

Protecting Our Water Environment



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

***MONITORING AND RESEARCH
DEPARTMENT***

REPORT NO. 14-46

***RADIOLOGICAL MONITORING OF THE RAW SEWAGE,
FINAL EFFLUENT, SLUDGE, AND BIOSOLIDS OF THE
METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO
2013 ANNUAL REPORT***

October 2014

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
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2013 ANNUAL REPORT

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DISCLAIMER

Mention of proprietary equipment and chemicals in this report does not constitute endorsement by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The discharge of radioactive materials into the sanitary sewer system of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (District) is regulated by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, Division of Nuclear Safety (IEMA-DNS). In Illinois, hospitals, industries, research organizations, and other radioactive material license holders are authorized to dispose of radionuclides into the District's sanitary sewer system in accordance with 32 Illinois Administrative Code, Section 340.1030. Naturally occurring radionuclides in groundwater and stormwater runoff also enter the sanitary sewer system.

The purpose of wastewater treatment is to reduce or remove pollutants from raw sewage to ensure adequate effluent quality before it is discharged to surface water. The low concentrations of radioactive material from natural and man-made sources discharged into the sanitary sewer system may become concentrated in the sewage sludge during wastewater treatment and sludge processing.

This monitoring was conducted to determine the concentration of radioactive material in raw sewage and final effluent at the facilities owned and operated by the District.

One raw sewage and one final effluent sample (composited over a period of 24 hours) were collected once a month from each of the District's seven Water Reclamation Plants (WRPs) and analyzed for gross alpha and gross beta radioactivity.

The analytical data demonstrate that radioactivity in the final effluent of all the WRPs is generally lower than the corresponding raw sewage of the WRP. This indicates that the WRPs remove radioactivity from the raw sewage. The 2013 gross alpha and gross beta radioactivity monitoring data was compared with the historical data of the last seventeen years. The data show that there was not a major change in the radioactivity concentrations of raw sewage and final effluent samples of the WRPs over the past eighteen years.

The gross alpha and gross beta radioactivity in the final effluent is less than the allowable contaminant levels in the drinking water standards set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) National Primary Drinking Water Regulations, 40 CFR Part 141, published in 2000. The USEPA limit for gross alpha radioactivity (excluding radon and uranium) is 15 pCi/L and for gross beta radioactivity (excluding naturally occurring potassium-40) the limit is 50 pCi/L. The gross beta radioactivity in the final effluent is far less than the General Use Water Quality Standard, 100 pCi/L, established by the Illinois Pollution Control Board (IPCB), 35C IAC, Section 302.207. There are no IPCB standards for gross alpha radioactivity in General Use waters. The monitoring data indicate that the discharge of the final effluent from the seven WRPs is unlikely to have any adverse effect on the radiological quality of the receiving waters.

INTRODUCTION

The District is located within the boundaries of Cook County, Illinois, and serves an area of 883.5 square miles. The area served by the District includes the City of Chicago and 125 suburban communities with a combined population of 5.25 million people. In addition, a waste-load equivalent of 5.1 million people is contributed within the District's service area by industrial and commercial sources. On average, the District treats approximately 1.5 billion gallons per day of wastewater at its seven WRPs.

The discharge of radionuclides to the District's sewerage system is regulated by the IEMA-DNS. Radioactivity in the sewerage system may come from a variety of sources including industries, hospitals, and research organizations. Naturally occurring and atmospheric fallout radionuclides also enter the sewerage system from groundwater and through stormwater runoff. Radionuclides in the sanitary sewer system pass through the wastewater treatment process where some fraction of these radionuclides is removed from the wastewater and becomes concentrated in the biosolids, or remains in solution and passes with the effluent to the receiving water. Radioactivity contained in WRP effluents and the potential radioactivity concentration in municipal biosolids may be of environmental concern because of the discharge of effluents to receiving waters and the landfilling or land application of biosolids as fertilizer and soil conditioner.

The District monitors the quality of its raw sewage and effluents, from all WRPs, monthly for gross alpha and gross beta radioactivity.

This report presents the yearly gross alpha, gross beta radioactivity concentrations in raw sewage and final effluent from the District's seven WRPs. The 2013 radiological monitoring data for gross alpha and gross beta radioactivity are compared with the historical data of the last seventeen years.

The District monitored the radioactivity in anaerobically digested sludge from the Calumet, John E. Egan (Egan), Hanover Park and Stickney WRPs, waste-activated sludge from the Lemont WRP, lagooned biosolids from the Hanover Park WRP, and biosolids samples from the District's solids drying areas from 1996 to 2010. The radiological monitoring data show that the District's biosolids are low in radioactivity, and its use on land does not appear to increase the risk of radiation exposure to the public or have a negative impact on human health and the environment. In 2011, the IEMA adopted final rules and exempted the District from the radioactivity monitoring requirements in biosolids produced at its WRPs. Therefore, the District terminated the radiological monitoring of its biosolids in 2011.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sample Collection

Raw Sewage. One raw sewage sample (composited over a period of 24 hours) was collected once a month from the Stickney, Egan, Terrence J. O'Brien (O'Brien {formerly North Side}), James C. Kirie (Kirie), Hanover Park, Calumet, and Lemont WRPs. The samples were preserved with hydrochloric acid.

