

Summary of major responses to the RFI (classified into items and categories) [Topic 6 : Understanding the groundwater flow]

Particularly required technologies for contaminated water issues		Responses to the RFI			Trend of technical information in the responses	Expert Review Panel's comments	
Item	Sub item	Category	No.	Keywords			
(1) Methods of data collection	Individual technology	Geophysical surveys and remote sensing	208	Aerial survey	<p>There is a proposal in regard to methodology for hydrological and hydrochemical investigation from the Japanese Society of Civil Engineers.</p> <p>Regarding data acquisition method, aerial and satellite remote sensing technologies and various geophysical methods are proposed other than those for borehole investigation.</p> <p>There are proposals of borehole investigation method in order to capture hydraulic properties such as water table, permeability coefficient, and to measure groundwater flow direction and rate.</p> <p>Other than those above, groundwater investigations using tracers such as chlorofluorocarbons, radioisotopes of boron, tritium, carbon 14, helium-3 were proposed.</p> <p>Remote-controlled Cone Penetration Test system which uses special probes to measure groundwater level and radioactivity quickly, is also proposed.</p>	<p>Understanding the groundwater flow is important as a basis for the topics 4 (Management of Contaminated Water inside the Buildings) and 5(Management Measures to Block Groundwater from Flowing into the Sea).</p> <p>The proposal to implement tracer investigation that considers constituents in contaminated water such as B or Sr as indicators is worth noting. As the analytic accuracy for 90Sr in the soil is sufficiently high, they seem to be appropriate as tracers.</p> <p>Because 3H behaves exactly as groundwater, and the analysis of it is easy with high detection sensitivity, it can be applied as an indicator for groundwater analysis. But it is required that natural and accident-originated 3H are considered.</p> <p>The proposal related to 3He (as a gas phase daughter and “indicator” for tritium) was innovative and interesting, and it is also used for groundwater age measurement in combination with 3H. But analysis of 3He requires relatively expensive mass spectrometry analysis. Therefore, if 3He is being used primarily as a direct measure of tritium in water, then alternative gas phase techniques are preferred.</p> <p>The geophysical monitoring and tomography proposals are interesting but may have limited applicability at Fukushima because of the significant amount of underground infrastructure.</p> <p>In regard to the idea of the “micro-chemical laboratory” to be deployed at the well side, it is important to understand the need of real-time monitoring by expensive equipment.</p>	
			344	Aerial survey, geophysical subsurface profiling, borehole geophysical logging			
			323, 413, 481	Electrical survey			
		Survey using boreholes	182	Hydrological and geochemical surveys			
			272, 678	Water level measurement			
			282, 387	Observation of water level, chemistry and boring core			
			571	Permeability tests, flow meter logging			
			572	Flow-direction / flow-velocity logging			
			654	Boring core observation, permeability tests			
		Survey using tracers	182, 429, 661, 372	Boron isotopes, radioisotopes (3H, 14C), CFCs, helium isotope (3He)			
			Others	451			Geophysical survey and monitoring using control drilling
				709, 767			Control drilling under contamination
				289			Groundwater flow measurement using optical fiber sensor
				492			Know-how at Los Alamos
		710		Non-man operation of cone penetration test			
	Integrated survey / Data collection	108	Hydrological survey, water level analysis	<p>The Japanese Society of Civil Engineers proposed a comprehensive method for hydrological and hydrochemical investigation including groundwater flow direction and rate measurement.</p> <p>There are many proposals for the method of comprehensive evaluation which is based on investigation consisting of multiple techniques/methods as ways to understand the condition of groundwater including the collection and arrangement of existing data.</p>			
		349	Geological, hydrological data				
		388	Upward groundwater flow via fractures, analysis of hydrogeological structure				
		655	Surveys of recharge, wide and site areas				
		677	Groundwater path, flow-direction / flow-velocity, hydro geochemical survey				
		742	Experience in Selafield				
		745	Water level, temperature, pH, EC, tracer				
	755	Geospatial database					
	Monitoring	Monitoring using boreholes	175, 245, 272, 349, 499	Water level, pore pressure	<p>For the methodologies to understand the groundwater condition, before, during and after the countermeasures for the contaminated water issues, there are some proposals for monitoring programs. Continuous measurements of water table, pore pressure and radioactivity by monitoring in borehole are proposed.</p> <p>Other proposed monitoring methods are for surficial water run-off, infiltration, discharge from the sea floor, sea-floor radioactivity, and so on.</p>		
			606	Water level, radiation level			
			407	Water level, chemistry, velocity, nuclide concentration			
			169, 181	Gamma logging			
			718	Monitoring of 90Sr and 137Cs			
			745	Experience in assessment of ground leak detection and monitoring technologies			
			767	Telemetry systems for real-time monitoring of water level and temperature			
Others		272	Surface flow, infiltration amount, soil condition, outflow to ocean, etc.				
