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**IMPACT OF ZEOLITE TRANSFERRED FROM
TANK 19F TO TANK 18F ON DWPF
VITRIFICATION OF SLUDGE BATCH 3 (U)**

C. M. Jantzen, R.F. Swingle, and F.G. Smith

September 18, 2003

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) is planning to initiate vitrification of Sludge Batch #3 (SB3) in combination with Sludge Batch #2 (SB2), which is currently being processed, in the spring of 2004. The contents of Sludge Batch #3 will be a mixture of the heel remaining from Sludge Batch #1B in Tank 51H, sludge from Tank 7F (containing coal, sand, and sodium oxalate), and sludge materials from Tank 18F. The sludge materials in Tank 18F contain part of a mound of zeolitic material transferred there from Tank 19F. This mound was physically broken up and transfers were made from Tank 19F to Tank 18F for vitrification into SB3. In addition, the Savannah River High Level Waste Division (HLWD) has transferred excess Pu and Am/Cm materials to Tank 51H to be processed through the DWPF as part of SB3. Additional Pu material and a Np stream from the Canyons are also planned to be added to SB3 before processing of this batch commences at DWPF.

An assessment of the potential impacts of the zeolitic material on SB3 processing and glass product quality was requested by HLWD. This evaluation entailed the following:

- identification of the mound material as degraded (aged) IE-95 zeolite used in cesium recovery columns (CRCs) to remove cesium from the overheads of the SRS Evaporators in F-Area
- identification of the zeolite aging mechanism and impacts on sludge composition, processing, and sludge washing
- zeolite density and moisture content
- zeolite particle size distribution and potential impacts on the DWPF Hydragard[®] sludge sampling system and representativeness of the sludge sample for DWPF process control
- impacts, if any, of excess zeolite on sludge waste loading and glass processing
- anion content of the zeolite minerals in the mound to examine any adverse chemical composition impacts on DWPF glass composition and/or off-gas generation

The primary objective of this task was to assess the impacts of the excess zeolite mound material in Tank 19F on the predicted glass and processing properties of interest when the zeolite becomes part of SB3. From the amounts of the Tank 19F heel that could have been transferred (in gallons) to Tank 18F and the density of the zeolite mound measured in September 2002, a maximum of 48,120 kgs of sodium aluminosilicate rich zeolite from the Tank 19F mound may have been transferred to Tank 18F and potentially to SB3 if the transfers of solids from Tank 19F to Tank 18F were homogeneous. However, calculations of the residual zeolite in Tank 19F indicate that only 14,338 kgs of zeolite were transferred indicating that the salt and sludge solids in the mound in Tank 19F were

transferred to Tank 18F selectively over the zeolite solids. This is in agreement with the fact that only ~24,818 kgs of zeolite were discharged to Tank 19F over its lifetime of zeolite receipt. The 14,338 kgs transferred to Tank 18F converts to approximately 3.8 wt% of the proposed SB3 constituents if all of the zeolite material in Tank 18F is blended into SB3.

The two potential impacts of the Tank 19F zeolite mound on DWPF processing relates to (1) the Hydragard[®] samples taken for determination of the acceptability of a macrobatch of DWPF feed and (2) the achievable waste loading. An additional impact that may affect processing of SB3 and/or the evaporation of SB3 washwater relates to the liberation of SiO₂ from the zeolite to the sludge when it aged from chabazite and erionite (IE-95 constituents) to the cancrinite/sodalite phases currently found in the Tank 19F mound.

In terms of the Hydragard[®] sampling of SB3 feeds for DWPF SME process control:

- the larger zeolite particles found in Tank 19F (average particle size of 500µm) are too large to pass through the sampling valve and may plug the valve unless they are size reduced during subsequent transfers, homogenization, or processing
- the DWPF sampling system may not be capable of obtaining a representative sample of sludge containing zeolite if the particle size is not size reduced during subsequent transfers, homogenization, or processing
- sampling could miss an estimated 60% of the material causing misbatching of the feeds to the DWPF if the particle size is not size reduced during subsequent transfers, homogenization, or processing
- zeolite must be further degraded (particle size reduced) before Hydragard[®] sampling can be considered accurate for DWPF process control if the particle size is not size reduced during subsequent transfers, homogenization, or processing