Final Effluent. One final effluent sample (composited over a period of 24 hours) was collected once a month from the effluent sampler at all the WRPs. The samples were preserved with hydrochloric acid.

Sample Analysis

The raw sewage and final effluent samples were analyzed by the District's radiochemistry laboratory from the inception of the program through 2007. The samples collected in 2008, 2011 - 2013 were analyzed by the Environmental Inc., Midwest Laboratory and samples collected in 2009 and 2010 were analyzed by Eberline Analytical Corporation.

Data Reporting

The yearly averages for 2013 were determined according to the following method: Values for the twelve months were averaged and if any of these values were below the reporting limit the average was expressed as less than (<) the calculated value.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Stickney Water Reclamation Plant

In 2013, the average gross alpha radioactivity levels in the raw sewage of the Stickney WRP ranged from 1.4 to 18.6 pCi/L (Table 1). The gross alpha activity in the effluent was below the detection limit (1.5 to 3.0 pCi/L) (Table 1).

The yearly average gross alpha radioactivity in the Stickney WRP raw sewage, final effluent, and anaerobically digested biosolids from 1996 to 2013 are summarized in Table 2. The gross alpha radioactivity in raw sewage had values ranging from below detection to 8.6 pCi/L. The gross alpha radioactivity in the effluent was below the detection limits (1.8 to 5.2 pCi/L).

The gross beta radioactivity in the raw sewage of the Stickney WRP ranged from 3.2 to 25.2 pCi/L, and in the effluent it ranged from 2.2 to 5.4 pCi/L (Table 3).

The yearly gross beta radioactivity in the Stickney WRP raw sewage, final effluent, and anaerobically digested biosolids from 1996 to 2013 are summarized in Table 4. The gross beta radioactivity in the raw sewage ranged from 8.5 to 29.3 pCi/L, and in the effluent it ranged from 4.1 to 11.4 pCi/L.

Calumet Water Reclamation Plant

In 2013, the gross alpha radioactivity in the raw sewage of the Calumet WRP was below the detection limit (1.8 to 2.6 pCi/L) for more than half of the samples, and the detected values ranged from 1.5 to 3.5 pCi/L in the remaining samples (Table 5). The gross alpha radioactivity in the effluent was below the detection limit (1.5 to 2.5 pCi/L) for all of these samples except June which was 1.5 pCi/L (Table 5).

The yearly average gross alpha radioactivity in the Calumet WRP raw sewage, final effluent, and anaerobically digested biosolids from 1996 to 2013 are summarized in Table 6. The gross alpha radioactivity in the raw sewage was below the detection limit (3.5 to 5.5 pCi/L) in all years, except for 2011 and 2012. The detected values for these years were 4.2 and 2.6 pCi/L, respectively. The gross alpha radioactivity in the effluent was also below the detection limits (1.9 to 5.1 pCi/L).

The gross beta radioactivity in the raw sewage of the Calumet WRP ranged from 2.8 to 6.4 pCi/L, and in the effluent it ranged from below detection limit to 5.9 pCi/L (Table 7).

The yearly average gross beta radioactivity in the Calumet WRP raw sewage, final effluent, and anaerobically digested biosolids from 1996 to 2013 are summarized in Table 8.

TABLE 1: GROSS ALPHA RADIOACTIVITY IN STICKNEY WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE AND FINAL EFFLUENT ON A MONTHLY BASIS – 2013

Month	Raw Sewage Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Alpha (pCi/L)
January	1.4	<1.6
February	4.0	<3.0
March	<2.9	<1.7
April	2.3	<1.5
May	2.6	<2.1
June	1.9	<1.7
July	14.5	<1.6
August	3.9	<1.8
September	6.3	<1.7
October	13.6	<1.8
November	5.8	<1.7
December	18.6	<2.0

TABLE 2: YEARLY AVERAGE GROSS ALPHA RADIOACTIVITY IN STICKNEY WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE, FINAL EFFLUENT, AND ANAEROBICALLY DIGESTED BIOSOLIDS FROM 1996 THROUGH 2013

Year ¹	Raw Sewage Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Biosolids ² Gross Alpha (pCi/g dw)
1996	<3.8	<3.1	5.3
1997	<3.6	<3.1	5.3
1998	4.6	<2.6	5.2
1999	5.0	<3.6	6.1
2000	<5.0	<4.6	7.5
2001	6.1	<4.4	12.3
2002	<5.2	<4.7	11.3
2003	5.0	<3.6	11.7
2004	<6.0	<4.1	12.1
2005	<6.3	<4.3	11.3
2006	6.2	<4.8	10.4
2007	<6.1	<5.2	9.9
2008	8.6	<4.0	12.4
2009	<4.8	<3.6	9.6
2010	5.5	<3.2	7.0
2011	7.6	<2.3	-
2012	<4.2	<1.8	-
2013	<6.5	<1.9	-

¹ Am-241 self-absorption standards were used up to June 30, 2001, and Th-230 self-absorption standards were used from July 1, 2001 for generating attenuation curve for gross alpha radioactivity.

