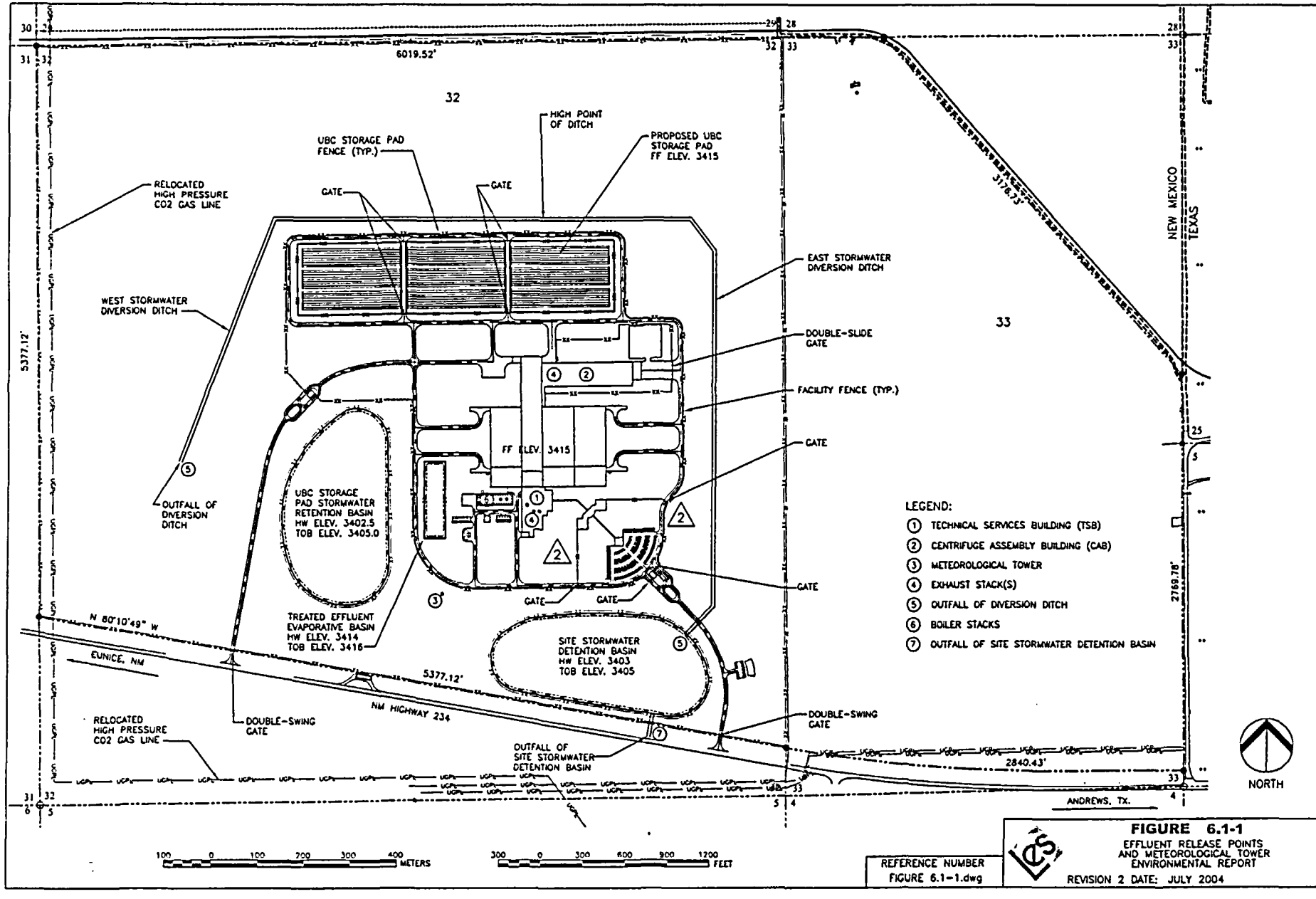
Medium	Analysis	MDC[a] in Bq/ml or g (μCi/ml or g)
Ambient Air	Gross Alpha	3.7×10^{-14} (1.0×10^{-18})
Vegetation	Isotopic U	3.7×10^{-6} (1.0×10^{-10})
Soil/Sediment	Isotopic U	1.1×10^{-2} (3.0×10^{-7})
Groundwater[b]	Isotopic U	3.7×10^{-8} (1.0×10^{-12})

[a]The NRC has concluded these MDCs are acceptable for sampling programs at a uranium enrichment facility.