The potential effects of the large size of the zeolite particles found in the Tank 19F solids, as reported in this study, are considered minimal for processing of SB3 in DWPF. This conclusion is based on recent sieve analyses of Tank 51H sludge after receipt from Tank 18F which indicate that only 0.04 wt% particulates over 38 µm are present in the sludge. These particulates appear to be coal and not zeolite. The sieve analyses indicate that the zeolite that was transferred may have degraded in size during all the tank homogenization and transfers if the sample that was sieved was representative of the tank contents. Moreover, recent analyses of Tank 18F indicate that the heel remaining in Tank 18F is enriched in silica,* presumably zeolite, indicating that not all the zeolite from Tank 18F was transferred to SB3. The zeolite heel in Tank 18F will only become

* Jonathan Thomas, personnel communication September 16, 2003.

problematic for DWPF processing if the contents of Tank 18F ever become feed for subsequent DWPF feed.

The second potential impact on DWPF processing will be the ability to achieve higher waste loadings by ~0.5-2.0 wt%. In order to have a 1:1 correlation of the calculated waste loadings with and without zeolite present, comparisons to earlier calculations were made based on Frits 320, 165, and 200. The predicted glass properties at the property acceptable region (PAR) demonstrates the following:

- the maximum waste loading with the zeolite mound material present is consistently higher than the maximum waste loading without the zeolite mound material present
 - the maximum waste loadings for SB3 without zeolite was 37-37.5 wt% with Frit 320 depending on the sludge scenario being considered
 - the maximum waste loadings for SB3 with zeolite was 0.5-2 wt% waste loading higher (37.5-39 wt%) with Frit 320 regardless of the sludge scenario being considered
 - the maximum waste loading is always limited by the new liquidus temperature (T_L) of the glass for the sludge scenarios examined in this study
 - the new T_L in turn is driven by the amount of sludge components such as Fe_2O_3 , NiO , and MnO present in the glass which is diluted by the increased Na_2O , Al_2O_3 and Na_2O present in the zeolite material
 - the zeolite (high sodium aluminosilicate) dilutes the sludge components in the glass and lowers the T_L allowing for higher waste loadings
- the proposed glasses based on Frits 320, 165, and 200 are all durable regardless of sludge scenario and the presence of zeolite, this is consistent with new optimized frits developed for SB3
- the proposed glasses all have acceptable viscosities despite increased Al_2O_3 from the zeolite
 - the viscosities with Frit 320 and Frit 165 are comparable
 - the viscosities with Frit 200 are somewhat higher due to the Al_2O_3 content of the zeolite
- almost all the glasses violate the old T_L model but all the glasses satisfy the new, more rigorous, T_L model which has been implemented in DWPF

A third potential impact of the zeolite from Tank 19F in SB3 may affect the processing of SB3 and/or the evaporation of SB3 washwater:

- during zeolite aging of the IE-95 components chabazite and erionite to the sodalite/canocrinite mineral phases identified in the Tank 19F mound, 11 moles of SiO_2 are liberated

- the SiO_2 liberated may be amorphous or may have reacted with excess NaOH in Tank 19F to form more sodalite in which case the conservative 14,338 kgs of zeolite transferred to SB3 may be as high as 48,120 kgs
- the SiO_2 liberated may be amorphous and may be entrained in or part of the SB3 sludge and may affect the rheology
- if the SiO_2 liberated during zeolite conversion is amorphous it could become mobile during sludge washing causing the washwater to fail the newly implemented Si feed qualification limit that was implemented to avoid problematic aluminosilicate scale in the SRS evaporators

