



The only one that didn't exceed 30 micrograms was west of OW11B, which sits directly between the hotspot and the in-question IWCS. Miller said if the IWCS was leaking, the situation would certainly not be what the results are showing.

"That's a really telling piece of information," he said. "The well is between the IWCS and OW11B. We see levels equal on the eastern side of the original well. But the western one is not elevated."

Studying the effectiveness of the IWCS, storing many materials used in the creation of the atomic bombs among others, and its viability for long-term use has been the chief mission of the Army Corps since assuming control of the site under a federal program.

Just one part, studying the rest of the NFSS not in the interim structure, this latest study also examined soil and groundwater samples from areas directly south of the IWCS, which has historically shown high radioactivity levels.

The contamination, Miller said, appears to have come from previous handling and storage methods in the area, similar to OW11B.

He said video taken of employees disassembling a building at that location, which was deemed radioactive at the time and buried in the IWCS mound, was used to determine testing points there, as well.

As for why that area wasn't included in the IWCS, despite a building being only feet away from the mound, Miller said he doesn't know.

"We don't know why they didn't include that building when they created the IWCS, why they made the border where it is," Miller said.

Miller said all 17 of the new wells were incorporated into the environmental protection plan and will continue to be tested twice per year. A copy of the entire presentation is expected to be available on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' website Thursday, at [www.lrb.usace.army.mil](http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil).

Contact reporter Timothy Chipp at 282-2311, ext. 2251 or follow on Twitter @timchipp.

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