² Gross alpha radioactivity analysis in biosolids was terminated in 2011.

TABLE 3: GROSS BETA RADIOACTIVITY IN STICKNEY WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE AND FINAL EFFLUENT ON A MONTHLY BASIS – 2013

Month	Raw Sewage Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Beta (pCi/L)
January	3.2	2.6
February	9.6	3.8
March	7.5	4.5
April	8.0	5.4
May	7.0	5.4
June	3.6	5.0
July	24.5	3.3
August	24.3	3.3
September	8.0	4.0
October	17.4	5.0
November	7.8	2.2
December	25.2	5.2

TABLE 4: YEARLY AVERAGE GROSS BETA RADIOACTIVITY IN STICKNEY WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE, FINAL EFFLUENT, AND ANAEROBICALLY DIGESTED BIOSOLIDS FROM 1996 THROUGH 2013

Year	Raw Sewage Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Biosolids ¹ Gross Beta (pCi/g dw)
1996	11.7	5.9	22.8
1997	20.4	9.0	23.4
1998	26.4	11.4	23.6
1999	28.9	11.1	25.9
2000	29.3	9.8	27.2
2001	19.7	9.2	27.3
2002	17.3	9.0	24.7
2003	16.6	7.7	24.8
2004	17.7	9.8	24.8
2005	17.4	8.8	23.2
2006	15.9	8.4	25.4
2007	17.0	8.4	26.1
2008	17.9	7.8	26.8
2009	12.6	8.1	24.6
2010	13.5	8.0	20.5
2011	12.4	5.8	-
2012	8.5	4.1	-
2013	12.2	4.1	-

¹Gross beta radioactivity analysis in biosolids was terminated in 2011.

TABLE 5: GROSS ALPHA RADIOACTIVITY IN CALUMET WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE AND FINAL EFFLUENT ON A MONTHLY BASIS – 2013

Month	Raw Sewage Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Alpha (pCi/L)
January	3.5	<1.7
February	<2.1	<2.5
March	<2.6	<2.0
April	1.5	<2.0
May	<1.6	<1.5
June	2.1	1.5
July	<2.1	<2.0
August	2.3	<1.7
September	2.5	<1.9
October	<2.0	<1.7
November	<1.8	<1.8
December	<1.8	<2.0

TABLE 6: YEARLY AVERAGE GROSS ALPHA RADIOACTIVITY IN CALUMET WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE, FINAL EFFLUENT, AND ANAEROBICALLY DIGESTED BIOSOLIDS FROM 1996 THROUGH 2013

Year ¹	Raw Sewage Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Biosolids ² Gross Alpha (pCi/g dw)
1996	<3.7	<3.5	5.9
1997	<4.0	<3.5	5.1
1998	<3.8	<3.0	6.1
1999	<4.6	<3.8	6.5
2000	<4.7	<4.5	8.4
2001	<5.1	<4.5	12.6
2002	<4.8	<4.1	12.1
2003	<4.3	<3.8	12.4
2004	<4.8	<4.4	14.1
2005	<5.3	<4.5	13.6
2006	<5.3	<5.0	12.8
2007	<5.5	<5.1	11.5
2008	<4.6	<2.3	17.6
2009	<3.5	<3.2	11.4
2010	<4.2	<3.2	11.0
2011	4.2	<2.3	-
2012	2.6	<2.0	-
2013	<2.2	<1.9	-

¹Am-241 self-absorption standards were used up to June 30, 2001, and Th-230 self-absorption standards were used from July 1, 2001 for generating attenuation curve for gross alpha radioactivity.

²Gross alpha radioactivity analysis in biosolids was terminated in 2011.

TABLE 7: GROSS BETA RADIOACTIVITY IN CALUMET WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE AND FINAL EFFLUENT ON A MONTHLY BASIS – 2013

Month	Raw Sewage Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Beta (pCi/L)
January	6.4	4.3
February	4.2	4.3
March	5.0	4.4
April	5.8	4.8
May	2.8	2.1
June	2.9	3.3
July	5.5	5.9
August	4.9	3.9
September	6.2	3.0
October	4.6	4.4
November	4.4	<1.7
December	5.3	5.6

TABLE 8: YEARLY AVERAGE GROSS BETA RADIOACTIVITY IN CALUMET WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE, FINAL EFFLUENT, AND ANAEROBICALLY DIGESTED BIOSOLIDS FROM 1996 THROUGH 2013

Year	Raw Sewage Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Biosolids ¹ Gross Beta (pCi/g dw)
1996	9.3	6.9	21.5
1997	18.6	11.2	21.4
1998	19.5	13.2	23.7
1999	24.9	14.1	22.6
2000	22.0	10.2	25.2
2001	13.6	9.4	24.1
2002	15.9	9.4	21.0
2003	15.1	9.6	23.7
2004	12.3	9.2	24.8
2005	12.1	8.3	23.2
2006	11.4	8.1	26.2
2007	9.8	6.9	25.5
2008	8.5	7.0	30.6
2009	10.3	9.0	25.5
2010	9.3	7.7	22.6
2011	7.2	4.0	-
2012	6.1	4.5	-
2013	4.8	<4.0	-

¹Gross beta radioactivity analysis in biosolids was terminated in 2011.

