

Rocky Flats Reportable Conditions 2013 – 2016

Contaminant	Media	Month(s) when concentrations resulted in reportable conditions	Statistical Base Intervals
Uranium	Surface Water	01/2016, 11/2013 – 10/2014, 12/2013	30-day average, 12-month rolling average, 30-day average
Trichloroethene (TCE)	Groundwater	05/2015 & 10/2015	Semi-annual sampling
Vinyl Chloride	Surface Water	03/2015 – 06/2015, 10/2013 – 02/2014	Quarterly sampling and triggered monthly subsequent sampling
Plutonium	Surface Water	05/2014 – 05/2015	12-month rolling average

Sampling for contaminants on the DOE Rocky Flats site is done at either a Point of Compliance (POC) at the site boundary, where DOE is penalized if the sample exceeds the state standard, or at an upstream Point of Evaluation (POE), where there is no penalty but steps must be taken to reduce any exceedance before the contaminant reaches the site boundary. “Reportable Conditions” are occasions when results of sampling for a specific contaminant in surface water or groundwater at a POE exceeds the agreed upon state standard, which is the legal limit for that particular contaminant on the site.

The above chart, prepared by Andrew Moscovich for Rocky Flats Nuclear Guardians, shows that there were exceedances for four listed contaminants in surface water or groundwater at specific times. The final column shows the specific sampling, whether it was a 30-day average, a 12-month rolling average, or something else. A 12-month rolling average, for instance, means samples were collected every month for 12 months, then averaged to produce a result. The result is an average of readings over a 12 month period, with some readings higher than the average, some lower. Readings that are far higher than the official standard are reduced on the chart by averaging them with lower readings. The final column in the figure above shows that there are/were several methods of sampling.

Andrew created the above table of exceedances by drawing on detailed reports listed on the DOE web according to date. To learn more on any particular item, select the date and look it up at http://www.lm.doe.gov/Rocky_Flats/ContactRecords.aspx