

June 15, 2011

### **Update on Radiation Monitoring in Hawaii**

All test results continue to verify there is no public health risk. The DOH does not expect to see any levels of significant health impact and there is no need to take any protective action based on current guidance.

While the situation remains very serious in Japan, it is important to note that all of the radiation levels detected in Hawaii by RadNet monitors and sampling have been very low, and are well below any level of public health concern. DOH continues to work with federal, state and county partners to monitor the situation in Japan and is fully prepared to accelerate radiation sampling and analysis should the need arise.

### **EPA's RadNet Air Monitors Continue to Operate in Hawaii. Data Still Shows Typical Fluctuations in Background Radiation.**

EPA's RadNet air monitors located in Hawaii continue to measure radiation levels throughout the state, and recent analysis continues to show typical fluctuations associated with background radiation. The Department of Health performs gross analysis on samples collected Monday through Friday from deployable monitors located on Kauai and Oahu and twice weekly from fixed units located on Oahu and the Big Island. All samples are sent to the EPA laboratory for detailed analysis and confirmation of preliminary findings.

Near real-time gamma radiation measurements are performed 24/7 and the readings may be viewed at the EPA website:

Deployable Monitor RN19 (North Shore, Oahu)

<http://www.epa.gov/radiation/rert/radnet-oahu-exp-rate.html>

Deployable Monitor RN20 (Kauai)

<http://www.epa.gov/radiation/rert/radnet-kauai-exp-rate.html>

Fixed Monitor (Honolulu, Oahu)

<http://www.epa.gov/radiation/rert/radnet-honolulu-bg.html>

### **EPA/DOH Return to Routine RadNet Sampling for Precipitation, Drinking Water and Milk.**

After a thorough data review showing declining radiation levels in Hawaii related to the Japanese nuclear incident, the EPA and DOH have returned to routine RadNet sampling and analysis process for precipitation, drinking water and milk.

In accordance with normal RadNet protocol, EPA will be analyzing milk and drinking water samples on a quarterly basis and precipitation samples as part of a monthly composite. The next round of milk and drinking water sampling will take place in July.

### **Samples From Surface Water Systems on the Big Island, Maui and Kauai to be Collected in July**

Samples from one catchment and three surface water systems on the Big Island, Maui and Kauai were previously collected on April 18 and 19, 2011. The results showed no detectable levels of radioactive materials in any of the samples. As a precautionary measure, another round of samples will be collected in July and submitted to a lab in California for analysis.

### **Precipitation Samples Submitted to EPA for Analysis**

Precipitation (rainwater) samples collected on May 3, 2011 and June 7, 2011 have been submitted to the EPA lab in Montgomery, AL for detailed analysis. At this time, DOH has not received any results. However, based on air monitoring data and previous precipitation sampling results, we do not expect any levels that would pose a significant health risk.

### **Shoreline Environmental Sampling**

Shoreline environmental sampling has been conducted on Oahu, Maui, Kauai, and the Big Island. All results show normal fluctuations associated with background levels. Shoreline sampling will continue in July.