WASTE STREAM 2F41 LWR Pond Furniture (MEBs) in Interim Storage

SITE Sellafield

SITE OWNER Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

WASTE CUSTODIAN Sellafield Limited

WASTE TYPE LLW

WASTE VOLUMES

		Reported
Stocks:	At 1.4.2019.....	777.6 m³
Total future arisings:		0 m³
Total waste volume:		777.6 m³

Comment on volumes: Arisings are a function of reprocessing rate, keeping the ponds operational and removal as part of POCO. Since 2011, MEBs have been sent directly off-site without being placed in the interim store. Those that currently reside in MEBIS will be removed at a rate of approximately 24 MEBs/yr. Stock volume is based on an average 2.88 m3 per MEB for 270 MEBs. MEB size can be variable (2.2m3 to 3.4m3). The arising volume can vary by +/- 25% but the overall volumetric uncertainty is low.

Uncertainty factors on volumes:

Stock (upper):	x 1.05	Arisings (upper)	x
Stock (lower):	x 0.95	Arisings (lower)	x

WASTE SOURCE Transport and pond storage containers for LWR fuel prior to reprocessing.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

General description: Multi Element Bottles (MEBs). MEBs vary in size, but are generally cylindrical in shape. All MEBs are large (2.2m3 to 3.4m3) and heavy (1.2 to 4.34t). The waste has not undergone any changes since it was generated.

Physical components (%vol): MEBs (100%).

Sealed sources: The waste does not contain sealed sources.

Bulk density (t/m³): ~1

Comment on density: The bulk density is based on the mean mass and the mean volume of the MEBs.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

General description and components (%wt): Boronated stainless steel, stainless steel, boral, lead, aluminium. Minor components include copper/bronze, nickel and traces of rubber. The following composition is for a representative MEB design: stainless steel (80%), aluminium bronze (0.3%), boral (<6%, of which 1% is elemental boron), lead (<14%), rubber (TR). The proportions of materials will vary between different designs and may be between the following ranges: stainless steel 80-99% (some of which may be boronated), boral 0.2-10%, lead 0-14%, concrete 0-15%, aluminium bronze 0.1-0.5%. Other materials are present in small or trace quantities.

Chemical state: Neutral

Chemical form of radionuclides:
C-14: Oxides.
Tc-99: Oxides.
U: Oxides.
Pu: Oxides.

Metals and alloys (%wt): 62% sheet metal (thickness approx 1/4 inch), 24% bulk metal (thickness from 1-3 inches), 14% lead ballast (1 7/8 inches diam.)

Stainless steel.....	80.0	304L.
Other ferrous metals.....	0	
Iron.....		
Aluminium.....	5.0	Boral
Beryllium.....		
Cobalt.....	0	
Copper.....	TR	
Lead.....	<12.0	
Magnox/Magnesium.....	0	

WASTE STREAM	2F41	LWR Pond Furniture (MEBs) in Interim Storage

	Nickel	
	Titanium	
	Uranium	
	Zinc	0
	Zircaloy/Zirconium	0
	Other metals	0
Organics (%wt):	Rubber is present as 'O' rings/gaskets. Neoprene 'O' rings, 0.065%.	
	Total cellulosics	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	NE
	Halogenated rubber	~0.07
	Non-halogenated rubber	NE
	Hydrocarbons	
	Oil or grease	
	Fuel	
	Asphalt/Tarmac (cont.coal tar)	
	Asphalt/Tarmac (no coal tar)	
	Bitumen	
	Others	
	Other organics	0
Other materials (%wt):	The waste contains crud consisting of metal oxide corrosion products (either haematite or nickel substituted spinels) dislodged from the fuel previously held in the containers which constitute the waste. The principal constituents are Co-60 and Fe-55.	
	Inorganic ion exchange materials.	0
	Inorganic sludges and flocs	<1.9
	Soil	0
	Brick/Stone/Rubble	0
	Cementitious material	0
	Sand	
	Glass/Ceramics	
	Graphite	0
	Desiccants/Catalysts	
	Asbestos	0
	Non/low friable	
	Moderately friable	
	Highly friable	
	Free aqueous liquids	<0.02