		372	3He in soil gas and groundwater				
		377, 594	Contaminated water, measurement of radiation				
		661	Geo-electrical imaging and monitoring				
		743	Experience of real-time monitoring				
		744	Natural attenuation monitoring of nuclides in soil				
		330, 409	Monitoring in the ocean area				

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(2) Rapid nuclide analysis method	Analysis of 90Sr	Mass spectrometry (ICP-MS, TIMS)	117	Analysis time : 15 minutes for 1 water sample (> 3 Bq/L), 3 hours for 8 soil samples (> 5 Bq/L)	Regarding 90Sr analysis, in addition to the widely-used conventional method with liquid scintillation, analytic methods using ICP-MS or Cerenkov counting are proposed. There are many proposals in which analytical duration is very much shortened compared to 24 days for the conventional ones.	The proposed methods to reduce analytical time and costs were generally reasonable. For example, the use of ICP-MS for strontium has many benefits -- primarily reducing the complexity of sample preparation. In regard to the Cerenkov technique, some specificity should be requested in relation to handling of matrix effects and the expected variability in environmental samples (e.g., different levels of salt). The DOE Savannah River National Laboratory has developed and deployed rapid radio-analytical methods that use multistage micro-columns for the pre-separation. These methods successfully generated high quality (NIST traceable) data in 3-4 hours for 90Sr in water, soil, and so on - the other laboratories using standard approaches had difficulties in completing within 8 hour turnaround time. Regarding the 90Sr analysis, it is better to keep two or three more methods other than ICP-MAS and Cherenkov methods for future implementation. Regarding the methods that employ ICP-MS and Cherenkov counter, as ICP-MS instrument is commonly used and easy to operate, it will be easier to secure analysis personnel than the conventional method which is fairly complicated and requires proficiency.		
			177	ICP-MS for low saline sample, beta analysis for high saline sample				
			182	Integration into lithology				
		Scintillator (liquid, gas and plastic)	193	Specifying 90Y using energy window				
			209	Development of detector using gas scintillator				
			624	Analysis time : < 20 minutes (> 30 Bq/L)				
			659	Analysis time : 12 hours (> 0.05 Bq/L)				
			717	Know-how using liquid scintillator				
		Cherenkov counter	290, 300	Analysis time : 100 - 1000 seconds (about 10 Bq/L)				
			540	Analysis time : 2 - 3 minutes (about 2 - 10 Bq/L), 1 hour (about 1 Bq/L)				
			723	Detect 90Y in aqueous streams				
			767	Analysis time : 20 hours (> 0.3 Bq/L)				
			282	Analysis time : 0.3-0.5 days (0.3 Bq/L)				
		Others	357	Analysis time : about 1 day (practical use in 2015)				
			625	Analysis time : 24 hours (> 0.1 Bq/L)				
	749		Alpha, beta and gamma spectroscopy					
	309, 311		Separation procedure to isolate Sr					
	Analysis of 3H		Scintillator (liquid, gas)	209	Development of detector using gas scintillator	There are many proposals for analyzing 3H by an innovative method with the commonly-used conventional liquid scintillator. They are mainly about introducing the pre-treatment procedure of ion exchange in order to analyze in a shorter time than its traditional duration of 27 hours.		
		290, 300		Analysis time : 5 minutes (> 10000 Bq/L), 3 hours (> 2 Bq/L)				
		473		Membrane separation 3H monitor				
474		analysis time reduction using ion exchange method and simultaneous analysis						
492		Analysis time : < 24 hours, mobile laboratory						
610		analysis time reduction using ion exchange and spillover methods						
615		Analysis time : 50 minutes (> 10 Bq/L), in development						
659		Analysis time : 4.5 hours (> 15 Bq/L), mobile laboratory						
717		Analysis time : 5 hours (> 60 Bq/L), know-how of analysis						
Beta counter		352		Analysis time : < 1 minute, demonstrated using prototype				
		624	Analysis time : 40 minutes					
		767	Analysis time : 65 minutes, 3H Micro Distillation					
Others		282	Analysis time : 0.15-0.25 days (> 370 Bq/L)					
(3) Rapid and/or unmanned borehole drilling method		Unmanned drilling	Remote drilling	244, 448	Air hammer, hydraulic hammer		There are some proposals on drilling methods with air-hammer, or vibratory sonic methods, which don't use mud water but use remote-controlled machine equipped with self-running cart. They aren't of the rotary-type drilling method that conventionally uses mud water. For the method of avoiding contamination of core sample by contaminants from shallower layers, only the relatively conventional methods of double-tube drilling have been proposed.	The proposal to modify a cone penetrometer (CPT) for Fukushima conditions is worth consideration. CPT is a standard technology that has been used for many decades - the proposal advocated modifying for remote control. An alternative to a fully automated system would be development of a system that uses automation to reduce the number of people needed and speed operations.
