

Environmental Emissions Data for Nuclear Sustainability Services – Western Waste Management Facility

2025

OVERVIEW

This report summarizes 2025 environmental emissions data for OPG’s Nuclear Sustainability Services – Western Waste Management Facility (NSS-WWMF) located at the Bruce Nuclear Power Development site in Bruce County. OPG’s NSS-WWMF stores low and intermediate level radioactive waste from the operation of OPG and Bruce Power nuclear reactors. The low-level waste is stored as is, compacted or incinerated. The facility also provides used fuel dry storage for the Bruce Power reactors.

This report includes:

- Radioactive Effluents: Releases to air remained well below the regulatory limits.
- Waste Incinerator: Emissions testing results confirmed compliance with air quality standards.
- Spills to the Environment: There were no Category C spills to the environment that were reportable to a regulatory authority.

Note: The contents of this report are consistent with environmental data that OPG is required to provide to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC). These reporting requirements are periodically revised.

ENVIRONMENTAL EMISSIONS MANAGEMENT

OPG has an environmental management program to ensure its activities are conducted in a manner that minimizes any adverse impact on the public and the environment. OPG’s environmental program conforms to CNSC requirements for environmental protection and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standard for environmental management systems. The quality assurance programs for OPG’s chemistry and health physics laboratories conform to the requirements of national and international standards.

As part of OPG’s environmental management program, OPG has established an effluent monitoring and control program that is based on the “ALARA” principle. That is, measures are in place to ensure emissions to the environment are kept As Low As Reasonably Achievable while taking social and economic factors into account.

MONITORING OF RADIOACTIVE EFFLUENTS

Release Limits & Action Levels

OPG uses [radiation dose limits](#) specified in federal legislation to derive Release Limits for the radionuclides that may be released to air and water from its nuclear facilities. OPG’s NSS-WWMF must maintain its radiological emissions well below these limits to meet the terms of its operating licence. OPG also sets Action Levels that are much lower than the Release Limits to identify and control emissions before a limit can be reached.

Public Radiation Dose Data

Annual environmental monitoring program results for NSS-WWMF, including an assessment of radiation dose to the public and protection of the environment, are available at:

www.opg.com/news-and-media/Pages/reports.aspx

Annual assessments of environmental radiological data for the Bruce Nuclear Power Development site, including OPG’s waste facilities, are available at:

<https://www.brucepower.com/resources/publications/>

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AIR EMISSIONS

Emissions from the NSS-WWMF are monitored to track performance. For 2025, radiological emissions to air remained well below the Release Limits and no Action Levels were exceeded (Appendix A, Table A.1).

Past monitoring results from the radiological particulate emissions monitoring of the ventilation system at the Dry Storage Container (DSC) Processing Building at NSS-WWMF have consistently demonstrated negligible particulate emissions from this building. As approved by the CNSC, this particulate emissions monitoring was discontinued in 2025. Emissions monitoring was unchanged for the Waste Volume Reduction Building radioactive waste incinerator stack, and the Transportation Package Maintenance Building ventilation stack.

WATER EMISSIONS

Water removed from the NSS-WWMF storage structures and building sumps is transferred to Bruce Power Active Liquid Waste (ALW) system and is accounted for in that station's emissions.

GROUNDWATER MONITORING

The Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report is available at: <https://www.opg.com/reporting/regulatory-reporting/>

WASTE INCINERATOR EMISSIONS TESTING

The results of annual emissions testing performed at the Waste Volume Reduction Facility's radioactive incinerator in 2025 indicated the facility is complying with Ontario air quality standards. (Appendix A, Table A.2)

SPILLS TO THE ENVIRONMENT

OPG has extensive programs to ensure the risk of spills to the environment is effectively assessed and managed. All spills are reported by OPG to the appropriate federal, provincial and municipal authorities as required.

There were no Category C spills at the NSS-WWMF site in 2025.

APPENDIX A

ENVIRONMENTAL EMISSIONS DATA

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Table A.1: WWMF Airborne Radionuclide Releases^(a)

	Tritium Oxide (Bq)	Particulate (Bq)	Iodine-131 (Bq)	Carbon-14^(b) (Bq)
SUMMARY: ANNUAL				
Release Limit (Bq/year)^(c)	3.45 x 10 ¹⁷	6.65 x 10 ¹¹	1.99 x 10 ¹²	2.41 x 10 ¹⁵
Total Releases As of Q4 2025	4.8 x 10 ¹²	0.0	2.8 x 10 ⁴	1.3 x 10 ¹⁰

- (a) The Waste Volume Reduction Building radioactive waste incinerator stack and ventilation exhaust stack are monitored for tritium, particulate, and iodine-131 emissions. The incinerator stack is also monitored for carbon-14 emissions. The Transportation Package Maintenance Building ventilation stack is monitored for tritium and particulate emissions.
- (b) Carbon-14 emissions are impacted by the in-service time of the incinerator. OPG has completed the effluent monitoring assessment of C-14 fugitive emissions from waste storage and monitoring of C-14 from this source is completed as part of the Environmental Monitoring Program.
- (c) The derived Release Limit for a given radionuclide is the release rate of that radionuclide to air during normal operation of a nuclear facility over the period of a calendar year, which would result in an individual receiving a dose equal to the regulatory annual dose limit for a member of the public.