WASTE STREAM	2F41	LWR Pond Furniture (MEBs) in Interim Storage

	Free non-aqueous liquids.....	0	
	Powder/Ash.....	0	
Inorganic anions (%wt):	The listed anions are unlikely to be present.		
	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:	MEBs are dewatered before disposal both by primary dewatering to remove bulk of water from MEB body and by secondary dewatering to remove the heel of liquor from the MEB base cavity. Some MEBs have catalytic recombiners present but the recombiner material is a very small proportion of the waste stream.		
	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	
	Active particles.....	P	Activity is present in the crud particles (<2wt%).
	Soluble solids as bulk chemical compounds.....	0	
Hazardous substances / non hazardous pollutants:	The waste contains lead as ballast in MEB types 1175, 1176, 1190, 1192 & 3321 only. Catalytic recombiners made from platinum/palladium are present in a very small proportion of the MEBs (1% of wastestream). The weight of this material is negligible compared with the MEB weight.		
	Acrylamide.....		
	Benzene.....		
	Chlorinated solvents.....		
	Formaldehyde.....		
	Organometallics.....		
	Phenol.....		
	Styrene.....		
	Tri-butyl phosphate.....		

WASTE STREAM	2F41	LWR Pond Furniture (MEBs) in Interim Storage

	Other organophosphates.....		
	Vinyl chloride.....		
	Arsenic.....		
	Barium.....		
	Boron.....	1.0	1%wt Boron is the value per MEB (for 2F36, 2F15 & 2F41) but the total Boron for all MEBs (1,673) comes to 44.5te noted here to reserve the capacity at LLWR.
	Cadmium.....		
	Caesium.....		
	Selenium.....		
	Chromium.....		
	Molybdenum.....		
	Thallium.....		
	Tin.....		
	Vanadium.....		
	Mercury compounds.....		
	Others.....		
	Electronic Electrical Equipment (EEE)		
	EEE Type 1.....		
	EEE Type 2.....		
	EEE Type 3.....		
	EEE Type 4.....		
	EEE Type 5.....		
Complexing agents (%wt):	No		
	EDTA.....		
	DPTA.....		
	NTA.....		
	Polycarboxylic acids……		
	Other organic complexants.....		
	Total complexing agents.....		

TREATMENT, PACKAGING AND DISPOSAL

WASTE STREAM 2F41 LWR Pond Furniture (MEBs) in Interim Storage

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

Treatment	On-site / Off site	Stream volume %
Low force compaction Supercompaction (HFC) Incineration Solidification Decontamination Metal treatment Size reduction Decay storage Recyling / reuse Other / various None	Off-site	100.0

Comment on planned treatments: The MEBs will be transferred off-site to a metal recycling facility. Current experience suggests that ~40% of the waste may comprise unrecyclable material, and for the purpose of the 2019 UK Inventory this assumption has been used. Unrecyclable material is assumed to be consigned to the LLWR from the MRF, but is reported here to ensure it is captured in the 2019 UK Inventory.

Disposal Routes:

Disposal Route	Stream volume %
Expected to be consigned to the LLW Repository	~40.0
Expected to be consigned to a Landfill Facility	
Expected to be consigned to an On-Site Disposal Facility	
Expected to be consigned to an Incineration Facility	
Expected to be consigned to a Metal Treatment Facility	~60.0
Expected to be consigned as Out of Scope	
Expected to be recycled / reused	
Disposal route not known	

Upcoming (2019/20-2021/22) Waste Routing (if expected to change from above):

Disposal Route	Stream volume %		
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Expected to be consigned to the LLW Repository Expected to be consigned to a Landfill Facility Expected to be consigned to an On-Site Disposal Facility Expected to be consigned to an Incineration Facility Expected to be consigned to a Metal Treatment Facility Expected to be consigned as Out of Scope Expected to be recycled / reused Disposal route not known			

Waste Packaging for Disposal:

Container	Stream volume %	Waste loading m^3	Number of packages
1/3 Height IP-1 ISO 2/3 Height IP-2 ISO 1/2 Height WAMAC IP-2 ISO 1/2 Height IP-2 Disposal/Re-usable ISO 2m box (no shielding) 4m box (no shielding) Other	~40.0	~10	32

Other information: The waste loading is the typical value for uncompacted wastes grouted at LLWR.

