

DISCUSSION

The following questions (Q) were raised at the symposium presentation of this paper, and the authors' answers (A) follow:

Q: Do you maintain your detection limits between aqueous and brine solutions? Do you do a "matrix match"?

A: When the person who is working on a brine leachate prepares his solutions, he always prepares an additional amount so that I can do a matrix match. We can maintain our detection limits that way.

Q: Have you monitored your stack off-gases to see where the activity deposits?

A: We haven't. We assume that most of it plates out on the chimney.

Q: What is the external radiation level when your sample carousel is loaded with samples having the maximum radiation level (that is, ~2 rem at contact)?

A: We would not load the carousel with high-level solutions. It is a problem to transfer the solutions and we do not want many high-level solutions in the glove box at any one time. We transfer one sample into the box, analyze it, discard the remaining solution, and then put the next sample in the box. We have not had any problems with excessive external radiation levels generated by samples located within the glove box. We do have to consider that we are constantly in the glove box using our hands to handle the sample; we do not have manipulators.