# **Rio Tinto**

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11 February 2013

Mr. Andrew Persinko, Deputy Director
Decommissioning and Uranium Recovery Licensing Directorate
Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Dear Mr. Persinko:

SUBJECT: Sweetwater Uranium Project - Docket Number 40-8584
Source Materials License SUA-1350 - Semiannual 10 CFR 40.65 Report
Airborne Effluents

Enclosed is Kennecott Uranium Company's Semiannual 10 CFR 40.65 Report for the second half of 2012 for airborne effluents. This report addresses the requirements of License Condition 11.5 of SML #SUA-1350, as well as the requirements of 10 CFR 40.65(a)(1).

Kennecott Uranium Company is only required to monitor for ambient gamma and airborne particulates at the downwind location (Air 4A) and radon at the upwind (Air 2) and downwind (Air 4A) locations as long as operations remain suspended as per License Condition 11.5. Kennecott is not required to perform stack, soil, sediment or vegetation sampling as long as operations remain suspended.

Kennecott Uranium Company has examined the data included in this report, calculated the dose to the nearest resident in millirems per year for the second half of 2012 from the licensed activities and concluded that the dose does not exceed the 100 mrem per year dose limit. A copy of the calculation sheet as well as an explanation of the calculation method is included. This is being done at the request of Elaine Brummett, previously of your staff, in an email dated September 7, 2001.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (307) 328-1476.

Sincerely yours,

Oscar Paulson Facility Supervisor

cc: James Webb, Project Manager

Director - USNRC DNMS, Region IV (w/o enc.)

Rich Atkinson

# KENNECOTT URANIUM COMPANY SWEETWATER URANIUM PROJECT Source Material License SUA-1350

# 2012 RadTrak Radon Monitor (pCi/L)

RADIONUCLIDE	CONCENTRATION	ESTIMATE	LOWER OF DETE (LL	CLIMIT ECTION D)
		pCi/L	pCi/L-Days	pCi/L
Radon	2.0 pCi/L	60.0 -/+	0.9	90.0
Radon	2.2 pCi/L	+/- 0.10	0.9	90.0
Radon	2.2 pCi/L	+/- 0.10	0.9	90.0
	2.2 pCi/L			
Radon	1.6 pCi/L	80'0 -/+	0.9	90.0
Radon	2.5 pCi/L	+/- 0.11	0.9	90.0
Radon	2.6 pCi/L	+/- 0.11	0.9	90.0
	2.6 pCi/L			
Radon	2.6 pCi/L	+/- 0.11	0.9	90.0
Radon	2.7 pCi/L	+/- 0.11	0.9	90.0
Radon	2.6 pCi/L	+/- 0.11	0.9	90.0
	2.7 pCi/L			
Radon	3.1 pCi/L	+/- 0.13	0.9	90.0
Radon	3.3 pCi/L	+/- 0.14	0.9	90.0
Radon	3.2 pCi/L	+/- 0.13	0.9	90.0
	3.2 pCi/L			
	BIONUCLIDE Radon	CONUCLIDE Radon	ONUCLIDE         CONCENTRATION           Radon         2.0 pCi/L           2.2 pCi/L         2.2 pCi/L           Radon         2.5 pCi/L           Radon         2.6 pCi/L           Radon         2.6 pCi/L           Radon         2.6 pCi/L           Radon         2.7 pCi/L           Radon         2.7 pCi/L           Radon         2.7 pCi/L           Radon         3.1 pCi/L           Radon         3.2 pCi/L           Radon         3.2 pCi/L           Radon         3.2 pCi/L           Radon         3.2 pCi/L           3.2 pCi/L         3.2 pCi/L           Badon         3.2 pCi/L           3.2 pCi/L         3.2 pCi/L	ONUCLIDE         CONCENTRATION         ESTIMATE           POLI/L         +/- 0.09           Radon         2.2 pCi/L         +/- 0.09           Radon         2.2 pCi/L         +/- 0.10           Radon         2.5 pCi/L         +/- 0.10           Radon         2.5 pCi/L         +/- 0.11           Radon         2.6 pCi/L         +/- 0.11           Radon         2.6 pCi/L         +/- 0.11           Radon         2.7 pCi/L         +/- 0.11           Radon         2.7 pCi/L         +/- 0.11           Radon         2.7 pCi/L         +/- 0.11           Radon         3.1 pCi/L         +/- 0.13           Radon         3.2 pCi/L         +/- 0.13           3.2 pCi/L         +/- 0.13           Radon         3.2 pCi/L         +/- 0.13           3.2 pCi/L         +/- 0.13

<sup>1</sup> A second RadTrak was deployed at the upwind Air 2 location during all four (4) quarters of 2012 for comparative and quality assurance/quality control purposes. The results from both RadTraks were averaged to generate the final values for the first and second quarters of 2012 for monitoring station Air 2 (upwind air).

# National Environmental Health Association National Radon Proficiency Program



June 7, 2011

Mark Salasky Landauer, Inc. 2 Science Road Glenwood, IL 60425-1586

Name of Analytical Laboratory: Landauer, Inc.