Gross beta radioactivity in the raw sewage ranged from 4.8 to 24.9 pCi/L and in the effluent it ranged from 4.0 to 14.1 pCi/L.

Terrence J. O'Brien Water Reclamation Plant

In 2013, the gross alpha radioactivity in the raw sewage of the O'Brien WRP was mostly below the detection limit (1.5 to 2.7 pCi/L), with the exception of June which was 2.7 pCi/L (Table 9). The gross alpha radioactivity in the effluent was below the detection limits (1.3 to 2.0 pCi/L), with the exception of February which was 4.4 pCi/L (Table 9).

The yearly average gross alpha radioactivity in the O'Brien WRP raw sewage, final effluent, and waste-activated sludge from 1996 to 2013 are summarized in Table 10. The gross alpha radioactivity in the raw sewage and effluent has been below the detection limit (1.9 to 5.0 pCi/L and 1.7 to 4.9 pCi/L, respectively) every year.

The gross beta radioactivity in the raw sewage of the O'Brien WRP ranged from 2.9 to 5.4 pCi/L, and in the effluent it ranged from 1.6 to 7.2 pCi/L (Table 11).

The yearly average gross beta radioactivity in the O'Brien WRP raw sewage, final effluent, and waste-activated sludge from 1996 to 2013 are summarized in Table 12. The gross beta radioactivity in the raw sewage ranged from 3.9 to 20.4 pCi/L and in the effluent it ranged from 3.4 to 10.9 pCi/L with 1997 being the only average to be below the detection limit (7.8 pCi/L).

John E. Egan Water Reclamation Plant

In 2013, the gross alpha radioactivity in the raw sewage of the Egan WRP was below the detection limits (1.5 to 2.4 pCi/L) for half of the samples. Detected values ranged from 1.4 to 5.4 pCi/L (Table 13). The gross alpha radioactivity in the effluent was always below the detection limits (1.4 to 3.8 pCi/L).

The yearly average gross alpha radioactivity in the Egan WRP raw sewage, final effluent, and anaerobically digested biosolids from 1996 to 2013 are summarized in Table 14. The gross alpha radioactivity in the raw sewage was below the detection limit (2.0 to 5.4 pCi/L) for all years. The gross alpha radioactivity in the effluent was below the detection limit (1.8 to 5.2 pCi/L).

The gross beta radioactivity levels in the raw sewage of the Egan WRP ranged from 4.3 to 8.9 pCi/L, and in the effluent gross beta radioactivity ranged from 2.6 to 6.5 pCi/L (Table 15).

TABLE 9: GROSS ALPHA RADIOACTIVITY IN TERRENCE J. O'BRIEN WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE AND FINAL EFFLUENT ON A MONTHLY BASIS – 2013

Month	Raw Sewage Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Alpha (pCi/L)
January	<1.5	<1.3
February	<2.7	4.4
March	<1.9	<2.0
April	<1.7	<1.6
May	<1.8	<1.7
June	2.7	<1.9
July	<1.6	<1.9
August	<1.8	<1.6
September	<1.8	<1.6
October	<1.6	<1.5
November	<1.8	<1.3
December	<1.6	<1.5

TABLE 10: YEARLY AVERAGE GROSS ALPHA RADIOACTIVITY IN TERRENCE J. O'BRIEN WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE, FINAL EFFLUENT, AND WASTE-ACTIVATED SLUDGE FROM 1996 THROUGH 2013

Year ¹	Raw Sewage Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Sludge ² Gross Alpha (pCi/g dw)
1996	<3.3	<3.0	3.5
1997	<3.6	<3.3	2.6
1998	<3.3	<2.8	3.0
1999	<4.0	<3.5	3.7
2000	<4.9	<4.1	4.9
2001	<4.9	<4.5	7.8
2002	<4.0	<4.0	6.6
2003	<3.6	<3.5	6.2
2004	<4.1	<3.6	7.8
2005	<4.4	<3.8	7.1
2006	<4.8	<4.8	7.2
2007	<5.0	<4.9	7.0
2008	<2.8	<2.3	7.8
2009	<3.1	<3.4	6.8
2010	<2.8	<2.9	6.6
2011	<2.9	<2.1	-
2012	<1.9	<1.7	-
2013	<1.9	<1.9	-

¹Am-241 self-absorption standards were used up to June 30, 2001, and Th-230 self-absorption standards were used from July 1, 2001 for generating attenuation curve for gross alpha radioactivity.

²Gross Alpha radioactivity analysis in sludge was terminated in 2011.