Other findings about the zeolite conversion mechanism via a process of Ostwald ripening are discussed in the text and in the conclusions. In addition, cation-anion mass balance analyses of the zeolite mound and the IE-95 bulk and mineral densities were determined. A second type of ion exchange media (Decalso) also reportedly sent to Tank 19F was analyzed. It was determined that the Decalso was an amorphous sodium aluminosilicate which degraded in 10M caustic to a sodium aluminosilicate gel.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADS:	Analytic Development Section of SRTC
CRC:	Cesium Recovery Column
CST:	Crystalline Silico Titanate
DOE:	United States Department of Energy
DWPF:	Defense Waste Processing Facility
ESPF:	Extended Sludge Processing Facility
IC:	Ion Chromotography
ICP-ES:	Inductively Coupled Plasma Emission Spectroscopy
HLWD:	High Level Waste Division
LHS:	Left Hand Side
MAR:	Measurement Acceptable Region
ML:	Mobile Laboratory of SRTC
OLS:	Ordinary Least Squares
PAR:	Property Acceptable Region
PCCS:	Product Composition Control System
PCT:	Product Consistency Test (ASTM C-1285)
PDF:	Powder Diffraction File
RBOF:	Receiving Basin for Off-site Fuel
RHS:	Right Hand Side
RRF:	Resin Regeneration Facility
SB1B:	Sludge Batch #1B
SB2:	Sludge Batch #2
SB3:	Sludge Batch #3
SCF:	Shielded Cell Facility
SRS:	Savannah River Site
SRTC:	Savannah River Technology Center
T _L :	Temperature of Liquidus
WL:	Waste Loading
WCP:	Waste Compliance Plan
WCS:	Waste Characterization System
WSRC:	Westinghouse Savannah River Company
XRD:	X-Ray Diffraction

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IMPACT OF ZEOLITE TRANSFERRED FROM TANK 19F TO TANK 18F ON DWPF VITRIFICATION OF SLUDGE BATCH 3 (U)

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Approximately 130 million liters of high-level radioactive waste is currently stored in underground carbon steel tanks at the Savannah River Site (SRS) in Aiken, South Carolina. The Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) began immobilizing these wastes in borosilicate glass in 1996. Currently, the radioactive glass is being produced as a “sludge-only” composition by combining washed high-level sludge with glass frit and melting. The glass is poured into stainless steel canisters that will eventually be disposed of in a permanent, geological repository.

Currently, the DWPF is processing Sludge Batch #2 (SB2). The DWPF is planning to initiate vitrification of Sludge Batch #3 (SB3) in combination with Sludge Batch #2 (SB2),¹ which is currently being processed, in Spring of 2004. The contents of Sludge Batch #3 will be a mixture of the heel remaining from Sludge Batch #1B in Tank 51H, sludge from Tank 7F (containing coal, sand, and sodium oxalate), and sludge materials from Tank 18F. In addition, the Savannah River High Level Waste Division (HLWD) has transferred excess Pu and Am/Cm materials to Tank 51H to be processed through the DWPF. Current blending strategies also include additional Pu and a Np stream from the canyons as materials being vitrified in SB3 in the DWPF.

The transfers from Tank 18F to Tank 7F to be processed at DWPF as part of SB3 have been completed. The sludge materials in Tank 18F contain part of a mound of zeolitic material transferred there from Tank 19F. This mound was physically broken up and transfers were made from Tank 19F to Tank 18F to Tank 7F for vitrification into SB3.

As early as 1979 (prior to the implementation of the Product Composition Control System in DWPF), it was recognized² that the concentration of zeolite in the sludge feed to the DWPF must be limited in order to avoid glass processing problems: high viscosity due to the Al₂O₃ content of the zeolite could impact melt rate and pouring. A limit of 20 wt% zeolite in a given glass melt was proposed which converts to ≤0.28 lb of zeolite per gallon of sludge. Prior to processing SB3 in the DWPF, SRTC was requested to perform an assessment of the potential impacts of the zeolitic material on SB3 processing and glass product quality. This evaluation entailed the following:

- identification of the mound material as degraded (aged) IE-95 zeolite used in cesium recovery columns (CRCs) to remove cesium from the overheads of the SRS Evaporators in F-Area
- identification of the zeolite aging mechanism and impacts on sludge composition and sludge washing
- zeolite density and moisture content
- zeolite particle size distribution and potential impacts on the DWPF Hydragard[®] sludge sampling system and sample representativeness for DWPF process control
- comparison of composition impacts on blending scenarios using three baseline frits for which similar calculations were available, e.g. frits 320, 165 and 200
- anion content of the zeolite in the mound to determine what anions the converted zeolite contains and any impacts on DWPF processing or glass quality

The nominal sludge compositions and same three existing frits were used as the basis for the composition assessments in this study as used in the earlier projections for SB3 made by Peeler, Bibler, and Edwards.³ The impact of zeolite on SB3 was not considered during the earlier projections because the amount of zeolite that could be potentially transferred into SB3 was not available in the Waste Characterization System (WCS). A comparison of the impacts of zeolite with the earlier study, therefore, allows a consistent comparison to be made regarding the potential impact of zeolite on glass processing and waste loading. In both studies it was assumed that the individual sludge scenarios are essentially “compositional centroids” representing an average blend. The blending calculations assume that individual streams will be evenly distributed or uniformly blended resulting in a “constant” feed to the melter (once frit additions are made). Calculations were based on weighed mass averages.

