



ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING RESULTS: Posted July 1, 2011

NOTE: The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) is now discontinuing weekly reports of environmental sampling conducted as a result of the nuclear power plant tragedy in Japan. While low levels of iodine 131 (I-131) were found in rainwater and air in the weeks following the accident in Japan, there have been no air, rainwater, drinking water, or milk samples with detections of I-131 in the past 15 weeks, which included over 60 samples. Routine radiation monitoring as part of US EPA's RadNet program and DPH's own comprehensive radiation monitoring for nuclear power plant emergency planning zones in Massachusetts will continue as it has for decades. If the situation in Japan changes, the need for additional monitoring will be re-evaluated.

Environmental Sampling Results: March 14th to present:

Week of 3/14/11

- No Iodine-131 (I-131) detected in any samples analyzed

Week of 3/21/11

- No I-131 detected in surface drinking water supply samples
- 79 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) of I-131 was detected in rainwater sample. This is likely the result of atmospheric conditions. These trace amounts have been trapped in cloud formations and moved across the United States as part of weather patterns.

Week of 3/28/11

- I-131 was detected slightly above the lowest detection limit in air sample. 0.0281 picocuries per cubic meter (pCi/M³) was detected in air with a detection limit of 0.0263 pCi/m³. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has characterized this level as being hundreds of thousands to millions of times below levels of concern.
- No I-131 detected in surface drinking water supply samples

Week of 4/4/11

- Two rainwater samples were collected this week due to extensive rainfall. 15 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) of I-131 was detected in one sample and 23 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) of I-131 was detected in the other sample. This is likely the result

- 0.0552 picocuries per cubic meter (pCi/M3) was detected in an air sample. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has also characterized this level as being hundreds of thousands to millions of times below levels of concern.

Week of 4/11/11

- 0.046 picocuries per cubic meter (pCi/M3) was detected in an air sample. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has also characterized this level as being hundreds of thousands to millions of times below levels of concern.
- No I-131 detected in surface drinking water supply samples for the week of 4/4/11 or the week of 4/11/11.

Week of 4/18/11

- No I-131 detected in air samples
- No I-131 detected in rainwater samples for the week of 4/11/11 or for the week of 4/18/11.
- No I-131 detected in surface drinking water supply samples for the week of 4/11/11.
- No I-131 detected in milk samples for the week of 4/11/11.

Week of 4/25/11

- No I-131 detected in air samples.
- No I-131 detected in rainwater samples.
- No I-131 detected in surface drinking water supply samples for the week of 4/18/11

Week of 5/2/11

- No I-131 detected in air samples.
- No I-131 detected in surface drinking water supply samples for the week of 4/25/11 or for the week of 5/2/11.
- No I-131 detected in milk samples.

Week of 5/9/11

- No I-131 detected in air samples.
- No I-131 detected in rainwater samples for the week of 5/2/11.

- No I-131 detected in surface drinking water supply samples.

Week of 5/16/11

- No I-131 detected in air samples.
- No I-131 detected in rainwater samples.
- No I-131 detected in surface drinking water supply samples.

Week of 5/23/11

- No I-131 detected in air samples.
- No I-131 detected in milk samples.

Week of 5/30/11

- No I-131 detected in air samples.
- No I-131 detected in milk samples.
- No I-131 detected in drinking water supply samples for the week of 5/23/11.

Week of 6/6/11

- No I-131 detected in air samples.
- No I-131 detected in milk samples.
- No I-131 detected in rainwater samples for the week of 5/30/11.
- No I-131 detected in drinking water supply samples for the week of 5/30/11.

Week of 6/13/11

- No I-131 detected in air samples.
- No I-131 detected in milk samples.
- No I-131 detected in rainwater samples for the week of 6/6/11

Week of 6/20/11

- No I-131 detected in air samples.