Waste Planned for Disposal at the LLW Repository:

Container voidage: -

WASTE STREAM 2F41 LWR Pond Furniture (MEBs) in Interim Storage

Waste Characterisation Form (WCH):	-
Waste consigned for disposal to LLWR in year of generation:	-
Potential for the waste to contain discrete items:	-

Non-Containerised Waste for In-Vault Grouting: (Not applicable to this waste stream)

Stream volume (%):	-
Waste stream variation:	-
Bounding cuboidal volume:	
Inaccessible voidage:	-
Other information:	-

RADIOACTIVITY

Source:	The activity arises from a) corrosion products in the reactor cooling circuit adhering to the fuel and being dislodged in the MEB and b) contamination from pond water.
Uncertainty:	The specific activity is based on the average activity measured for a large number of MEBs already exported divided by the average mass per MEB and is the best estimate.
Definition of total alpha and total beta/gamma:	Where totals are shown on the table of radionuclide activities they are the sums of the listed alpha or beta/gamma emitting radionuclides plus 'other alpha' or 'other beta/gamma'.
Measurement of radioactivities:	The specific activity is based on the average measured internal Co-60 activity of a large number of MEBs already measured and disposed of divided by the average MEB volume of 2.88m^3. Activity values for the other isotopes present are derived from the measured Co-60 activity using the fingerprint developed in 2014 after analysis of fuel crud from several MEBs in combination with external HP&S swab data. The external contamination is very much lower than the internal and the external fingerprint is equivalent to that of pond water which contributes only a very small fraction to the overall fingerprint.
Other information:	Beta/gamma activity is dominant.

WASTE STREAM 2F41 LWR Pond Furniture (MEBs) in Interim Storage

Nuclide	Mean radioactivity, TBq/m³ Waste at 1.4.2019	Bands and Code	Future arisings	Bands and Code	Nuclide	Mean radioactivity, TBq/m³ Waste at 1.4.2019	Bands and Code	Future arisings	Bands and Code
H 3	3.46E-07	B C 2			Gd 153				
Be 10					Ho 163				
C 14	5.53E-06	B C 2			Ho 166m				
Na 22					Tm 170				
Al 26					Tm 171				
Cl 36					Lu 174				
Ar 39					Lu 176				
Ar 42					Hf 178n				
K 40					Hf 182				
Ca 41					Pt 193				
Mn 53					Tl 204				
Mn 54					Pb 205				
Fe 55	2.84E-05	B C 2			Pb 210				
Co 60	1.17E-04	A A 1			Bi 208				
Ni 59					Bi 210m				
Ni 63	2.12E-04	B C 2			Po 210				
Zn 65					Ra 223				
Se 79					Ra 225				
Kr 81					Ra 226				
Kr 85					Ra 228				
Rb 87					Ac 227				
Sr 90	9.53E-07	B B 2			Th 227				
Zr 93					Th 228				
Nb 91					Th 229				
Nb 92					Th 230				
Nb 93m					Th 232				
Nb 94	5.64E-07	B B 2			Th 234				
Mo 93					Pa 231				
Tc 97					Pa 233				
Tc 99	5.12E-08	B B 2			U 232				
Ru 106					U 233				
Pd 107					U 234				
Ag 108m					U 235				
Ag 110m					U 236				
Cd 109					U 238				
Cd 113m					Np 237				
Sn 119m					Pu 236				
Sn 121m					Pu 238	1.50E-07	B C 2		
Sn 123					Pu 239	1.02E-07	B C 2		
Sn 126					Pu 240	1.02E-07	B C 2		
Sb 125	2.63E-06	B B 2			Pu 241	7.51E-06	B C 2		
Sb 126					Pu 242				
Te 125m					Am 241	4.08E-07	B C 2		
Te 127m					Am 242m				
I 129					Am 243				
Cs 134	9.96E-08	B B 2			Cm 242				
Cs 135					Cm 243				
Cs 137	2.16E-05	B C 2			Cm 244	4.57E-08	B C 2		
Ba 133					Cm 245				
La 137					Cm 246				
La 138					Cm 248				
Ce 144					Cf 249				
Pm 145					Cf 250				
Pm 147	2.46E-06	B C 2			Cf 251				
Sm 147					Cf 252				
Sm 151	9.31E-06	B C 2			Other a				
Eu 152					Other b/g				
Eu 154					**Total a**	**8.09E-07**	**B C 2**	**0**	
Eu 155					**Total b/g**	**4.09E-04**	**B C 2**	**0**	

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 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