This report documents SRTC’s assessment of the potential impacts of the zeolite material in Tank 19F on processing SB3.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Tank 19F

Tank 19F is a 1.3 million gallon capacity Type IV waste tank; a flat-bottomed cylindrical carbon steel tank about 85 feet in diameter with a domed roof. The walls are roughly 35 feet high with the center height about 45 feet. There are no cooling coils or supports inside the tank. The Westinghouse Savannah River Company (WSRC) is scheduled to close Tank 19F.⁴

Tank 19F was commissioned in 1961 and initially received a small amount of low heat waste from Tank 17F. It then served as an evaporator concentrate (saltcake) receiver from February 1962 to September 1976. Tank 19F also received the spent ion exchange media from a cesium removal column (CRCs) that once operated in the northeast riser of

the tank to remove cesium from the evaporator overheads.⁵ When the CRC ion exchange material needed to be replaced, the spent material was dropped into Tank 19F. A similar CRC also processed liquid waste from the receiving basin for off-site fuel (RBOF) and the resin regeneration facility (RRF) in H-Area. This spent ion exchange media was dropped into Tank 24H.

The filter material used in the F-Area CRCs prior to 1963 was a precipitated gel-type sodium aluminosilicate cation exchanger⁶ known as Decalso (Ionac C-103). After 1963, Linde AW-500 zeolite (subsequently renamed Ion-Exchange-95 and known as IE-95) was used in both F and H-Area CRCs. Six batches, 1950 lbs., of Decalso were discharged to Tank 19F while 54,600 lbs. of Linde AW500 were discharged to Tank 19F as of August 1979⁵ (about a year before deinventory of Tank 19F began). Similarly, 197,275 lbs. of Linde AW500 were discharged to Tank 24H.

2.2 Tank 19F Transfers to Tank 18F

From July 1980 to July 1981, greater than one million gallons of radioactive waste salt were deinventoried from Tank 19F using mechanical agitation consisting of two 1200-gpm long-shafted jet mixer pumps located in the east and west risers. This method involved adding inhibited water to the tank and stirring the contents with the long-shafted pumps. The resulting salt solution was sent to Tank 18F. Four batch transfers were conducted to remove the salt inventory in Tank 19F. About 98% of the salt and 86% of the radionuclides were removed. Greater than 2,300,000 gallons of water were added to process the four batches.⁷

At the completion of the salt removal campaign, approximately 33,000 gallons of solids remained in an hourglass-shaped formation (running north to south) on the tank bottom. The solids heel composition was estimated to be 13,000 gallons (40%) of spent zeolite resin, 7,000 gallons (20%) of metal oxides/hydroxides (standard sludge), and 13,000 gallons (40%) of solid salts.^{7,8} Most likely, very little zeolite was transferred to Tank 18F during the salt removal campaign. Since the primary purpose of the campaign was to remove salt, agitating the entire tank was not a priority.

A second, more aggressive, waste removal campaign ensued from September 2000 to June 2001. Multiple Flygt mixer orientations and schemes based on testing and experience in Tank 19F were used to provide the maximum removal of the Tank 19F solids, including zeolite. This reduced the solid heel volume from 33,000 gallons to approximately 15,000 gallons.^{9,10} This means that ~18,000 gallons of the heel could have been transferred forward to Tank 18F and ultimately to SB3.

Three grab samples of the residual mound material in Tank 19F have been analyzed (1986, 1996, and 2000). The materials composing the grab samples were gathered from the top several inches of the heel. The grab sample taken in 2000 (FTF-024) was a crusty material blocking installation of a transfer pump and thought to be non-representative of the radionuclides in the tank. The analytical results of the grab samples suggest a primary composition of sodium aluminosilicate minerals and sludge.^{7, 11, 12} Two additional grab samples (FTF-075 and FTF-077) and a core sample (FTF-118) were taken from Tank

19F in September 2001 and analyzed.¹³ A summary and comparison of the analyses from these studies is given in Table I.

