

WASTE STREAM	6N02	Moderators
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SITE Rutherford Appleton Laboratory

SITE OWNER UK Research and Innovation

WASTE CUSTODIAN UK Research and Innovation

WASTE TYPE ILW

WASTE VOLUMES

	Reported (m ³)	OR	Conditioned (m ³)	Packaged (m ³)
Stocks:	At 1.4.2025	0.9		
Future arisings:	1.4.2025 - 31.3.2026	0.1		
	1.4.2026 - 31.3.2027	0.1		
	1.4.2027 - 31.3.2028	0.1		
	1.4.2028 - 31.3.2045	1.0		
Total future arisings:		1.2		
Total waste volume:		2.1		

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

Comment on arising rates: Assumes 6 moderators total per year from both target stations, halved 2022-23 as TS1 replaced the moderators during long shutdown. No envisaged end point to this ongoing operational waste at the moment.

Additional information on quantities: The records for the waste arisings are missing some details. When the waste is retrieved from storage the uncertainty on the number of parts will be removed. The volume is of size-reduced for handling but otherwise unprocessed waste with variable but significant voidage. The operation arisings in future will be affected by design changes and hopefully improvements to reduce arisings.

Uncertainty factors on volumes: Stock (upper): x 1.50 Arisings (upper): x 1.50
Stock (lower): x 0.80 Arisings (lower): x 0.80

WASTE SOURCE Moderators alter the neutron spectrum coming from the tungsten target to meet beam-line science requirements.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

General description: Metallic waste. Aluminium moderator head with high surface area aluminium sponge inside. Small amount of neutron-poison in head (Gd foil). Head is connected to a stainless steel umbilical carrying service cables and pipes for coolant and/ or moderating material. Heads are drained of coolant and moderating material and most are cropped from the umbilical.

Changes since waste generated: -

Bulk density (t/m³): ~ 2.7

Comment on density: Very approximate as this is difficult to estimate for this unprocessed waste stream.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

General description and components (%wt): Potentially <0.01% organic material in the methane-moderator heads as the moderation process causes splitting and joining of the methane molecules to form a mix of carbon, oils and waxes. Methane moderator heads comprise about 75% of the waste stream.

Chemical state: Neutral

Sheet metal proportion / thickness: -

Metals and alloys (%wt):

	(%wt)	Type(s) / Grades(s) with proportions	% of total C14 activity
Stainless steel.....	~ 87.0	-	
Other ferrous metals.....	= 0	-	
Iron.....	= 0	-	
Aluminium.....	~ 13.0	-	
Beryllium.....	= 0	-	
Cobalt.....	= 0	-	
Copper.....	= 0	-	
Lead.....	= 0	-	
Magnox/Magnesium.....	= 0	-	
Nickel.....	= 0	-	
Titanium.....	= 0	-	
Uranium.....	= 0	-	
Zinc.....	= 0	-	
Zircaloy/Zirconium.....	= 0	-	
Other metals.....	< 0.01	Brass, Gadolinium, Silver. Proportions unknown	

Organics (%wt):

	(%wt)	Type(s) and comment	% of total C14 activity
Total cellulotics.....	= 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.....	= 0	-	
Asphalt/Tarmac (cont.coal tar).....	= 0	-	
Asphalt/Tarmac (no coal tar).....	= 0	-	
Bitumen.....	= 0	-	
Others.....	= 0	-	
Other organics.....	< 0.01	-	

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.....	< 0.01	-	
Graphite.....	= 0	-	
Desiccants/Catalysts.....	= 0	-	
Asbestos.....	= 0	-	
Non/low friable.....	= 0	-	
Moderately friable.....	= 0	-	
Highly friable.....	= 0	-	
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.....	= 0	-
Chloride.....	= 0	-
Iodide.....	= 0	-
Cyanide.....	= 0	-
Carbonate.....	= 0	-
Nitrate.....	= 0	-
Nitrite.....	= 0	-
Phosphate.....	= 0	-
Sulphate.....	= 0	-
Sulphide.....	= 0	-

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	-
Soluble solids as bulk chemical compounds.....	= 0	-

Hazardous substances / non hazardous pollutants:

