

WASTE STREAM	4B06	Desiccants and Catalysts
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SITE Hunterston B

SITE OWNER EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd (EDFE NGL)

WASTE CUSTODIAN EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd (EDFE NGL)

WASTE TYPE ILW

WASTE VOLUMES

	Reported (m ³)	OR	Conditioned (m ³)	Packaged (m ³)
Stocks:	At 1.4.2025	= 260.0		
Future arisings:	1.4.2025 - 31.3.2026	0		
	1.4.2026 - 31.3.2027	34.0		
Total future arisings:		34.0		
Total waste volume:		294.0		

Number of waste packages in stock: At 1.4.2025..... - packages

Comment on arising rates: Waste volumes will be variable depending on station operating conditions.

Additional information on quantities: Current stock volumes are known fairly accurately but there is likely to be some uncertainty on the values. The volume of desiccant waste in each tower is known and so future arising volumes are predictable.

Uncertainty factors on volumes:

Stock (upper):	x 1.25	Arisings (upper):	x 0.00
Stock (lower):	x 0.75	Arisings (lower):	x 0.00

WASTE SOURCE Exhausted desiccants and catalysts that have been used for the drying and recombination of carbon dioxide reactor coolant. Small amounts of steel balls and charcoal.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

General description: The waste consists of exhausted 'Mobil sorbent' desiccant with charcoal (the desiccant material consists of silica beads of a flowing nature) together with catalyst (material consists of a granular alumina-platinum alloy and steel shielding spheres). There are no large items associated with the waste.

Changes since waste generated: -

Bulk density (t/m³): ~ 0.80

Comment on density: The average density of this waste stream (desiccant and catalyst) is estimated to be 1t/m³.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

General description and components (%wt): Silica gel, very small quantities of charcoal, cylindrical pellets of platinum on alumina (catalyst), and ceramic and steel balls. Alumina-platinum catalyst (1.3%), steel (2.9%), silica gel (93.7%), charcoal (1.1%), ceramic (0.9%). The use of charcoal in the desiccant has been discontinued.

Chemical state: Neutral

Sheet metal proportion / thickness: -

Metals and alloys (%wt):

	(%wt)	Type(s) / Grades(s) with proportions	% of total C14 activity
Stainless steel.....	= 0	-	
Other ferrous metals.....	~ 2.9	-	
Iron.....	= 0	-	
Aluminium.....	= 0	-	
Beryllium.....	= 0	-	
Cobalt.....	= 0	-	
Copper.....	= 0	-	
Lead.....	= 0	-	
Magnox/Magnesium.....	= 0	-	
Nickel.....	= 0	-	
Titanium.....	= 0	-	
Uranium.....	= 0	-	
Zinc.....	= 0	-	
Zircaloy/Zirconium.....	= 0	-	
Other metals.....	NE	Platinum on alumina	

Organics (%wt):

	(%wt)	Type(s) and comment	% of total C14 activity
Total cellulose.....	= 0	-	
Paper, cotton.....	= 0	-	
Wood.....	= 0	-	
Halogenated plastics.....	= 0	-	
Total non-halogenated plastics.....	= 0	-	
Condensation polymers.....	= 0	-	
Others.....	= 0	-	
Organic ion exchange materials.....	= 0	-	
Total rubber.....	= 0	-	
Halogenated rubber.....	= 0	-	
Non-halogenated rubber.....	= 0	-	
Hydrocarbons.....	= 0	-	
Oil or grease.....	= 0	-	
Fuel.....	-	-	
Asphalt/Tarmac (cont.coal tar).....	-	-	
Asphalt/Tarmac (no coal tar).....	-	-	
Bitumen.....	-	-	
Others.....	-	-	
Other organics.....	NE	-	

Other materials (%wt):

	(%wt)	Type(s) and comment	% of total C14 activity
Inorganic ion exchange materials.....	= 0	-	
Inorganic sludges and flocs.....	= 0	-	
Soil.....	= 0	-	
Brick/Stone/Rubble.....	= 0	-	
Cementitious material.....	= 0	-	
Sand.....	= 0	-	
Glass/Ceramics.....	= 0.90	-	
Graphite.....	= 1.1	Charcoal	
Desiccants/Catalysts.....	= 95.0	-	
Asbestos.....	= 0	-	
Non/low friable.....	-	-	
Moderately friable.....	-	-	
Highly friable.....	-	-	
Free aqueous liquids.....	= 0	-	
Free non-aqueous liquids.....	= 0	-	
Powder/Ash.....	= 0	-	

COMPONENTS OF MATERIALS, WASTE PROPERTIES, MATERIALS NOT CONTRIBUTING TO MASS

Inorganic anions (%wt):