NEHA Certification Number: 101146 AL

NEHA Expiration Date: 4/30/2013

The firm and/or individual referenced above has met the requirements for certification as an Analytical Laboratory with the National Environmental Health Association's National Radon Proficiency Program. Certification has been granted for the specific measurement devices listed below. Verification of adherance to state and local regulations is advised.

This laboratory is certified to analyze and interpret devices for certified radon professionals who will interpret results to clients.

Devices: Landauer Radtrak Alpha Track Detector

Angel Anderson Price NEHA-NRPP Executive Director

# Mark Salasky Landauer, Inc.

Has satisfactorily fulfilled the requirements set forth by the National Radon Proficiency Program and is therefore certified as a:

Analytical Laboratory
NRPP ID # 101146AL Expires 4/30/2013

NEHA 1998

In Witness Whereof,
I have subscribed my name and affixed the
Seal of the Association

Angel Anderson Price NEHA-NRPP Executive Director

Valid for specific activities or measurement devices, which can be verified with NEHA. State and local agencies may have additional requirements.

Pat Quinn Governor



Jonathon E. Monken Director

# IEMA Division of Nuclear Safety

Pursuant to the Radon Industry Licensing Act, 420 ILCS 44 et seq. and 32 Illinois Adminstrative Code 422, Licensing of Radon Detection and Mitigation Services, and in reliance on statements and representations heretofore made by the licensee, a license is hereby issued.

This is to certify that Landauer, Inc.

License Number RNL99201

has met the requirements for Laboratory Analysis

Issued - Expires 02/03/2012 03/31/2013

Limited to Analyzing the radon or radon progeny concentrations with passive devices, or the act of calibrating radon or radon progeny measurement devices, or the act of exposing radon or radon progeny devices to known concentrations of radon or radon progeny.

12341000

Patrick I. Daniels, Radon Program

# KENNECOTT URANIUM COMPANY SWEETWATER URANIUM PROJECT Source Material License SUA-1350

2012 DIRECT RADIATION MEASUREMENTS

Location	Date	Exposure Rate (mr/Qtr)	Lower Limit of Detection (LLD) Millirems
Environmental Dosimeter 0000 – Deploy Control 0004 - Air 4A	1/3/12 – 4/2/12 1/3/12 – 4/2/12	37.8 51.4	<u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>
Security Trailer  Fivironmental Dosimeter	1/3/12 - 4/2/12	48.0	_
0000 – Deploy Control 0004 - Air 4A	4/2/12 – 7/2/12 4/2/12 – 7/2/12	41.8 49.4	<u>-</u>
Security Trailer	4/2/12 - 7/2/12	49.5	11
Environmental Dosimeter			
0000 – Deploy Control	7/2/12 - 10/2/12	40.6	<del>-</del> -
0004 - Air 4A Security Trailer	7/2/12 – 10/2/12 7/2/12 – 10/2/12	46.7 50.1	
Environmental Dosimeter			
0000 – Deploy Control	10/2/12 - 1/2/13	39.9	1
0004 - Air 4A	10/2/12 - 1/2/13	48.7	_
Security Trailer	10/2/12 — 1/2/13	46.6	11

<sup>1</sup> Please see the following copy of a brochure from Landauer, Inc. containing information on Lower Limits of Detection (LLDs).

The Deploy Control dose used on this form and in this report is the dose listed on the Environmental Dosimetry Report as Control Dose Used. Landauer, Inc. no longer provides labeled Deploy and Transit Control doses. Note:

# InLight® Systems Dosimeters

InLight dosimeters provide x, gamma, and beta radiation monitoring with optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) technology. OSL technology is the newest advancement in passive radiation protection dosimetry. Inlight dosimeters are engineered to be read out by an InLight reader.

InLight dosimeters are designed for the client with extensive data management capabilities who prefers to independently maintain data and issue dose reports. Dosimeters are provided for use with Landauer's dosimetry service that provides accredited processing and analysis, with dose results electronically transmitted to client; and as a direct sale in combination with InLight readers for a total turnkey solution enabling an in-house accredited dosimetry program.

For personnel, area/environmental, and emergency response monitoring, clinical dose measurements or any radiation assessment application.



Landauer Holder Design

# **Operational Advantages**

Complete reanalysis capabilities

- · Nondestructive read out allows for dose verification
- · Dosimeter archiving made possible
- Track exposure over time—take incremental dose assessments

Dosimeter preparation eliminated

- No annealing
- · No element correction factors required
- Engraved 2D bar code identifies dosimeter sensitivity

#### No fade

· Longer wear frequencies

# Advanced Design

InLight dosimeters are built on an assembly of a case component with metal and plastic filters along with a four-positioned aluminum oxide detector slide component. Both the case and slide are uniquely bar coded with serial numbers for chain of custody and sensitivity identification. InLight dosimeters offer reanalysis capabilities, precision with a wide dynamic range of measurement, and long-term stability. The InLight Basic dosimeter consists of the principle assembly of the case and slide for use with a clear plastic holder.

The enhanced Landauer holder is designed to accommodate the optional CR-39 for neutron detection, the optional imaging component, client defined labels, and the principle assembly of the case and slide. The case component has an open window, with aluminum, copper, and plastic filters. The imaging component renders unique filter patterns to provide qualitative information about conditions during exposure. Dosimeter labels can be vertical or horizontal and offer numerous graphic and text fields definable by the client to meet the administrative needs of a radiation monitoring program.