-

	(%wt)	Type(s) and comment
Acrylamide.....	= 0	-
Benzene.....	= 0	-
Chlorinated solvents.....	= 0	-
Formaldehyde.....	= 0	-
Organometallics.....	= 0	-
Phenol.....	= 0	-
Styrene.....	= 0	-
Tri-butyl phosphate.....	= 0	-
Other organophosphates.....	= 0	-
Vinyl chloride.....	= 0	-
Arsenic.....	= 0	-
Barium.....	= 0	-
Boron.....	= 0	-
Boron (in Boral).....	= 0	-
Boron (non-Boral).....	= 0	-
Cadmium.....	= 0	-
Caesium.....	= 0	-
Selenium.....	= 0	-
Chromium.....	= 0	-
Molybdenum.....	= 0	-
Thallium.....	= 0	-
Tin.....	= 0	-
Vanadium.....	= 0	-
Mercury compounds.....	= 0	-
Others.....	= 0	-

Complexing agents (%wt):

No

	(%wt)	Type(s) and comment
EDTA.....		-
DPTA.....		-
NTA.....		-
Polycarboxylic acids.....		-
Other organic complexants.....		-
Total complexing agents.....		-

Physical components:

	Number	Type(s) and comment
Sources.....		-
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 Decay storage Low force compaction Supercompaction (HFC) Incineration Drying/dewatering/liquid separation Tie down/fixatives/strippable coating/painting application Decontamination Metal treatment Recycling / reuse Thermal treatment, including vitrification Encapsulation Polymer encapsulation Other physical treatment Other chemical treatment Containerisation Treatment not yet determined None	On-site	= 100.0

Comments on planned treatments:

Size reduction- further segregation of the stainless steel and aluminium heads to be carried out post 2027 when the remote handling facility has been commissioned.

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
Not yet determined	100.0	-	-	-	-

Range in container waste loading:

Other information on packaging and conditioning:

-

Conditioned density (t/m³):

-

Conditioned density comment:

-

Management Routes:

Disposal Route	Stream volume %	Raw density t/m ³	Start date
Expected to be consigned to a Near Site, Near Surface Disposal Facility (Scotland)	= 100.0		
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
GDF	NSDF	100.0	AMBER	-

RADIOACTIVITY

Source: Activation of components by neutron beam

Uncertainty: There are 2 target stations one of lower beam energy than the other so the moderators arising from each vary in activity for the same irradiation time. Each moderator head has been used for a time unique to that head and there are several moderator types. The specific activity is based on an average activity from measurements and modelling. The total volume of the unprocessed waste is estimated.

Measurement of radioactivities: Some gamma-spectrometry measurements have been made.

Chemical form of radionuclides: H-3: Formed in metal as tritium molecules and as part of the hydrocarbon mix in the methane moderators.

C-14: as carbon, oils and waxes
Cl-36: -
Se-79: -
Tc-99: -
I-129: -
Ra: -
Th: -
U: -
Np: -
Pu: -

WASTE STREAM 6N02 Moderators									
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	= 1.52E+03	C E 2	= 2.10E+03	C E 2	Gd 153				
Be 10		8		8	Ho 163				
C 14	= 1.00E-04	C E 2	= 1.00E-04	C E 2	Ho 166m				
Na 22	= 3.56E-01	C D 2	= 1.60E+00	C D 2	Tm 170				
Al 26	= 4.20E-04	C D 2	= 4.20E-04	C D 2	Tm 171				
Cl 36		8		8	Lu 174				
Ar 39					Lu 176				
Ar 42					Hf 178n				
K 40					Hf 182				
Ca 41					Pt 193				
Mn 53					Ti 204				
Mn 54	= 3.73E-03	C D 2	= 3.00E-01	C D 2	Pb 205				
Fe 55		6		6	Pb 210				
Co 60	= 8.52E-01	C D 2	= 1.80E+00	C D 2	Bi 208				
Ni 59					Bi 210m				
Ni 63		6			Po 210				
Zn 65	= 1.83E-04	C D 2	= 4.40E-02	A D 2	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					Th 234				
Mo 93					Pa 231				
Tc 97					Pa 233				
Tc 99					U 232				
Ru 106					U 233				
Pd 107					U 234				
Ag 108m					U 235				
Ag 110m	= 1.59E-05	C D 2	= 3.40E-03	C D 2	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					Pu 241				
Sb 126					Pu 242				
Te 125m					Am 241				
Te 127m					Am 242m				
I 129					Am 243				
Cs 134					Cm 242				
Cs 135					Cm 243				
Cs 137					Cm 244				
Ba 133					Cm 245				
La 137					Cm 246				
La 138					Cm 248				
Ce 144					Cf 249				
Pm 145					Cf 250				
Pm 147					Cf 251				
Sm 147					Cf 252				
Sm 151					Unsp a				
Eu 152					Unsp b/g	= 8.60E-01	C D 2	= 8.60E-01	A D 2
Eu 154					Total a	0	*	0	*
Eu 155					Total b/g	1.53E+03	*	2.10E+03	*

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