	(%wt)	Type(s) and comment
Fluoride.....	TR	-
Chloride.....	TR	-
Iodide.....	TR	-
Cyanide.....	= 0	-
Carbonate.....	TR	-
Nitrate.....	TR	-
Nitrite.....	NE	-
Phosphate.....	TR	-
Sulphate.....	TR	-
Sulphide.....	TR	-

Materials of interest for waste acceptance criteria:

	(%wt)	Type(s) and comment
Combustible metals.....	= 0	-
Low flash point liquids.....	= 0	-
Explosive materials.....	= 0	-
Phosphorus.....	= 0	-
Hydrides.....	= 0	-
Biological etc. materials.....	= 0	-
Biodegradable materials.....	= 0	-
Putrescible wastes.....	= 0	-
Non-putrescible wastes.....	= 0	-
Corrosive materials.....	= 0	-
Pyrophoric materials.....	= 0	-
Generating toxic gases.....	= 0	-
Reacting with water.....	= 0	-
Higher activity particles.....	= 0	Not expected to be present
Soluble solids as bulk chemical compounds.....	= 0	-

Hazardous substances / non hazardous pollutants:

	(%wt)	Type(s) and comment
Acrylamide.....	NE	-
Benzene.....	NE	-
Chlorinated solvents.....	NE	-
Formaldehyde.....	NE	-
Organometallics.....	NE	-
Phenol.....	NE	-
Styrene.....	NE	-
Tri-butyl phosphate.....	NE	-
Other organophosphates.....	NE	-
Vinyl chloride.....	NE	-
Arsenic.....	NE	-
Barium.....	NE	-
Boron.....	NE	-
Boron (in Boral).....	NE	-
Boron (non-Boral).....	NE	-
Cadmium.....	NE	-
Caesium.....	NE	-
Selenium.....	NE	-
Chromium.....	NE	-
Molybdenum.....	NE	-
Thallium.....	NE	-
Tin.....	NE	-
Vanadium.....	NE	-
Mercury compounds.....	NE	-
Others.....	NE	-

Complexing agents (%wt):

Not yet determined		
	(%wt)	Type(s) and comment
EDTA.....	NE	-
DPTA.....	NE	-
NTA.....	NE	-
Polycarboxylic acids.....	NE	-
Other organic complexants.....	NE	Expect only trace quantities, if any.
Total complexing agents.....	NE	-

Physical components:

	Number	Type(s) and comment
Sources.....	= 0	-
Electronic & Electrical Equipment (EEE)		
EEE Type 1.....		-
EEE Type 2.....		-
EEE Type 3.....		-
EEE Type 4.....		-
EEE Type 5.....		-

TREATMENT, PACKAGING AND DISPOSAL

Planned on-site / off-site treatment(s):

Treatment	On-site / Off-site	Stream volume %
Size reduction	On-site	= 100.0
Decay storage		
Low force compaction		
Supercompaction (HFC)		
Incineration	Off-site	= 100.0
Drying/dewatering/liquid separation		
Tie down/fixatives/strippable coating/painting application		
Decontamination		
Metal treatment	Off-site	= 100.0
Recycling / reuse		
Thermal treatment, including vitrification		
Encapsulation		
Polymer encapsulation		
Other physical treatment		
Other chemical treatment		
Containerisation		
Treatment not yet determined		
None		

Comments on planned treatments:

For stocks in the vault radioactive decay will have occurred. Future arisings will be decay stored and then decontaminated to LLW and encapsulated.

Conditioning method:

-

Conditioning plants:

Plant Name	Location

Likely conditioning matrix:

-

Further information on the conditioning matrix:

-

Waste Packaging:

Likely container type:	Container	Waste packaged (vol%)	Waste loading (m³)	Payload (m³)	Number of packages	Estimated start date for packaging
	1/2 Height IP-2 Disposal/Re-usable ISO (TC01/TC02)	100.0	6.3	18.3	47	-

Range in container waste loading:

Other information on packaging and conditioning: Waste volume following solidification is assumed to be 300%. Internal volume of 18.77m³ assumed.

Conditioned density (t/m³): -
Conditioned density comment: -

Management Routes:

Disposal Route	Stream volume %	Raw density t/m³	Start date
Expected to be consigned to a Near Site, Near Surface Disposal Facility (Scotland)	= 100.0	~ 0.80	
Expected to be Non-NSD HAW managed under Scottish Government's policy			
Expected to be disposed to LLW Vaults NRS Dounreay			
Expected to be consigned to the Geological Disposal Facility			
Expected to be consigned to a Near Surface Disposal Facility			
Expected to be consigned to the LLW Repository			
Expected to be consigned to a Landfill Facility			
Expected to be disposed On-Site			
Expected to be managed by In-Situ Disposal			
Expected to be consigned to an Incineration Facility			
Expected to be consigned to a Metal Treatment Facility			
Expected to be Out of Scope			
Expected to be recycled / reused			
Disposal route not known			

Classification codes for waste expected to be consigned to a landfill facility:

Opportunities for alternative disposal routing: Yes

Baseline Management Route	Opportunity Management Route	Stream volume (%)	Opportunity Confidence	Comment
LLWR	Incineration facility	-	AMBER	-

RADIOACTIVITY

Source: Contamination by tritium and activation products will be the main sources of activity.

