

Manley, Eileen

From: Bob Cherry <bobcherry@satx.rr.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 08, 2016 4:14 PM
To: Cherry, Robert N CIV USARMY IMCOM HQ (US)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] FW: Downwind Identification of Depleted Uranium from Colonie Lead

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Bob

From: Tony DeAngelo [Caution-mailto:ardeangelo@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2016 8:15 PM
To: bobcherry@satx.rr.com
Cc: Anthony.deangelo@health.ny.gov
Subject: Re: Downwind Identification of Depleted Uranium from Colonie Lead

Hi Bob,

The ATSDR already reviewed the original KAPL report and commented on it.
Caution-<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/HAC/pha/ColonieSite100504-NY/ColonieSite100504HC-NY.pdf> < Caution-
<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/HAC/pha/ColonieSite100504-NY/ColonieSite100504HC-NY.pdf> >

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35. Comment: In 1979, a researcher at the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory in Schenectady, NY discovered particles of depleted uranium in air filters as far as 26 miles away from the former NL site. The NL plant was identified as the source of the depleted uranium. The particles were of aspirable size, meaning that the particles would have become lodged in the lungs. According to [name omitted], these particles could have traveled even further than 26 miles. A copy of the internal memorandum is enclosed with these questions. How does this report change the analysis contained in the Health Consultation and to what extent does it affect the definition of the exposed population?

ATSDR Response: Although particles of DU were found at distances from the NL plant, the amount of DU at those distances would not have caused adverse health effects. Based on the levels of DU emissions and the fact that the majority of DU-contaminated soil was in close proximity to the NL plant (we evaluated soil contamination data), only residents within a few blocks of the Colonie Site would have been exposed to levels of DU that could have harmed their health. ATSDR does not believe that people who lived further from the plant would have been adversely impacted.

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40. Comment: Throughout the report, the assumption is made that health effects from the stack are confined to an area near the plant. There is good reason, however, to believe that this is not the case, but that the health hazard due to depleted uranium from the National Lead plant extends a much greater distance from the Colonie site. It would appear that the authors of the report may have been unaware at the time of writing of a report by [name omitted], formerly of the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory, which demonstrates, it would seem beyond possibility of doubt, that particles of depleted uranium from the Colonie site were detected in filters at the Knolls laboratory ten miles from the Colonie site, and were even detected in a filter 26 miles from the NL site. It appears that [name omitted] has here shown conclusively, both experimentally and by careful theoretical analysis based on particle size and aerial transport, that it is not true that the health hazard is limited to an area near the site. Unfortunately, the false assumption pervades the report.

ATSDR Response: ATSDR has reviewed the report about DU particles found at Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory. Although the researcher found a few particles of DU at a facility 10 miles from the Colonie Site, this does not indicate widespread contamination, nor does it indicate a widespread health hazard. Although particles of DU were found at distances from the NL plant, the amount of DU at those distances would not have caused adverse health effects. Several factors can determine whether someone will become ill from coming into contact with, or being exposed to, uranium. One of these factors is the dose, or how much of the chemical gets into the body. Only residents within a few blocks of the Colonie Site would have been exposed to levels of DU that could have harmed their health. ATSDR does not believe that people 26 miles away, 10 miles away, or even 1 mile away would have been adversely impacted.

Bob Ballard has not replied to my email query. Not sure if there is any new information available to warrant an article. However, I will check with some friends at KAPL to see if the original report is still available for public release.

Tony

-----Original Message-----

From: bobcherry <bobcherry@satx.rr.com < Caution-mailto:bobcherry@satx.rr.com > >
To: Tony DeAngelo <ardeangelo@aol.com < Caution-mailto:ardeangelo@aol.com > >
Cc: Little, Craig HPS <agencyliaison@hps.org < Caution-mailto:agencyliaison@hps.org > >
Sent: Sun, Apr 17, 2016 5:48 pm
Subject: Re: Downwind Identification of Depleted Uranium from Colonie Lead

That is some excellent research and seems to explain the surprising measurements. I hope you can write something up for "Operational Radiation Safety." I could then reference it in future debates with activists.

Bob

----- Tony DeAngelo <ardeangelo@aol.com < Caution-mailto:ardeangelo@aol.com > > wrote:

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> Hi Bob,

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> I did a little research after our Wednesday night meeting. According to an ATSDR report, the depleted uranium release from Colonie Lead was documented in a 1980 KAPL report ,, CHEM-434-LAD, "Investigation of Excess Alpha Activity Observed in Recent Air Filter Collections and Other Environmental Samples." The author was Leonard Dietz.

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> I skimmed through the Colonie Lead files back in my office at the NYS Department of Health. Colonie Lead operated an incinerator where they burned depleted uranium cuttings and other wastes. The fact that the uranium was from the discharge of an incinerator would explain how it was capable of having an initial release height and a small enough particle size to allow it to travel a significant distance downwind.

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> I checked our Chapter records. A past chapter member ... Bob Ballard ... was the mass spectroscopy expert when I was at KAPL. My member had changed the name to Ballard. I am not sure if his time at KAPL dates back to 1980, but I sent an email to his last known address and asked if he has any information he is willing to share with you. I will let you know if Bob answers my query.

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> I hope your visit to our chapter was pleasant.

>
> Tony DeAngelo