DATA INTERPRETATION, REPORTING, AND STORAGE

Data are interpreted promptly, usually the same day the results are obtained from the laboratory. Data are interpreted to assess the performance of the active liquid waste disposal facilities and to determine general contamination patterns. In assessing the performance of the disposal sites, data are compared with the DOE concentration guides for water in an uncontrolled area. If ground-water contamination from an active site exceeds 10% of the concentration guidelines given in Table II (see DOE Order 5480.1, Chapter XI) for the long-lived radionuclides (with the exception of tritium[b]), the disposal facility is removed from service. The 10% standard is adopted to ensure that the concentration guides are not exceeded by subsequent drainage after shutoff.

Contamination plumes indicate general patterns of ground-water contamination, which is primarily the result of past disposal practices. Analysis of data from the ground-water monitoring network indicates that contamination levels in ground water migrating out of the Separations Area are less than DOE concentration guidelines for water in an uncontrolled area.

Data from the Separations Area ground-water monitoring network are stored on the Comprehensive Information Retrieval and Model Input Sequence computer data base system. In addition to this annual report, quarterly reports are also issued.

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b) Tritium concentrations are allowed to reach Table II guidelines in the ground water because no further increase in concentration is expected after shutoff.