The environmental dosimeter is designed to meet ANSI N545 Standard and HPS Draft Standard N13.29. The case has copper and plastic filters, and is sealed along with the slide component in a waterproof plastic pouch. Labels can be vertical or horizontal and offer numerous graphic and text fields definable by the client.

# InLight Systems and OSL Technology

The InLight System measures radiation exposure with aluminum oxide detectors (Al $_{2}\mathrm{O}_{3}$ :C) read out by optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) technology. The read out process uses a light emitting diode (LED) array to stimulate the detectors, and the light emitted by the OSL material is detected and measured by a photomultiplier tube (PMT) using a high sensitivity photon counting system. The amount of light released during optical stimulation is directly proportional to the radiation dose and the intensity of stimulation light. A dose calculation algorithm is then applied to the measurement to determine exposure results.





# Technical Specifications

- Linear from 10 μSv (1 mrem) to in excess of 10 Sv (1,000 rem)
- Energy range from 5 keV to 20 MeV
- Gamma, x-ray, beta minimal reporting: 50 μSv (5 mrem)
- Neutron detection with a CR-39, processed with Track Etch® technology minimal reporting:
- · Fast: 200 μSv (20 mrem)
- · Thermal/Intermediate: 100 μSv (10 mrem)



# InLight® Systems Readers

# Onsite Scalable Systems

- · Single portable microStar reader
- · A network of microStars with a common database
- · Automatic 200 or 500 readers for high volume analysis

## **User-Friendly Operations**

- Menu-driven software—read out, analysis, database maintenance, QC procedures, reporting
- · Simple calibration process—no source required
- · Cleaner, less complicated equipment—reduced maintenance

# **Efficient Processing**

- Fast 12-13 second read
- · No heat induced artifacts causing false readings
- · No detector element corrections factors—sensitivities provided
- Dosimeter serial number bar coded—facilitates chain of custody

### Non-Destructive Read Out

- · Reanalysis for dose verification
- · Intermittent analysis while maintaining total dose
- Dose archives

# Multiple Dosimeter Configurations

- · InLight case and slide whole body or environmental
- nanoDot single-point dose measurement (microStar)

# **Onsite Applications**

- · Access control points
- · Laboratories that process their own dosimetry
- · Laboratories requiring immediate reading of dosimetry
- Laboratories requiring confidence in the dose measurement(s)

InLight Systems are turnkey solutions for onsite dosimetry using Landauer's optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) technology. Systems are scalable, and can be configured to complement your current dosimetry program, or can enable you to maintain your own in-house accredited dosimetry program (dose algorithms meet NVLAP and DOELAP accreditation requirements).

The microStar reader is a unique, portable dosimetry solution that can be easily moved throughout a facility. For volume processing, the automatic readers handle the heavy loads at 280 dosimeters per hour. Comprehensive software can exist on a stand-alone PC and/or a network.

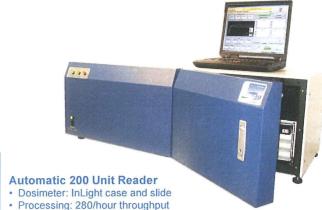
InLight readers are exclusively for use with InLight dosimeters for whole body, environmental, and emergency response monitoring, or any single-point radiation dose measurement (microStar). InLight dosimeters measure radiation exposure with aluminum oxide detectors (Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>·C) and OSL technology. The read out process uses a light emitting diode (LED) array to stimulate the detectors, and the light emitted by the OSL material is detected and measured by a photomultiplier tube (PMT) using a high sensitivity photon counting system. The amount of light released during optical stimulation is directly proportional to the radiation dose and the intensity of stimulation light. The nondestructive OSL read out process of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>·C enables reanalysis for dose verification, and intermittent analysis while maintaining total dose accumulation.

InLight readers include an external PC with menu-driven software that provides control over reader setup, analysis, and data recording enabling dosimeter read out, reporting, and the monitoring of reader performance.

# microStar® Reader

- Portable
- Dosimeter: InLight case and slide; NanoDot™
- · Capacity: 1 dosimeter
- Bar code input: keyboard; external bar code reader; file upload
- Dimensions: 4.3" H x 12.9" W x 9.1" D (109.5 x 327 x 231.8 mm)
- Weight: 17.7 lbs. (8.03 kg)





- Capacity: 4 cassettes @ 50 dosimeters/cassette
- · Bar code input: internal optical reader
- Dimensions: 15" H x 44" W x 18" D (381 x 1118 x 457 mm)
- Weight: 75 lbs. (34 kg)



# **Automatic 500 Unit Reader**

- Dosimeter: InLight case and slide
- Processing: 280/hour throughput
- · Capacity: 10 cassettes @ 50 dosimeters/cassette
- · Bar code input: internal optical reader
- Dimensions: 30.5" H x 43" W x 19.5" D (775 x 1092 x 495 mm)
- Weight: 125 lbs. (56.7 kg)

United States Department of Commerce National Institute of Standards and Technology



# Certificate of Accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025:2005

**NVLAP LAB CODE: 100518-0** 

Landauer, Inc.