[b]For analyses of groundwater samples, the MDC will be at least 3.7×10^{-8} Bq/ml (1.0×10^{-12} μCi/ml), which represents <0.0004% of the concentration limits listed in Table 2 of Appendix B to 10 CFR 20.

FIGURES



REFERENCE NUMBER
FIGURE 6.1-1.dwg

FIGURE 6.1-1
EFFLUENT RELEASE POINTS AND METEOROLOGICAL TOWER
ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT
REVISION 2 DATE: JULY 2004

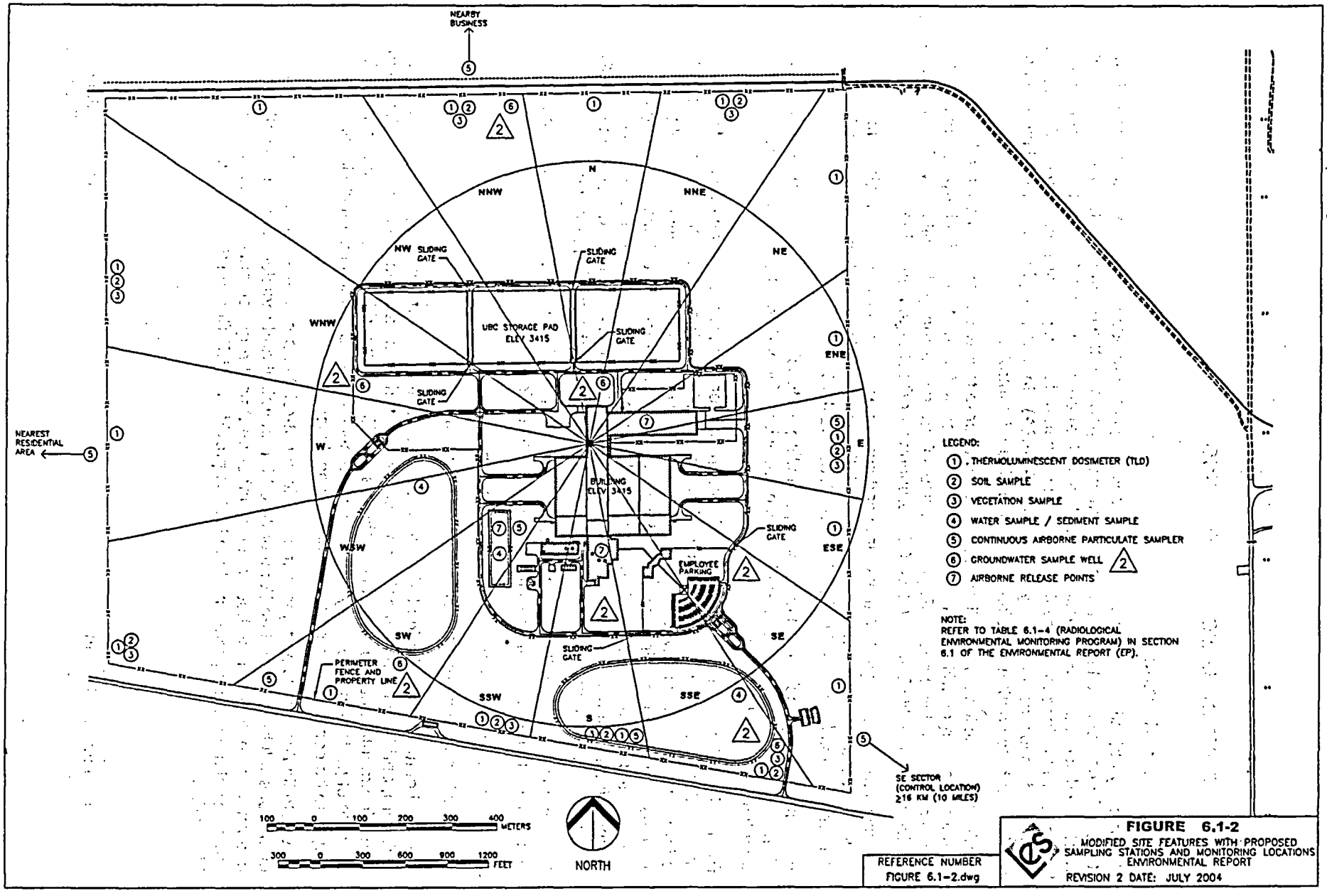


FIGURE 6.1-2

MODIFIED SITE FEATURES WITH PROPOSED SAMPLING STATIONS AND MONITORING LOCATIONS ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

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6.2 PHYSIOCHEMICAL MONITORING

6.2.1 Introduction

The primary objective of physiochemical monitoring is to provide verification that the operations at the NEF do not result in detrimental chemical impacts on the environment. Effluent controls which are discussed in ER Sections 3.12, Waste Management and 4.13, Waste Management Impacts, are in place to assure that chemical concentrations in gaseous and liquid effluents are maintained as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA). In addition, physiochemical monitoring provides data to confirm the effectiveness of effluent controls.