TABLE 11: GROSS BETA RADIOACTIVITY IN TERRENCE J. O'BRIEN WATER
RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE AND FINAL EFFLUENT
ON A MONTHLY BASIS – 2013

Month	Raw Sewage Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Beta (pCi/L)
January	4.5	4.2
February	3.8	7.2
March	3.8	3.2
April	5.4	3.2
May	4.9	3.3
June	3.4	2.3
July	4.2	2.7
August	3.4	2.5
September	2.9	5.0
October	3.4	2.2
November	3.2	1.6
December	3.3	2.9

TABLE 12: YEARLY AVERAGE GROSS BETA RADIOACTIVITY IN TERRENCE J. O'BRIEN WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE, FINAL EFFLUENT, AND WASTE-ACTIVATED SLUDGE FROM 1996 THROUGH 2013

Year	Raw Sewage Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Sludge ¹ Gross Beta (pCi/g dw)
1996	8.5	5.7	14.8
1997	16.1	<7.8	14.0
1998	18.4	9.8	14.4
1999	19.1	10.9	13.6
2000	20.4	8.9	15.0
2001	12.8	8.5	15.8
2002	11.3	8.4	12.8
2003	10.0	7.9	13.3
2004	10.9	9.3	12.8
2005	10.3	7.4	13.5
2006	10.1	8.0	14.4
2007	9.0	6.5	14.4
2008	7.5	6.3	16.2
2009	7.0	7.3	15.0
2010	7.9	8.8	13.7
2011	5.1	4.2	-
2012	4.0	3.5	-
2013	3.9	3.4	-

¹Gross beta radioactivity analysis in sludge was terminated in 2011.

TABLE 13: GROSS ALPHA RADIOACTIVITY IN JOHN E. EGAN WATER
RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE AND FINAL EFFLUENT
ON A MONTHLY BASIS – 2013

Month	Raw Sewage Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Alpha (pCi/L)
January	1.8	<1.6
February	<1.8	<1.7
March	<2.4	<2.2
April	2.7	<1.4
May	<2.1	<1.5
June	2.5	<1.7
July	<2.0	<1.8
August	5.4	<3.8
September	3.4	<2.0
October	<1.8	<1.7
November	1.4	<1.9
December	<1.5	<1.5

TABLE 14: YEARLY AVERAGE GROSS ALPHA RADIOACTIVITY IN JOHN E. EGAN WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE, FINAL EFFLUENT, AND ANAEROBICALLY DIGESTED BIOSOLIDS FROM 1996 THROUGH 2013

Year ¹	Raw Sewage Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Biosolids ² Gross Alpha (pCi/g dw)
1996	<3.6	<3.2	5.6
1997	<3.7	<3.3	4.4
1998	<3.8	<3.0	4.8
1999	<4.0	<3.5	5.2
2000	<4.5	<4.1	6.9
2001	<5.0	<4.6	10.5
2002	<4.8	<4.8	10.2
2003	<4.2	<3.6	9.7
2004	<4.4	<3.8	9.9
2005	<4.8	<4.2	10.1
2006	<4.8	<4.8	9.8
2007	<5.4	<5.2	9.3
2008	<2.8	<2.0	13.8
2009	<4.4	<3.3	9.5
2010	<4.1	<3.7	7.7
2011	<2.5	<2.3	-
2012	<2.0	<1.8	-
2013	<2.4	<1.9	-

¹Am-241 self-absorption standards were used up to June 30, 2001, and Th-230 self-absorption standards were used from July 1, 2001 for generating attenuation curve for gross alpha radioactivity.

²Gross alpha radioactivity analysis in biosolids was terminated in 2011.

TABLE 15: GROSS BETA RADIOACTIVITY IN JOHN E. EGAN WATER
RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE AND FINAL EFFLUENT
ON A MONTHLY BASIS – 2013

Month	Raw Sewage Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Beta (pCi/L)
January	6.0	4.2
February	5.3	4.2
March	7.0	4.0
April	5.7	3.0
May	5.6	2.6
June	5.7	4.8
July	4.9	4.8
August	8.1	6.5
September	8.9	5.5
October	6.3	3.5
November	4.3	5.4
December	4.5	2.6

TABLE 16: YEARLY AVERAGE GROSS BETA RADIOACTIVITY IN JOHN E. EGAN WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE, FINAL EFFLUENT, AND ANAEROBICALLY DIGESTED BIOSOLIDS FROM 1996 THROUGH 2013

Year	Raw Sewage Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Biosolids ¹ Gross Beta (pCi/g dw)
1996	10.8	6.9	20.3
1997	17.5	11.9	19.0
1998	19.1	12.7	20.5
1999	22.5	12.3	19.7
2000	20.8	10.6	21.3
2001	16.0	9.5	20.7
2002	15.4	12.0	18.3
2003	14.0	10.5	18.6
2004	13.9	11.3	19.3
2005	13.7	10.9	17.6
2006	13.0	11.0	18.5
2007	11.4	8.7	18.2
2008	9.0	6.8	21.7
2009	10.4	8.1	18.1
2010	11.4	11.0	15.1
2011	6.2	5.0	-
2012	6.2	4.9	-
2013	6.0	4.3	-

¹ Gross beta radioactivity analysis in biosolids was terminated in 2011.