Glenwood, IL

is accredited by the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program for specific services, listed on the Scope of Accreditation, for:

# **IONIZING RADIATION DOSIMETRY**

This laboratory is accredited in accordance with the recognized International Standard ISO/IEC 17025:2005.

This accreditation demonstrates technical competence for a defined scope and the operation of a laboratory quality management system (refer to joint ISO-ILAC-IAF Communique dated January 2009).

2013-01-01 through 2013-12-31

Effective dates



For the National Institute of Standards and Technology

# **CONTINUOUS LOW-VOLUME AIR PARTICULATE ANALYSIS**

# **STATION 4A - 2012**

Quarter/Date Sampled Air Volume	Radionuclide	Concentration µCi/ml	Error Estimate µCi/ml	LLD μCi/ml	Effluent Conc.* μCi/ml	% Effluent Concentration
1st Quarter	U-nat	8.08 E-17	N/A	1 E-16	9 E-14	8.98 E-02
1/3/12 – 4/2/12	Th-230	6.81 E-17	1 E-17	1 E-16	3 E-14	2.27 E-01
Air Vol in mLs	Ra-226	5.28 E-17	2 E-17	1 E-16	9 E-13	5.86 E-03
4.52 E+10	Pb-210	2.10 E-14	3 E-16	2 E-15	6 E-13	3.50 E+00
2nd Quarter	U-nat	1.18 E-16	N/A	1 E-16	9 E-14	1.30 E-01
4/2/12- 7/2/12	Th-230	1.39 E-16	2 E-17	1 E-16	3 E-14	4.63 E-01
Air Vol in mLs	Ra-226	6.94 E-17	3 E-17	1 E-16	9 E-13	7.71 E-03
4.46 E+10	Pb-210	1.70 E-14	4 E-16	2 E-15	6 E-13	2.84 E+00
3rd Quarter	U-nat	6.90 E-17	N/A	1 E-16	9 E-14	7.67 E-02
7/2/12 – 10/2/12	Th-230	3.58 E-17	9 E-18	1 E-16	3 E-14	1.19 E-01
Air Vol in mLs	Ra-226	4.32 E-17	1 E-17	1 E-16	9 E-13	4.80 E-03
4.32 E+10	Pb-210	2.45 E-14	4 E-16	2 E-15	6 E-13	4.09 E+00
4th Quarter	U-nat	7.35 E-17	N/A	1 E-16	9 E-14	8.17 E-02
10/2/12 – 1/2/13	Th-230	1.08 E-16	2 E-17	1 E-16	3 E-14	3.61 E-01
Air Vol in mLs	Ra-226	4.40 E-17	1 E-17	1 E-16	9 E-13	4.88 E-03
4.56 E+10	Pb-210	2.18 E-14	3 E-16	2 E-15	6 E-13	3.64 E+00

LLD's are as published in Reg. Guide 4.14
\*Effluent Concentration from the NEW 10 CFR Part 20 - Appendix B - Table 2

Year for Natural Uranium

Year for Thorium-230

Week for Radium-226

Day for Lead-210

# Radionuclide Releases from the Sweetwater Uranium Project

The Sweetwater Mill is not operating, thus there are no releases from stacks related to the mill such as the dryer stack, exhausts from the Solvent Extraction (SX) Building, or any other stacks. There is no ore on the Ore Pad and the Ore Pad was cleaned following cessation of operations on April 15, 1983, thus there are no emissions (windblown ore dust or radon) from stockpiled ore. The tailings impoundment has been largely covered with fluid-filled, lined lagoons minimizing any windblown tailings. The attached map entitled **Tailings Impoundment – December 2009** and the most recent Google Earth image entitled **Tailings Impoundment – July 5, 2009** attest to the current water covered condition of the impoundment.

The impoundment is tested as required by 40 CFR Part 61 Subpart W annually to determine average Radon-222 flux, most recently on July 31 to August 1, 2012. In addition, concurrent with the test, the impoundment was surveyed to determine the total area of 11(e).2 byproduct material as well as the total water covered area. The results of the Method 115 Test and survey are as follows:

Area Description	Area	Radon-222 Flux
Area Description	(square meters)	(pCi/m²-sec)
Exposed tailings	57,141.6	11.88
Water covered areas	100,321.6	0
Total	157,463.2	4.31 (average)

The total area of 11(e).2 byproduct material of 157,463.2 square meters has an average flux rate of 4.31 pCi/m² –sec. This equates to a total annual Radon-222 release from the impoundment of:

