

March 30, 2011

Detailed Filter Analysis Continues to Show No Risk of Harmful Radiation in Hawaii

HONOLULU -- Results of detailed filter analyses from 12 RadNet air monitor locations across the nation, including Hawaii, identified trace amounts of radioactive isotopes consistent with the Japanese nuclear incident. These types of findings are to be expected in the coming days and are still far below levels of public health concern. EPA's samples captured by monitors in Hawaii on March 20, 21, and 23, found miniscule amounts of Iodine-131 ranging from 0.18 to 1.4 pCi/m³. These levels are hundreds of thousands to millions of times below the need to take any protective action based on current guidance.

Current data from Hawaii RadNet monitors still indicate no risk of harmful radiation exposure. The Department of Health continuously analyzes data, and also sends sampling filters from monitors here to the EPA laboratory in Alabama on a daily basis for further analysis and confirmation of preliminary findings. Information on findings can also be found at www.epa.gov/japan2011.

These results are consistent with findings reported by federal, state and Canadian partners. As expected, because of the 4,000+ mile distance from Japan and air diffusion, radiation reaching our state is so diluted there is no expected health risk here, making protective action unnecessary.