				349	Vibratory sonic drilling, double cased well			
	582			Remote control, control by computer				
	710		Non-man operation of core penetration test					
	345		Remotely controlled robotic technologies					
	Control drilling	451, 709, 767	Drilling from low radiation area					
	Rapid and efficient method	492	Hydraulic hammer					
Method for preventing contamination in shallower parts	349, 582	Double cased well						

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(4) Groundwater flow and nuclide migration analysis	Modelling for groundwater flow and nuclide migration		181	Coupled with geophysical logging and real-time monitoring	There are many modeling proposals to conduct groundwater flow and radionuclide migration analyses using ordinary analysis codes. Some of them can analyze and visualize the surface water and groundwater at the same time.	<p>Many good models are submitted for treating database, GIS, groundwater flow and radionuclide migration. Process of building the model is important such as setting the analysis area wider enough than the target area.</p> <p>The required groundwater flow model is not general but site-specific to represent the analysis area. Evaluation of effect and impact on management of contaminated water should be done based on such a model.</p> <p>The implementation of the model should be considered carefully. Common understanding is that the geological structure of the site is not simple, which needs to be taken into account before constructing the model.</p> <p>The steps to model construction should be collecting existing data, making database, and demonstrating using GIS.</p> <p>The models should have the ability to easily access related information, quickly assess different barrier scenarios, and graphically output to enhance communication with stakeholders and regulators. Many of the proposed models meet these requirements.</p> <p>It is critical to understand groundwater flow and chemical feature, and be able to predict how it can change through which measures. Hydrological monitoring to evaluate the prediction is needed.</p>	
			199, 246, 302, 428, 481	Integrated analysis of surface flow and groundwater flow, visualization			
			231	Verification of groundwater flow			
			279	Inverse analysis using local model, evaluation by tracer test			
			302	Prediction of radionuclide transport, representation of freezing processes			
			310, 605	Groundwater flow, radionuclide transport			
			319	Analysis of contaminant flow			
			346	Modeling software package for contaminant transport			
			349	Model based on geological and hydrological data, know-how of drilling			
			406	Comparison and discussion of several evaluation results			
			425	Transport behavior of radionuclides, landward movement of the sea water			
			562	Analysis in wide, medium and site area			
			604	Geostatistical method			
			661	Modeling based on geological model, geo-electrical imaging, tracer test			
			734	Model for planning barrier implementation			
	737	Coupling of groundwater flow and heat flow					
	Total modeling including risk management and/or policy decision			199, 481	Integrated management system for groundwater flow	<p>The Japanese Association of Groundwater Hydrology proposed to make a conceptual groundwater model, and the Japanese Society of Civil Engineers proposed to make an expert system for visualization of the state of contamination.</p> <p>There are many proposals for groundwater analysis covering risk control to decision making, specifically by gathering existing data, building database and concept model, and visualizing groundwater flow based on GIS in order to adjust observation plans and models to be communicated to stakeholders, which will then be utilized to improve mid and long-term plans.</p>	<p>There is an opinion that the area should be completely closed for the management measures to block groundwater from flowing into the site, but as we have inspected the site and read the article about partial sinking of the ground, we think it requires prudence. It is desirable to stop water as we perform monitoring, confirming how things will develop as we go.</p>
				232, 410, 735	Simulation for contaminant transport		
				259	Integrated management system for contaminated water issue		
				293	Groundwater flow, contaminated water flow in coastal zone		
324				Simulation of impermeable wall and outflow to the ocean			
325, 530, 739				Conceptual models for groundwater, development and site			
351				Modeling of radionuclide migration			
416				Advices for short-term and medium-term problems			
424				Remote geophysical monitoring, remediation efficacy			
576				Monitoring and analysis system for wide-area groundwater flow			
634				Visualization of contaminant transport			
680				Expert system for visualization of contamination			
731				Model to support the ground freezing strategy			
733				System modeling for radiological risks			
740	Contaminant migration modeling, risk assessment						
741	Estimation of contaminated soil and groundwater volumes						
	Consideration of the geochemical environment		426	Desorption of cesium and increasing its flux into the ocean	It is noted that salinization of groundwater possibly causes desorption of radionuclides that have once been adsorbed on a solid in an aquifer.		
Others	Leakage detection using 3He		372, 745	Concentration of 3H and 3He	There is a proposal to use 3He online measurement in order to detect 3H contaminated water spill underground.		