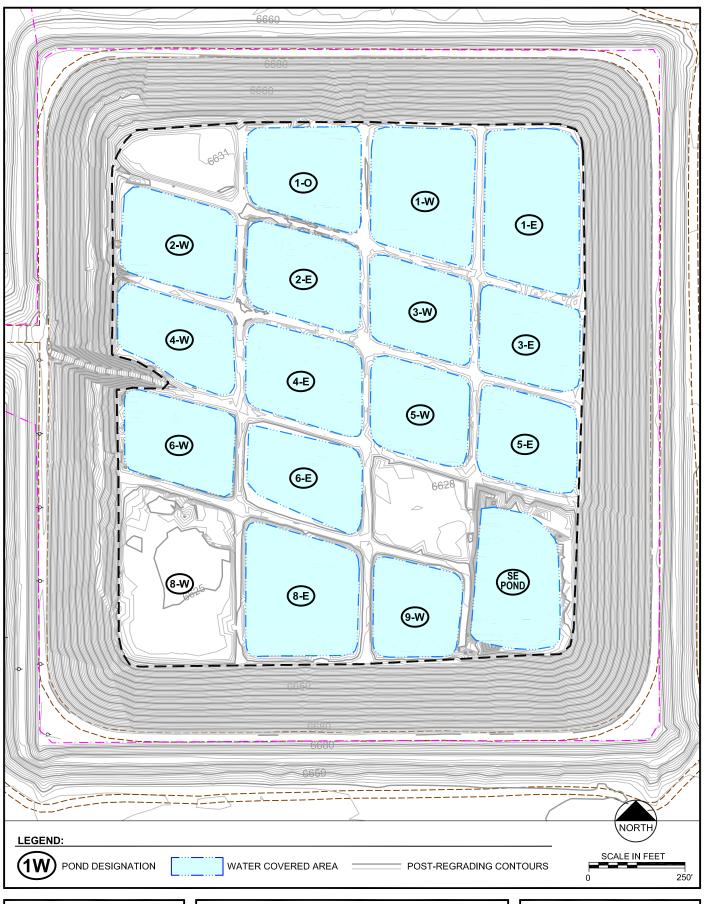
 $(4.31 \text{ pCi/m}^2\text{-sec}) (157,463.2 \text{ square meters}) (365 \text{ days/year}) (24 \text{ hours/day}) (60 \text{ minutes/hour}) (60 \text{ seconds/minute}) = 2.14 \text{ E+}^{13} \text{ pCi} = 21.4 \text{ curies of Radon-222 per year.}$ 

This average flux rate of 4.31 pCi/m²–sec is lower than the average background flux rate of 12.06 pCi/m²–sec based on five (5) background radon flux measurements taken concurrently with the 2012 Method 115 Test in undisturbed locations south and west of the facility. Radon-222 activities of air downwind of the facility averaged less than upwind Radon-222 activities in the second half of 2012. This situation (downwind average Radon-222 activities in air being less than upwind activities) has been consistently observed for the facility for at least the past two (2) decades.

No liquid effluents have been released from the facility in 2012. All contaminated liquids as well as pumpback water are placed in the tailings impoundment.



Tailings Impoundment – July 5, 2009 Image from Google Earth





SWEETWATER URANIUM FACILITY TAILINGS IMPOUNDMENT – DECEMBER 2009

Date:	FEBRUARY 2010
Project:	06-442\REP2010\
File:	Tailings 2009-Dec.dwg

# Internal memo

# 21 January 2013

To: File – 10 CFR 40.65 Report

Subject: Dose to the General Public in Millirems per Year as Represented by the Nearest Resident -

Second Half 2012

The following is a dose calculation for the nearest resident (the contract security guard) for the second half of 2012.

# **Calculation Assumptions:**

- 1. The nearest resident for dose calculation purposes is considered to be the site security officer when he is not on duty and sleeping inside the Security Trailer. The site security officer is scheduled to be on site from 5:30 p.m. on Thursday of each week to 10:00 p.m. the following Sunday, on holidays and at times that the Senior Facility Technician is on vacation. In spite of the fact that the site security officer does not reside on site continuously, no occupancy factor is assigned to him and for dose calculation purposes he is assumed to reside on site continuously. The security officer's trailer is located immediately south of the site's southern chain link fence. As such, the calculated dose to the security officer would also apply to any member of the general public approaching the site fence. No member of the general public would be in close proximity to the site for as long as the security officer, whose dose is calculated based on continuous occupancy, in spite of the fact that he does not reside on site continuously. A map showing the location of the Security Trailer is attached.
- 2. Radon concentrations are measured in the Security Trailer with RadTrak detectors placed in the kitchen and bedroom and changed quarterly. The results from these detectors are averaged to derive a semiannual radon concentration in picoCuries per liter for the Security Trailer.
- 3. Radon decay product exposures in working levels are measured semiannually in the Security Trailer using a calibrated Buck Basic 12, Bendix BDX-44, MSA or Sensidyne GilAir II air pump and filter. The filter is read by the modified Kusnetz Method.
- 4. The radon concentration and exposure are used to calculate the equilibrium factor. The equilibrium factors calculated semiannually are averaged to derive a site equilibrium factor.
- 5. This equilibrium factor is applied to the upwind radon concentrations to derive a background radon dose and to the average semiannual radon concentration in the Security Trailer to derive a radon dose to the nearest resident. An equilibrium factor table is attached.
- 6. The dose from the semiannual downwind airborne particulate concentrations of natural uranium, radium-226 and thorium-230 are used to calculate the dose from airborne particulates in the Security Trailer in spite of the fact that the Security Trailer is not downwind of the facility. The use of airborne particulate data from downwind of the facility provides conservative particulate concentrations.
- 7. Beginning in the third quarter of 2010 an environmental dosimeter was placed in the Security Trailer and exchanged quarterly to directly measure actual gamma dose in the trailer.
- 8. The doses from radon-222, airborne particulate radionuclides and gamma radiation are summed to produce a dose to the nearest resident (the Security Trailer).
- 9. The radon concentrations measured at the upwind air monitoring stations during the two (2) quarters for a given semiannual period are averaged, corrected for the site equilibrium factor and converted to a background radon dose for the facility.
- 10. This background radon dose is summed with the background gamma radiation dose (from the revised Environmental Report dated August 1994) and the doses derived from the background airborne particulate concentrations (natural uranium, radium-226 and thorium-230 as described in the revised Environmental Report dated August 1994) to yield a background radiation dose for the facility for the given semiannual period.