The yearly average gross beta radioactivity at the Egan WRP raw sewage, final effluent, and anaerobically digested biosolids from 1996 to 2013 are summarized in [Table 16](#). The gross beta radioactivity in the raw sewage ranged from 6.0 to 22.5 pCi/L and in the effluent it ranged from 4.3 to 12.7 pCi/L.

Hanover Park Water Reclamation Plant

In 2013, the gross alpha radioactivity levels in the raw sewage of the Hanover Park WRP were below the detection limits (1.3 to 2.1 pCi/L) with the exception of August and September which both had 1.8 pCi/L ([Table 17](#)). Most of the gross alpha radioactivity in the effluent was also below the detection limits (1.4 to 2.0 pCi/L) with the exception of April which contained 2.5 pCi/L ([Table 17](#)).

The yearly average gross alpha radioactivity in the Hanover Park WRP raw sewage, final effluent, and anaerobically digested biosolids from 1996 to 2013 are summarized in [Table 18](#). The gross alpha radioactivity of the raw sewage was below the detection limits (1.9 to 5.0 pCi/L) for all years analyzed. The gross alpha radioactivity in the effluent was also below the detection limits (1.8 to 5.0 pCi/L) for all years analyzed.

The gross beta radioactivity levels in the raw sewage of the Hanover Park WRP ranged from 4.8 to 7.6 pCi/L and in the effluent it ranged from 2.9 to 7.0 pCi/L ([Table 19](#)).

The yearly average gross beta radioactivity in the Hanover Park WRP raw sewage, final effluent, and anaerobically digested biosolids from 1996 to 2013 are summarized in [Table 20](#). The gross beta radioactivity in the raw sewage ranged from 5.8 to 20.3 pCi/L, and in the effluent it ranged from 5.1 to 11.7 pCi/L.

James C. Kirie Water Reclamation Plant

In 2013, most of the gross alpha radioactivity levels in the raw sewage of the Kirie WRP were below the detection limits (1.6 to 2.4 pCi/L), four months had values above the detection limit and were between 2.0 to 7.9 pCi/L ([Table 21](#)). The gross alpha radioactivity in the effluent was below the detection limit (1.3 to 2.7 pCi/L) with the exception of the August sample which had 2.2 pCi/L ([Table 21](#)).

The yearly average gross alpha radioactivity in the Kirie WRP raw sewage, final effluent, and waste-activated sludge from 1996 to 2013 are summarized in [Table 22](#). The gross alpha radioactivity in the raw sewage and effluent were below the detection limits (both ranged from 1.9 to 5.6 pCi/L).

TABLE 17: GROSS ALPHA RADIOACTIVITY IN HANOVER PARK WATER
RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE AND FINAL EFFLUENT
ON A MONTHLY BASIS – 2013

Month	Raw Sewage Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Alpha (pCi/L)
January	<1.3	<1.4
February	<1.9	<1.8
March	<2.1	<1.9
April	<1.7	2.5
May	<2.1	<1.9
June	<1.8	<1.5
July	<1.6	<1.4
August	1.8	<1.6
September	1.8	<1.7
October	<1.9	<1.8
November	<1.5	<2.0
December	<2.0	<1.6

< = The quantity listed is the smallest amount that could be measured at the 95 percent confidence level (lower limit of detection).

N/A = Not available.

TABLE 18: YEARLY AVERAGE GROSS ALPHA RADIOACTIVITY IN HANOVER PARK WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE, FINAL EFFLUENT, AND ANAEROBICALLY DIGESTED BIOSOLIDS FROM 1996 THROUGH 2013

Year ¹	Raw Sewage Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Biosolids ² Gross Alpha (pCi/g dw)
1996	<3.4	<3.1	4.7
1997	<3.6	<3.3	3.2
1998	<3.5	<3.0	4.0
1999	<4.2	<3.5	4.3
2000	<4.6	<4.2	5.7
2001	<4.7	<4.4	9.4
2002	<4.5	<4.0	8.0
2003	<4.1	<3.5	7.1
2004	<4.4	<3.7	8.2
2005	<4.6	<4.1	8.0
2006	<5.0	<4.6	7.5
2007	<5.0	<5.0	7.0
2008	<2.7	<1.9	10.2
2009	<2.6	<3.5	7.2
2010	<3.2	<2.7	6.3
2011	<2.7	<2.1	-
2012	<1.9	<1.8	-
2013	<1.8	<1.8	-

¹ Am-241 self-absorption standards were used up to June 30, 2001, and Th-230 self-absorption standards were used from July 1, 2001 for generating attenuation curve for gross alpha radioactivity.

² Gross alpha radioactivity analysis in biosolids was terminated in 2011.

TABLE 19: GROSS BETA RADIOACTIVITY IN HANOVER PARK
 WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE AND
 FINAL EFFLUENT ON A MONTHLY BASIS – 2013

Month	Raw Sewage Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Beta (pCi/L)
January	7.6	6.2
February	6.8	6.1
March	6.4	4.3
April	6.1	7.0
May	5.2	4.6
June	4.8	4.7
July	7.2	2.9
August	6.7	4.4
September	6.8	6.6
October	6.3	5.9
November	6.7	2.9
December	5.2	5.1

N/A = Not available.