Administrative action levels will be implemented prior to facility operation to ensure that chemical discharges will remain below the limits specified in the facility discharge permits. The limits are specified in the EPA Region 6 NPDES General Discharge Permits as well as the New Mexico Water Quality Bureau (NMWQB) Groundwater Discharge Permit/Plan.

Specific information regarding the source and characteristics of all non-radiological plant effluents and wastes that will be collected and disposed of offsite, or discharged in various effluent streams is provided in ER Sections 3.12 and 4.13.

In conducting physiochemical monitoring, sampling protocols and emission/effluent monitoring will be performed for routine operations with provisions for additional evaluation in response to potential accidental release.

The facility will have an Environmental Monitoring Laboratory, which will be equipped with analytical instruments needed to ensure that the operation of the plant activities complies with federal, state and local environmental regulations and requirements. Compliance will be demonstrated by monitoring/sampling at various plant and process locations, analyzing the samples and reporting the results of these analyses to the appropriate agencies. The sampling/monitoring locations will be selected by the Health, Safety and Environmental (HS&E) organization staff in accordance with facility permits and good sampling practices.

The Environmental Monitoring Laboratory is located in the Technical Services Building (TSB) and is used to perform analyses that include the following:

- Hazardous material presence in waste samples
- pH, oil and other contaminants in liquid effluents

The Environmental Monitoring Laboratory will be available to perform analyses on air, water, soil, flora, and fauna samples obtained from designated areas around the plant. In addition to its environmental and radiological capabilities, the Environmental Monitoring Laboratory is also capable of performing bioassay analyses when necessary. Commercial, offsite laboratories may also be contracted to perform bioassay analyses.

All waste liquids, solids and gases from enrichment-related processes and decontamination operations will be analyzed and/or monitored for chemical and radiological contamination to determine safe disposal methods and/or further treatment requirements. A description of the radiological monitoring program at the NEF is provided in ER Section 6.1, Radiological Monitoring.

6.2.2 Evaluation and Analysis of Samples

Samples of liquid effluents, solids and gaseous effluents from plant processes will be analyzed in the Technical Services Building (TSB) Environmental Monitoring Laboratory. Results of process samples analyses are used to verify that process parameters are operating within expected performance ranges. Results of liquid effluent sample analyses will be characterized to determine if treatment is required prior to discharge to the Treated Effluent Evaporative Basin and to determine if corrective action is required in facility process and/or effluent collection and treatment systems.

6.2.3 Effluent Monitoring

Chemical constituents that may be discharged to the environment in facility effluents will be below concentrations that have been established by state and federal regulatory agencies as protective of the public health and the natural environment. Under routine operating conditions, no significant quantities of contaminants will be released from the facility as discussed in ER Sections 3.12 and 4.13. This will be confirmed through monitoring and collection and analysis of environmental data. Routine liquid effluents are listed in Table 3.12-4, Estimated Annual Liquid Effluent. The facility does not directly discharge any industrial effluents to surface waters or grounds offsite, and there is no plant tie-in to a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW). Except for discharges from the Septic System, all liquid effluents are contained on the NEF site via collection tanks and retention basins. See ER Figure 6.1-1, Effluent Release Points and Meteorological Tower, Figure 6.1-2, Modified Site Features with Proposed Sampling Stations and Monitoring Locations, and Section 2.1.2, Proposed Action, for further discussion of the Liquid Effluent Treatment System.

Parameters for continuing environmental performance will be developed from the baseline data in this Environmental Report and additional preoperational sampling. Operational monitoring surveys will also be conducted using sampling sites and at frequencies established from baseline sampling data and as determined based on requirements. Operational monitoring surveys are determined based on requirements contained in EPA Region 6 NPDES General Discharge Permits as well as the NMWQB Groundwater Discharge Permit/Plan.