- 11. The background dose is subtracted from the calculated dose to the nearest resident (Security Trailer) to derive a dose to the nearest resident from the facility.
- 12. This method was discussed with James Webb, Project Manager, of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in an email dated Wednesday, January 19, 2011. In an email dated Monday, February 28, 2011, he replied that Kennecott Uranium Company should continue to follow the methods identified in the semiannual effluent (10 CFR 40.65) reports until directed otherwise. The emails are included in this report.

### **BACKGROUND**

BACKGROUND		
	Average Concentration	Dose (mrem)
Gamma Exposure:		200.70 (approx. 22.9 uR/hr)
Airborne Particulate	es:	
U nat	6.2 E-16 µCi/ml	0.34
Ra-226	3.9 E-16 μCi/ml	0.22
Th-230	3.9 E-16 μCi/ml	0.65
Gases:		
Radon-222	2.94 pCi/l	203.2
Total	•	405.1

### Notes:

- 1. An equilibrium factor of 0.157 was used for radon based on thirty-two (32) comparisons of radon-222 and radon-222 daughter concentrations over 19 years. Please see attached sheet entitled "Equilibrium Factors for Nearest Resident".
- 2. Gamma and airborne particulate background data is from the revised Environmental Report (August 1994).
- 3. The average background radon concentration of the RadTraks deployed at Air 2 in the third and fourth quarters of 2012 of 2.38 pCi/L was used for the second half 2012 radon concentration.
- 4. Calculation: (Radon concentration (pCi/l))\*(Equilibrium factor)\*(0.44 rems/pCi/l) = Dose (rems)

## **SECURITY TRAILER**

	Average Concentration	Dose (mrem)
Gamma Exposure:		193.4
Airborne Particulat	es:	
U nat	7.13 E-17 µCi/ml	0.040
Ra-226	4.36 E-17 μCi/ml	0.120
Th-230	7.19 E-17 µCi/ml	0.002
Gases:		
Radon-222	1.98 pCi/l	136.8
Total		330.3

# Notes:

- 1. An equilibrium factor of 0.157 was used for radon based on thirty-two (32) comparisons of radon-222 and radon-222 daughter concentrations over 19 years.
- 2. Downwind airborne particulate concentrations for the third and fourth quarters of 2012 were used for the security trailer. These doses were converted to millirems per year (mrem/yr).
- 3. Radon concentration was measured in the security trailer for the third and fourth quarters of 2012 and is based on an average of RadTrak units located in two (2) locations; the kitchen and the bedroom.
- 4. The gamma exposure for the Security Trailer is based upon an environmental dosimeter placed in the Security Trailer and exchanged quarterly.

Se	cond Half - 201	2
	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
Kitchen	1.9 pCi/L	2.1 pCi/L
Bedroom	1.9 pCi/L	2.1 pCi/L
Trailer Average:		2.0 pCi/L

5. The annual gamma dose rate is calculated by doubling the sum of the third and fourth quarter dosimeter readings, converting them to an annual dose rate.

The calculated net (dose to the nearest resident minus background dose) annual TEDE from the licensed operations for the second half of 2012 is **0.0** mrem/year, which is below the 100 mrem/year dose limit to members of the general public.

Oscar Paulson Avg dose.doc

# **Kennecott Uranium Company Sweetwater Uranium Project**

# **Equilibrium Factor for Nearest Residence** (Security Guard Trailer)

	(Security Suara 11)	· ·	
Date	Radon Concentration (pCi/L)	Exposure (WL)	Equilibrium Factor
1/1/93 – 6/30/93	3.20	0.009	0.28
1/1/97 – 6/30/97	1.50	0.003	0.20
7/1/97 – 12/31/97	2.20	0.002	0.09
1/1/98 – 6/30/98	1.65	0.003	0.18
1/1/99 – 6/30/99	1.90	0.009	0.47
7/1/99 – 12/31/99	3.25	0.002	0.06
1/1/00 - 6/30/00	2.12	0.004	0.19
7/1/00 – 12/31/00	3.05	0.009	0.30
1/1/01 – 6/30/01	3.60 <sup>1</sup>	0.012	0.33
7/1/01 – 12/31/01	2.78	0.013 <sup>2</sup>	0.47
1/1/02 - 6/30/02	2.48	$0.009^2$	0.36
7/1/02 – 12/31/02	2.80	0.003 <sup>2</sup>	0.11
1/1/03 - 6/30/03	2.40	0.004 <sup>2</sup>	0.17
7/1/03 – 12/31/03	3.75 <sup>3</sup>	0.006 <sup>2</sup>	0.16
1/1/04 - 6/30/04	2.08	0.003 <sup>2</sup>	0.14
7/1/04 – 12/31/04	3.00	0.0005	0.017
1/1/05 – 6/30/05	2.55	0.0013	0.051
7/1/05 – 12/31/05	3.22	0.0035	0.109
1/1/06 - 6/30/06	2.40	0	0.00
7/1/06 – 12/31/06	2.13	0.014	0.66
1/1/07 - 6/30/07	1.65	0	0.00
7/1/07 – 12/31/07	2.10 <sup>4</sup>	0.0001	0.005
1/1/08 - 6/30/08	3.28	0	0.00
7/1/08 - 12/31/08	2.83	0	0.00
1/1/09 - 6/30/09	2.25	0	0.00
7/1/09 - 12/31/09	2.03	0.002	0.10
1/1/10 - 6/30/10	2.13	0.002	0.09
7/1/10 - 12/31/10	1.63	0.002	0.12
1/1/11 - 6/30/11	0.95	0.0015	0.16
7/1/11 – 12/31/11	1.90	0	0.00
1/1/12 - 6/30/12	1.50	0.003	0.20
7/1/12 – 12/31/12	1.98	0	1.11
Average	o of three (2) DodTrek d		0.157