TABLE 20: YEARLY AVERAGE GROSS BETA RADIOACTIVITY IN HANOVER PARK WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE, FINAL EFFLUENT, AND ANAEROBICALLY DIGESTED BIOSOLIDS FROM 1996 THROUGH 2013

Year	Raw Sewage Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Biosolids ¹ Gross Beta (pCi/g dw)
1996	19.7	6.6	13.2
1997	14.3	9.3	11.8
1998	20.3	10.3	13.5
1999	18.4	10.8	13.0
2000	16.1	9.5	13.8
2001	14.2	9.6	14.2
2002	14.5	11.7	12.0
2003	13.5	10.6	12.0
2004	13.6	11.0	12.1
2005	13.3	10.8	12.3
2006	12.9	11.2	13.6
2007	9.8	9.2	13.0
2008	8.9	8.1	15.5
2009	10.8	8.6	12.0
2010	9.7	9.1	11.2
2011	5.8	5.8	-
2012	6.1	5.3	-
2013	6.3	5.1	-

¹ Gross beta radioactivity analysis in biosolids was terminated in 2011.

TABLE 21: GROSS ALPHA RADIOACTIVITY IN JAMES C. KIRIE WATER
RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE AND FINAL EFFLUENT
ON A MONTHLY BASIS – 2013

Month	Raw Sewage Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Alpha (pCi/L)
January	<1.6	<1.5
February	<2.1	<2.2
March	<2.4	<2.7
April	7.9	<2.2
May	<2.0	<1.9
June	2.1	<1.9
July	<1.6	<1.4
August	2.0	2.2
September	<1.6	<1.8
October	3.5	<1.3
November	<2.1	<1.6
December	<1.7	<2.2

TABLE 22: YEARLY AVERAGE GROSS ALPHA RADIOACTIVITY IN JAMES C. KIRIE WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE, FINAL EFFLUENT, AND WASTE-ACTIVATED SLUDGE FROM 1996 THROUGH 2013

Year ¹	Raw Sewage Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Sludge ² Gross Alpha (pCi/g dw)
1996	<3.7	<3.3	5.0
1997	<3.8	<3.4	3.1
1998	<3.6	<2.8	3.2
1999	<4.2	<3.7	4.1
2000	<4.6	<4.5	4.8
2001	<5.3	<4.9	9.2
2002	<4.6	<4.1	7.4
2003	<4.2	<3.8	7.2
2004	<4.9	<4.2	7.1
2005	<5.1	<4.7	7.9
2006	<5.3	<4.8	6.8
2007	<5.6	<5.6	6.8
2008	<3.1	<2.3	9.3
2009	<3.7	<3.6	8.6
2010	<3.4	<4.2	7.5
2011	<3.1	<2.4	-
2012	<1.9	<2.4	-
2013	<2.6	<1.9	-

¹Am-241 self-absorption standards were used up to June 30, 2001, and Th-230 self-absorption standards were used from July 1, 2001 for generating attenuation curve for gross alpha radioactivity.

²Gross alpha radioactivity analysis in sludge was terminated in 2011.

Gross beta radioactivity level in the raw sewage of the Kirie WRP ranged from 2.1 pCi/L to 8.3 pCi/L. Gross beta radioactivity in the effluent ranged from below detection to 7.9 pCi/L (Table 23).

The yearly average gross beta radioactivity in the Kirie WRP raw sewage, final effluent, and waste-activated sludge from 1996 to 2013 are summarized in Table 24. The gross beta radioactivity in the raw sewage ranged from 5.7 to 22.7 pCi/L and in the effluent it ranged from 4.5 to 16.8 pCi/L.

Lemont Water Reclamation Plant

In 2013, the gross alpha radioactivity levels in the raw sewage of the Lemont WRP ranged from 4.7 to 34.9 pCi/L (Table 25). The gross alpha radioactivity in the effluent ranged from 4.3 pCi/L to 11.9 pCi/L (Table 25).

The yearly average gross alpha radioactivity in the Lemont WRP raw sewage, final effluent, and waste-activated sludge from 1996 to 2013 are summarized in Table 26. The gross alpha radioactivity in the raw sewage ranged from 13.4 to 44.4 pCi/L. The gross alpha radioactivity in the effluent was below the detection limit (5.0 to 10.8 pCi/L), except for 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012 and 2013 samples which were 6.7, 8.9, 6.7, 6.5 and 7.9 pCi/L, respectively.

The gross beta radioactivity levels in the raw sewage of the Lemont WRP ranged from 9.4 to 30.0 pCi/L, and in the effluent it ranged from 9.0 to 21.6 pCi/L (Table 27).

The yearly average gross beta radioactivity at the Lemont WRP raw sewage, final effluent, and waste-activated sludge from 1996 to 2013 are summarized in Table 28. The gross beta radioactivity in the raw sewage ranged from 16.9 to 66.0 pCi/L and in the effluent it ranged from 13.4 to 24.9 pCi/L.