The frequency of some types of samples may be modified depending on baseline data for the parameters of concern. The monitoring program is designed to use the minimum percentage of allowable limits (lower limits of detection) broken down daily, quarterly, and semiannually. As construction and operation of the enrichment plant proceeds, changing conditions (e.g., regulations, site characteristics, and technology) and new knowledge may require that the monitoring program be reviewed and updated. The monitoring program will be enhanced as appropriate to maintain the collection and reliability of environmental data. The specific location of monitoring points will be determined in detailed design.

During implementation of the monitoring program, some samples may be collected in a different manner/method than specified herein. Examples of reasons for these deviations include severe weather events, changes in the length of the growing season, and changes in the number of plantings. Under these circumstances, documentation shall be prepared to describe how the samples were collected and the rationale for any deviations from normal monitoring program methods. If a sampling location has frequent unavailable samples or deviations from the schedule, then another location may be selected or other appropriate actions taken.

Each year, LES will submit a summary of the environmental sampling program and associated data to the proper regulatory authorities, as required. This summary will include the types, numbers and frequencies of samples collected.

Physiochemical monitoring will be conducted via sampling of stormwater, soil, sediment, vegetation, and groundwater as defined in Table 6.2-1, Physiochemical Sampling, to confirm that trace, incidental chemical discharges are below regulatory limits. There are no surface waters on the site, therefore no Surface Water Monitoring Program will be implemented; however soil sampling will include outfall areas such as the outfall at the Site Stormwater Detention Basin. In the event of any accidental release from the facility, these sampling protocols will be initiated immediately and on a continuing basis to document the extent/impact of the release until conditions have been abated and mitigated.

The site septic systems will receive only typical sanitary wastes. No chemical sampling is planned because no plant process related effluents will be introduced into the septic systems.

6.2.4 Stormwater Monitoring Program

A stormwater monitoring program will be initiated during construction of the facility. Data collected from the program will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of measures taken to prevent the contamination of stormwater and to retain sediments within property boundaries. A temporary detention basin will be used as a sediment control basin during construction as part of the overall sedimentation erosion control plan.

Stormwater monitoring will continue with the same monitoring frequency upon initiation of facility operation. During plant operation, samples will be collected from the Uranium Byproduct Cylinders (UBC) Storage Pad Stormwater Retention Basin and the Site Stormwater Detention Basin in order to demonstrate that runoff does not contain any contaminants. A list of parameters to be monitored and monitoring frequencies is presented in Table 6.2-1, Physiochemical Sampling. Table 6.2-2, Stormwater Monitoring Program shows the parameters to be monitored with respect to stormwater. This monitoring program will be refined to reflect applicable requirements as determined during the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) process (see ER Section 4.4, Water Resources Impacts, for the construction and operational permits). Additionally, the Site Stormwater Detention Basin will adhere to the requirements of the Groundwater Discharge Permit/Plan from the NMWQB, as discussed in ER Sections 1.3, Applicable Regulatory Requirements, Permits and Required Consultations and Section 4.4, Water Resources Impacts.

6.2.5 Environmental Monitoring

The purpose of this section is to describe the surveillance-monitoring program, which will be implemented to measure non-radiological chemical impacts upon the natural environment.

The ability to detect and contain any potentially adverse chemical releases from the facility to the environment will depend on chemistry data to be collected as part of the effluent and stormwater monitoring programs described in the preceding sections. Data acquisition from these programs encompasses both onsite and offsite sample collection locations and chemical element/compound analyses. Final constituent analysis requirements will be in accordance with permit mandates.

Sampling locations will be determined based on meteorological information and current land use. The sampling locations may be subject to change as determined from the results of any observed changes in land use.

The range of chemical surveillance incorporated into all the planned effluent monitoring programs for the facility are designed to be sufficient to predict any relevant chemical interactions in the environment related to plant operations.

Vegetation and soil sampling will be conducted. Vegetation samples will include grasses, and if available, vegetables. Soil will be collected in the same vicinity as the vegetation sample. The samples are collected from both onsite and offsite locations in various sectors. Sectors are chosen based on air modeling. Sediment samples will be collected from discharge points to the different collection basins onsite. At this time, groundwater samples will be collected from a series of wells that will be installed around the plant. The locations of the groundwater sampling (monitoring) wells are as described in Section 6.1.2 and are shown in Figure 6.1-2.

Stormwater samples collected in the UBC Storage Pad Stormwater Retention Basin will be sampled to ensure no contaminants are present in the UBC Storage Pad runoff.