This value is based upon an average of three (3) RadTrak detectors. The second quarter RadTrak detector in the Security Trailer bedroom was lost.

Average of two (2) measurements.

Fourth quarter 2003 concentration only. Landauer, Inc. lost the third quarter 2003 RadTrak units.

This value is based upon an average of three (3) RadTrak detectors. The fourth quarter RadTrak detector

in the Security Trailer kitchen was lost.

### **Calculation Parameters**

- 1. Radon concentrations in the Security Trailer are calculated based upon the results of two (2) RadTrak detectors (one in the kitchen and one in the bedroom) that are changed quarterly. The radon concentration for a given semiannual period is an average of the results of four (4) RadTrak detections, one in the kitchen and one in the bedroom, changed quarterly.
- 2. Radon exposures (radon daughters concentrations measured in Working Levels) are taken semiannually in the trailer in two (2) locations (kitchen and bedroom) using a Buck Basic 12, Bendix BDX-44, MSA or Sensidyne GilAir II air pump and a filter. The filter is evaluated using the modified Kusnetz Method.
- 3. The equilibrium factor is calculated.

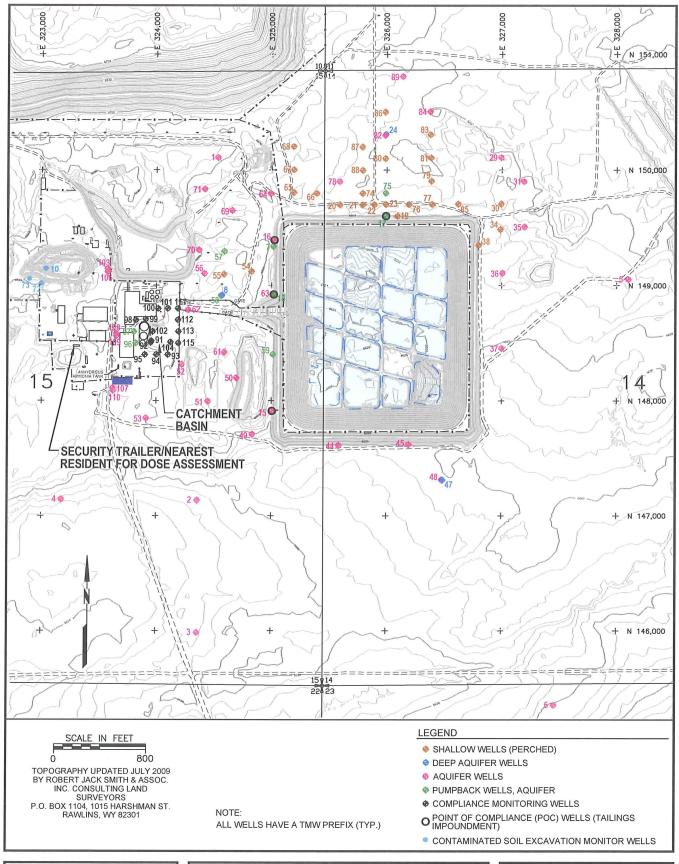
Radon Dose (rems) = (Radon Concentration (pCi/L)) \* (Equilibrium Factor) \* (0.44 rem/pCi/L)

An occupancy factor may be added as required.

1 WL ~ 100 pCi/L with daughters present (100% equilibrium)

Equilibrium Factor Formula: Equilibrium Factor = Exposure (WL) \* 100 / Concentration (pCi/L)

Source: National Council on Radiation Protection (NCRP) Report #97



# **RioTinto**

SWEETWATER URANIUM PROJECT NEAREST RESIDENT FOR DOSE ASSESSMENT SEMIANNUAL 10 CFR 40.65 REPORT

Date:	FEBRUARY 2012
Project:	06-442\REP2012
File:	2012-Nearest

# Paulson, Oscar (CCC)

From: Paulson, Oscar (CCC)

Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2011 5:47 PM

To: 'Webb, James'

Cc: Schutterle, Shelley (CCC); Haag, Kelly (RTEA-Temp)