TABLE 23: GROSS BETA RADIOACTIVITY IN JAMES C. KIRIE WATER
RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE AND FINAL EFFLUENT
ON A MONTHLY BASIS – 2013

Month	Raw Sewage Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Beta (pCi/L)
January	8.0	7.9
February	3.8	3.9
March	7.1	4.5
April	8.3	4.1
May	5.0	2.3
June	6.6	5.2
July	2.1	<1.5
August	6.5	5.8
September	2.6	5.5
October	8.3	2.6
November	5.4	4.8
December	4.9	5.9

TABLE 24: YEARLY AVERAGE GROSS BETA RADIOACTIVITY IN JAMES C. KIRIE WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE, FINAL EFFLUENT, AND WASTE-ACTIVATED SLUDGE FROM 1996 THROUGH 2013

Year	Raw Sewage Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Sludge ¹ Gross Beta (pCi/g dw)
1996	11.6	8.1	16.8
1997	19.2	12.6	14.6
1998	22.3	15.6	14.2
1999	21.4	15.5	13.5
2000	22.7	16.8	14.8
2001	17.6	13.3	15.8
2002	17.4	14.8	14.0
2003	16.1	12.2	13.5
2004	15.7	12.9	13.3
2005	16.1	15.2	14.8
2006	13.4	12.6	13.7
2007	13.0	11.1	14.6
2008	11.8	8.7	17.7
2009	9.6	8.0	15.8
2010	10.5	9.3	14.1
2011	6.6	5.6	-
2012	5.7	5.7	-
2013	5.7	<4.5	-

¹Gross beta radioactivity analysis in sludge was terminated in 2011.

TABLE 25: GROSS ALPHA RADIOACTIVITY IN LEMONT WATER
 RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE AND FINAL EFFLUENT
 ON A MONTHLY BASIS – 2013

Month	Raw Sewage Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Alpha (pCi/L)
January	21.3	5.5
February	14.9	6.9
March	4.7	11.9
April	19.8	9.3
May	28.4	8.0
June	34.9	5.5
July	16.4	6.9
August	9.2	4.3
September	16.7	6.8
October	11.0	11.1
November	13.1	11.9
December	10.6	7.1

TABLE 26: YEARLY AVERAGE GROSS ALPHA RADIOACTIVITY IN LEMONT WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE, FINAL EFFLUENT, AND WASTE-ACTIVATED SLUDGE FROM 1996 THROUGH 2013

Year ¹	Raw Sewage Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	Sludge ² Gross Alpha (pCi/g dw)
1996	13.4	<5.4	45.3
1997	21.1	<5.9	38.9
1998	22.8	<5.0	48.8
1999	35.4	<6.8	76.6
2000	44.4	<7.9	106.1
2001	33.3	<9.1	141.1
2002	23.8	<9.7	121.2
2003	16.4	<9.3	86.5
2004	18.6	<8.6	100.2
2005	24.2	<10.5	110.4
2006	16.1	<10.1	90.0
2007	15.2	<10.8	76.8
2008	23.6	6.7	124.8
2009	16.5	8.9	70.0
2010	21.0	6.7	71.0
2011	13.9	<6.0	-
2012	14.7	6.5	-
2013	16.8	7.9	-

¹Am-241 self-absorption standards were used up to June 30, 2001, and Th-230 self-absorption standards were used from July 1, 2001 for generating attenuation curve for gross alpha radioactivity.

²Gross alpha radioactivity analysis in sludge was terminated in 2011.

TABLE 27: GROSS BETA RADIOACTIVITY IN LEMONT WATER
 RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE AND FINAL EFFLUENT
 ON A MONTHLY BASIS – 2013

Month	Raw Sewage Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Beta (pCi/L)
January	19.8	10.1
February	17.1	13.9
March	9.4	14.4
April	21.3	17.6
May	30.0	16.3
June	24.8	9.0
July	21.6	14.0
August	21.6	13.6
September	23.2	15.9
October	19.5	21.6
November	12.9	13.6
December	14.4	15.6

TABLE 28: YEARLY AVERAGE GROSS BETA RADIOACTIVITY IN LEMONT WATER RECLAMATION PLANT RAW SEWAGE, FINAL EFFLUENT, AND WASTE-ACTIVATED SLUDGE FROM 1996 THROUGH 2013

Year	Raw Sewage Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Effluent Gross Beta (pCi/L)	Sludge ¹ Gross Beta (pCi/g dw)
1996	26.6	13.4	73.4
1997	44.3	20.8	77.0
1998	42.4	19.4	84.1
1999	59.1	21.8	101.4
2000	66.0	22.0	121.9
2001	50.0	22.3	90.7
2002	37.1	24.1	79.5
2003	26.4	18.4	61.1
2004	28.3	19.3	63.4
2005	34.9	24.9	68.6
2006	26.4	21.7	64.2
2007	26.3	20.0	64.8
2008	27.0	18.8	107.4
2009	24.8	19.9	48.3
2010	24.4	18.9	44.5
2011	17.2	13.4	-
2012	16.9	14.2	-
2013	19.6	14.6	-

¹Gross beta radioactivity analysis in sludge was terminated in 2011.