6.2.6 Meteorological Monitoring

In order to monitor and characterize meteorological phenomena (e.g., wind speed, direction, and temperature) during plant operation as well as consider interaction of meteorology and local terrain, conditions will be monitored with a 40-m (132-ft) tower located onsite. This data will assist in evaluating the potential locales on and off property that could be influenced by any emissions. The instrument tower will be located at a site approximately the same elevation as the finished facility grade and in an area where facility structures will have little or no influence on the meteorological measurements. An area approximately ten times the obstruction height around the tower towards the prevailing wind direction will be maintained in accordance with established standards for meteorological measurements. This practice will be used to avoid spurious measurements resulting from local building-caused turbulence. The program for instrument maintenance and servicing, combined with redundant data recorders, assures at least 90% data recovery.

The data this equipment provides is recorded in the Control Room and can be used for dispersion calculations. Equipment will also measure temperature and humidity, which will be recorded in the Control Room.

6.2.7 Biota

The monitoring of radiological and physiochemical impacts to biota are detailed in ER Section 6.3, Ecological Monitoring of this report.

6.2.8 Quality Assurance

Quality assurance will be achieved by following a set of formalized and controlled procedures that Louisiana Energy Services (LES) will create, implement and periodically review for sample collection, lab analysis, chain of custody, reporting of results, and corrective actions. Corrective actions will be instituted when an action level is exceeded for any of the measured parameters. Action levels will be divided into three priorities: 1) if the sample parameter is three times the normal background level; 2) if the sample parameter exceeds any existing administrative limits,

or; 3) if the sample parameter exceeds any regulatory limit. The third scenario represents the worst case, which will be prepared for but is not expected. Corrective actions will be implemented to ensure that the cause for the action level exceedance can be identified and immediately corrected, applicable regulatory agencies are notified, if required, communications to address lessons learned are dispersed to appropriate personnel, and applicable procedures are revised accordingly if needed. All action plans will be commensurate to the severity of the exceedance.

The NEF will ensure that the onsite laboratory and any contractor laboratory used to analyze NEF samples participates in third-party laboratory intercomparison programs appropriate to the media and analytes being measured. Examples of these third-party programs are the Mixed Analyte Performance Evaluation Program (MAPEP) and the DOE Quality Assurance Program (DOEQAP) that are administered by the Department of Energy. The NEF will require all radiological and non-radiological laboratory vendors to be certified by the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC) or an equivalent state laboratory accreditation agency for the analytes being tested.

6.2.9 Lower Limits of Detection

Lower limits of detection for the parameters sampled for in the Stormwater Monitoring Program are listed in Table 6.2-2, Stormwater Monitoring Program. Lower limits of detection (LLD) for the nonradiological parameters shown in Table 6.2-1, Physiochemical Sampling, will be based on the results of the baseline surveys and the type of matrix (sample type).

TABLES

Table 6.2-1 Physiochemical Sampling

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Sample Type	Sample Location	Frequency	Sampling and Collections[2]
Stormwater	Site Stormwater Detention Basin UBC Storage Pad Stormwater Retention Basin	Quarterly	Analytes as determined by baseline program – see Table 6.2-2
Vegetation	4 minimum[1]	Quarterly (growing seasons)	Fluoride uptake
Soil/Sediment	4 minimum[1]	Quarterly	Metals, organics, pesticides, and fluoride uptake
Groundwater	All selected groundwater wells	Semiannually	Metals, organics and pesticides

[1] Location to be established by Health, Safety and Environmental (HS&E) organization staff.

[2] Analyses will meet EPA Lower Limits of Detection (LLD), as applicable, and will be based on the baseline surveys and the type of matrix (sample type).

Table 6.2-2 Stormwater Monitoring Program

Stormwater Monitoring Program for Detention and Retention Basins* (See Figure 4.4-1)

Monitored Parameter	Monitoring Frequency	Sample Type	LLD
Oil & Grease	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	0.5 ppm
Total Suspended Solids	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	0.5 ppm
5-Day Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD)	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	2 ppm
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	1 ppm
Total Phosphorus	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	0.1 ppm
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	0.1 ppm
pH	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	0.01 units
Nitrate plus Nitrite Nitrogen	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	0.2 ppm
Metals	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	Varies**

* Site Stormwater Detention Basin, UBC Storage Pad, Stormwater Detention Basin and any temporary basins used during construction.

** Analyses will meet EPA Lower Limits of Detection (LLD), as applicable, and will be based on the baseline surveys and the type of matrix (sample type).

Note:
Radiological monitoring parameters are addressed separately in ER Section 6.1, Radiological Monitoring.