Uncertainty: Present estimates are indicative of the activities that are expected. The values given are from one set of desiccant samples taken from Hinkley Point B (HPB) in 2019, so give a good indication of activities present. Specific activity is a function of operating history.

Measurement of radioactivities: Analysis of HPB desiccant samples from 2019, retrieved from the vaults.

Chemical form of radionuclides: H-3: Tritiated water absorbed onto desiccant.
C-14: May be present as Graphite contamination
Cl-36: Activation of sulphide components within the gas stream.
Se-79: Not expected to be significant
Tc-99: Not expected to be significant
I-129: Not expected to be significant
Ra: Not expected to be significant
Th: Not expected to be significant
U: Not expected to be significant
Np: Not expected to be significant
Pu: Not expected to be significant

WASTE STREAM 4B06 Desiccants and Catalysts									
Nuclide	Mean radioactivity, TBq/m³				Nuclide	Mean radioactivity, TBq/m³			
	Waste at 1.4.2025	Bands and Code	Future Arisings	Bands and Code		Waste at 1.4.2025	Bands and Code	Future Arisings	Bands and Code
H 3	3.09E-02	C C 1	3.09E-02	C C 1	Gd 153				
Be 10					Ho 163				
C 14	4.02E-05	C C 1	4.02E-05	C C 1	Ho 166m				
Na 22					Tm 170				
Al 26					Tm 171				
Cl 36	4.14E-05	C C 1	4.14E-05	C C 1	Lu 174				
Ar 39					Lu 176				
Ar 42					Hf 178n				
K 40		8		8	Hf 182				
Ca 41					Pt 193				
Mn 53					Ti 204				
Mn 54		8		8	Pb 205				
Fe 55	1.20E-05	C C 1	1.20E-05	C C 1	Pb 210				
Co 60	1.56E-06	C C 1	1.56E-06	C C 1	Bi 208				
Ni 59					Bi 210m				
Ni 63		8		8	Po 210				
Zn 65		8		8	Ra 223				
Se 79					Ra 225				
Kr 81					Ra 226				
Kr 85					Ra 228				
Rb 87					Ac 227				
Sr 90					Th 227				
Zr 93					Th 228				
Nb 91					Th 229				
Nb 92					Th 230				
Nb 93m					Th 232				
Nb 94		8		8	Th 234				
Mo 93					Pa 231				
Tc 97					Pa 233				
Tc 99					U 232				
Ru 106		8		8	U 233				
Pd 107					U 234				
Ag 108m	2.96E-09	C C 1	2.96E-09	C C 1	U 235				
Ag 110m		8		8	U 236				
Cd 109					U 238				
Cd 113m					Np 237				
Sn 119m					Pu 236				
Sn 121m					Pu 238				
Sn 123					Pu 239				
Sn 126					Pu 240				
Sb 125		8		8	Pu 241				
Sb 126					Pu 242				
Te 125m					Am 241		8		8
Te 127m					Am 242m				
I 129					Am 243				
Cs 134		8		8	Cm 242				
Cs 135					Cm 243				
Cs 137	3.32E-07	C C 1	3.32E-07	C C 1	Cm 244				
Ba 133	2.32E-09	C C 1	2.32E-09	C C 1	Cm 245				
La 137					Cm 246				
La 138					Cm 248				
Ce 144		8		8	Cf 249				
Pm 145					Cf 250				
Pm 147					Cf 251				
Sm 147					Cf 252				
Sm 151					Unsp a		8		8
Eu 152		8		8	Unsp b/g		8		8
Eu 154		8		8	Total a	0	*	0	*
Eu 155		8		8	Total b/g	3.10E-02	*	3.10E-02	*

Bands (Upper and Lower)

A a factor of 1.5
B a factor of 3
C a factor of 10
D a factor of 100
E a factor of 1000

Note: Bands quantify uncertainty in the mean radioactivity.

Code

1 Measured activity
2 Derived activity (best estimate)
3 Derived activity (upper limit)
4 Not present
5 Present but not significant
6 Likely to be present but not assessed
7 Present in significant quantities but not determined
8 Not expected to be present in significant quantity
* Total calculated from the 114 declared radionuclides