

HLWYM HEmails

From: David Pickett [dpickett@gargol.cnwra.swri.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2001 1:17 PM
To: James Weldy (jweldy)
Cc: Lauren Browning (lbrowning)
Subject: NNPP criticality water chem

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James,

Since you're gone, I wanted to put this down now while it's fresh. You asked me yesterday about some water chemistry that NNPP uses for criticality calculations. I talked to Lauren, because she's the "Quantity and Chemistry" lead. What we concluded was that:

1. If we are considering pre-10,000 (which at this point we aren't, I guess), then 10X concentration may not be enough. There can be a lot of evaporation in the drift.
2. Under ambient conditions, it is not reasonable to think of water that has dripped from the ceiling, passed along or through a drip shield, a WP outer surface, and a WP interior, to retain much of its chemical character as a groundwater. For instance, current ECRB tests show a lot of water dripping from rock bolt holes, with their associated grout, etc.

I think the reasonable thing to do would be to say that whatever values they use (and it's OK to use chemically unreasonable combinations of maxima for criticality purposes) should be current with what OCRWM believes the water looks like. OCRWM should be responding to whatever concerns we have in this area.

I assume you're also considering what is and is not conservative for criticality purposes, with respect to individual elements.

David

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