Subject: Source Material License SUA-1350 Docket Number: 40-8584 Calculation of the Dose from Radon

and Radon Decay Products to the Nearest Resident/Member of the General Public

### James Webb:

On Wednesday, January 12, 2011, Duane Schmidt of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) gave a presentation that included a discussion of the calculation of dose from radon and its decay products to members of the general public and to the nearest resident from licensed uranium recovery facilities. In it, he cited the preamble to the revised 10 CFR 20 (Federal Register Volume 56, Number 98 - Tuesday, May 21, 1991 - Rules and Regulations - page 23375) which states:

The Commission is aware that some categories of licensees, such as uranium mills and in situ uranium mining facilities, may experience difficulties in determining compliance with the values in appendix B to Part 20.1001 – 20.2401, Table 2, for certain radionuclides, such as radon-222. Provision has been made for licensees to use air and water concentration limits for protection of members of the general public that are different from those in Appendix B to Part 20.1001 – 20.2401, table 2, if the licensee can demonstrate that the physiochemical properties of the effluent justify such modification and the revised value is approved by the NRC. For example, uranium mill licensees could, under this provision, adjust the table 2 value for radon (with daughters) to take into account the actual degree of equilibrium present in the environment.

At the Sweetwater Uranium Project, the nearest resident is the security guard who lives in a trailer adjacent to the facility. He is considered a member of the public/resident during times that he is on site but not being paid. Two (2) RadTrak/TrackEtch units are installed in the trailer in which he stays to measure radon concentrations. These are exchanged quarterly. In addition, air samples are collected in the trailer by the two (2) RadTrak/TrackEtch units twice each year. These air sample filters are analyzed by the modified Kusnetz Method to determine radon decay product concentrations in working levels. This data is maintained in a spreadsheet and equilibrium factors for radon and its decay products have been calculated for each six (6) month period (January to June and July to December) for each year for over a decade. These equilibrium factors are averaged to generate an average equilibrium factor for the trailer over time. This spreadsheet containing the equilibrium factors along with the entire dose calculation method is provided in each semiannual 10 CFR 40.65 Report that is submitted to the Commission.

During the August 2009 inspection, you examined the site's 10 CFR 40.65 Report and specifically examined the method used to calculate the dose to the nearest resident/member of the general public (the security guard) from radon and its decay products and stated that you concurred with the method being used. The inspection report documents this review stating:

The inspectors reviewed annual effluent reports for 2007 – 2008 to assess doses to the general public. Doses were assessed for individuals at the background station and at the security trailer. During 2007 – 2008 does at the security trailer were below the background station measurements. Therefore, the inspectors concluded that doses to the public were below the limits specified in 10 CFR 20.1301 and 10 CRFR 1302.

During his presentation, Duane Schmidt stated that use of a site specific equilibrium factor for radon and its decay products requires "approval of a member of NRC staff."

While the use of a site specific equilibrium factor was discussed with members of Commission staff in the past, for example Elaine Brummett in an e-mail dated September 7, 2001 specifically requested that a copy of the calculation sheet and explanation of the method for calculation of does to the nearest resident be included for her review in each 40.65 Report that is submitted, no recent written approval by a member of Commission staff exists on file for the use of site specific equilibrium factors for radon and radon decay products at the Sweetwater Uranium Project.

Given that you reviewed and concurred with the use of site specific equilibrum factors for radon and its decay products and with the dose calculation method during the August 2009 inspection, Kennecott Uranium Company is requesting that you provide concurrence with the use of site specific equilibrum factors for radon and its decay products and with the dose calculation method used at the Sweetwater Uranium Project in a reply to this e-mail so that a current approval is on file at the site.

This issue was discussed with you in a telephone conversation on the afternoon of Wednesday, January 19, 2011. The dose calculation method and equilibrium factor spreadsheet can be reviewed in the facility's most recent 40.65 Report which was submitted at the end of August 2010.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

# Oscar Paulson

Facility Supervisor Kennecott Uranium Company Sweetwater Uranium Project P.O. Box 1500 42 Miles Northwest of Rawlins Rawlins, Wyoming 82301-1500

Telephone: (307)-324-4924 Fax: (307)-324-4925 Cellular: (307)-320-8758

E-mail: oscar.paulson@riotinto.com

# Paulson, Oscar (CCC)

From: Webb, James [James.Webb@nrc.gov]

**Sent:** Monday, February 28, 2011 11:53 AM

To: Paulson, Oscar (CCC)

Cc: Schmidt, Duane; Gersey, Linda

Subject: Radon and Radon Decay Products Response

Mr. Oscar Paulson
Facility Supervisor
Kennecott Uranium Company
Sweetwater Uranium Project
P.O. Box 1500
Rawlins, WY 82301-1500

Dear Mr. Paulson,

NRC staff reviewed your request to provide concurrence with the use of site specific equilibrium factors for radon and its decay products and with the calculation method used at the Sweetwater Uranium Project. NRC staff notes that these methods are described in each semi-annual effluent (10 CFR 40.65) reports submitted to the NRC. Because of the nature of your request, and the industry interest in this particular issue, NRC staff has determined that this issue should be addressed in a future guidance on radon developed by the NRC. Your email was placed in ADAMS (ML1102602791) for future reference. Kennecott should continue to follow the methods identified in your semi-annual effluent (10 CFR 40.65) reports until directed otherwise.

Sincerely,

James Webb Project Manager USNRC Washington D.C.