Table A.2: NSS-WWMF Incinerator Facility Point of Impingement (POI) Assessment Summary ^(a)

A becquerel (Bq) is the standard international unit for measuring radioactive decay or radioactivity. One becquerel is the decay of one atom of a radioisotope per second and is an extremely small amount of radioactivity. Becquerel is a measure of the rate (not energy) of radiation emission from a source.

Another unit of measuring radioactivity is the curie (Ci). 1 Ci = 3.7 x 10¹⁰ Bq.

Compound of Concern	Emission Rate	Calculated POI Concentration	Applicable POI Standard	Compliance Assessment
		24-hour basis (except where noted)	24-hour basis (except where noted)	% of Limit
	g/s	µg/m ³	µg/m ³	
TSPM	<1.93E-04	1.34E-02	120	1.11E-02
Carbon Monoxide	8.72E-04	1.71E-01 (1/2-hour)	6,000 (1/2-hour)	2.84E-03 (1/2-hour)
Nitrogen Oxides	5.95E-02	4.12E+00	200	2.06E00
		9.70E+00 (1-hour)	400 (1-hour)	2.42E00 (1-hour)
Sulphur Dioxide	5.45E-04	3.90E-03 (annual)	10	3.90E-02
		8.88E-02 (1-hour)	100	8.88E-02
HCl	3.01E-03	2.09E-01	20	1.04E+00
D&F (TEQ) Dioxins and furans and Dioxin-like PCBs	<1.0E-11	7.09E-10	1.00E-07	7.10E-01
2.00E-09 (1/2-hour)		15 (1/2-hour)	6.70E-02 (1/2-hour)	

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Compound of Concern	Emission Rate	Calculated POI Concentration	Applicable POI Standard	Compliance Assessment
		24-hour basis (except where noted)	24-hour basis (except where noted)	% of Limit
	<i>g/s</i>	<i>µg/m³</i>	<i>µg/m³</i>	
Total PCB's	2.0295E-08	1.41E-06	0.15	9.37E-04
Naphthalene	4.79E-07	3.32E-05	22.5	1.48E-04
		1.29E-04 (1/2 -hr)	10 (1/2-hour)	2.58E-04 (1/2-hr)
Benzo(a)pyrene	<u><1.2E-09</u>	8.23E-09 (annual)	0.00001 (annual)	<u>8.20E-02</u> (annual)
		7.97E-08	0.005	1.60E-03
Acetaldehyde	5.51E-05	3.81E-03	500	7.63E-04
		1.08E-02 (1/2-hour)	500 (1/2-hour)	2.15E-03 (1/2-hour)
Formaldehyde	<u>4.330E-05</u>	3.00E-03	65	4.61E-03
Phenol	<u><9.3E-08</u>	6.46E-06	30	2.20E-05
Acrolein	<u><8.8E-06</u>	<u>6.11E-04</u>	0.4	1.50E-03
		<u>1.44E-03</u> (1-hour)	4.5 (1-hour)	3.20E-02 (1-hour)
Benzene	1.6E-06	1.17E-05 (annual)	0.45 (annual)	2.60E-03
Methyl Ethyl Ketone (2-Butanone)	<u><1.8E-06</u>	1.24E-04	1,000	1.24E-05
Vinyl Chloride (chloroethene)	<u><3.6E-07</u>	<u>2.50E-05</u>	1	2.50E-03
Ethylbenzene	3.1E-07	2.15E-05	1,000	2.10E-06
Styrene	<3.8E-07	2.65E-05	400	6.62E-06
Tetrachloro-ethylene	<2.1E-06	1.45E-04	360	4.00E-05
Toluene	1.7E-06	1.18E-04	2,000	5.90E-06
Trichloroethane, 1,1,1	<5.5E-07	3.78E-05	115,000	0.00E+00
Trichloroethene (trichloroethylene)	<3.7E-07	2.57E-05	12	<u>2.15E-04</u>
Xylene ^(b)	1.2E-06	8.18E-05	730 (sum of all xylenes)	1.10E-05
Arsenic	<u><1.7E-07</u>	<u>1.14E-05</u>	0.3	3.80E-03
Barium	3.61E-06	2.50E-04	10	2.50E-03
Beryllium	<u><3.3E-08</u>	<u>2.29E-06</u>	0.01	2.30E-02
Cadmium	5.34E-08	3.70E-06	0.025	1.48E-02
Chromium	6.5E-07	4.49E-05	0.5	9.00E-03
Copper	1.4E-06	9.58E-05	50	1.90E-04
Lead	1.5E-07	1.03E-05	0.5	2.10E-03
Manganese	8.52E-07	5.90E-05	0.4	1.47E-02
Mercury	<u><2.43E-07</u>	1.68E-05	2	8.42E-04
Nickel	2.25E-06	1.61E-05 (annual)	0.04 (annual)	4.02E-02 (annual)
Silver	<3.3E-08	2.29E-06	1	2.23E-04
Zinc	2.47E-06	1.71E-04	120	1.43E-04

Bold text indicates ECA prescribed limits.

Underlined italics indicate compound emissions less than reporting limits.

Shaded italics indicate **Guideline** POI concentrations.

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- (a) The results of an emission testing program performed in November 2025 indicated the Nuclear Sustainability Services - Western Waste Volume Reduction Facility was operating well within compliance for all Ontario Environmental Protection Act, Ontario Regulation 419/05 standards and point of impingement guidelines based on ground level point of impingement concentrations. This testing is required annually to meet Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Environmental Compliance Approval requirements.
- (b) Only m/p-Xylene was detected in the samples, and it was used in this table (o-Xylene was below the detection limit).