The Tank 19F mound material was found to be composed primarily of sludge (traces of $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$ were identified in sample FTF-024) and a nitrated aluminosilicate mineral, $\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$. The aluminosilicate mineral phase was assumed to be an aged or converted analogue of the original zeolite ion exchange media.¹⁴ Based on the wt% silica analyzed in the 1996 Tank 19F solids sample (Table I) and the composition of the aged ion exchange media, it was estimated that the Tank 19F solids were ~50 wt% zeolite. Based on the 1986 sample analysis the wt% zeolite in the solids were estimated as 57 wt% zeolite while the 2000 sample (FTF-024) suggests that the zeolite in the solids can be as high as ~80%.¹² Using the average of the Si analyses shown in Table I, d'Entremont and Thomas projected that 61.8% of the Tank 19F solids were zeolite (see Table III). The d'Entremont and Thomas average excluded the results from the 2000 FTF-024 sample claiming that this sample was non-representative of most of the Tank 19F solids since the tank had not been slurried at the time the 2000 sample had been taken, and pictures of the mound from which the sample was obtained indicated it was composed of slabs of hard, crusty material that did not resemble the other solids in the tank. However, based on the low water content of this sample as measured in this study (Section 5.3) for FTF-024 in Table I, FTF-024 appears to be a more aged or more dehydrated sample of zeolite than the FTF-075, FTF-077, and FTF-118 samples. The d'Entremont and Thomas⁴ average composition also does not include the data from the 1986 analysis because the chemical analyses performed were incomplete, the sample had been washed, and the soluble and insoluble portions of the sample had been analyzed separately. Probably the most representative value of the mound contents is the analysis of the 2001 core sample which suggests that 67% of the solids are spent zeolite.

d'Entremont and Thomas⁴ also estimated the amount of Purex Low Heat Waste in the Tank 19F solids based on the fact that the Purex waste contains about 24 wt% iron¹¹ and is the only source of iron in the Tank 19F solids. Thus, it can be assumed that most of the iron in the solids came from the Purex Low Heat Waste. The remainder is assumed to be coating waste which contains no signature element. Coating waste was produced when the aluminum coating on the target assemblies was dissolved away using sodium hydroxide; the waste is largely aluminum hydroxide. Aluminum is also a component of the Purex Low Heat Waste and zeolite.

Assuming the zeolite can be represented by nitrated sodalite with a chemical formula of $\text{Na}_8(\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24})(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$, the compositions of the major chemical constituents remaining in Tank 19F, Purex Low Heat Waste, and hydrated sodalite are given in Table II from the d'Entremont and Thomas reference.⁴ The contribution of each of the species to the 15,000 gallons of Tank 19F solids remaining in Tank 19F are given in Table III from the d'Entremont and Thomas reference.⁴ If the 18,000 gallons transferred out of the 33,000 gallons remaining in Tank 19F after the salt removal campaign was 40% spent zeolite resin, 40% salt solids, and 20% sludge as indicated in references 7 and 8, then 13,200 gallons (105,864 lbs. or 48,120 kgs. at $\rho_{\text{meas}} = 8.02 \text{ lbs/gal}^{15}$) of zeolite mound could have been transferred to Tank 18F from Tank 19F. However, d'Entremont and Thomas⁴ indicate that 9,267 gallons of the 15,000 gallons remaining in Tank 19F is

zeolite (Table III) which indicates that the sludge and salt solids got transferred to Tank 18F preferentially and only 3933 gallons (31,542 lbs. or 14,338 kgs. at $\rho_{\text{meas}} = 8.02$ lbs/gal) of zeolite solids got transferred from Tank 19F to Tank 18F.

Table I Chemical Analyses in Element Wt% for Tank 19F Solids dried at 105-115°C

Element	No. 1 Bulk Solids Aug-86⁷	No. 2 Bulk Solids Aug-96¹¹	No. 3 Crusty Solids Dec-00¹² (FTF-024)	No.4 Bulk Solids Sept-01 (FTF-075)	No. 5 Bulk Solids Sept-01 (FTF-077)	No. 6 Cored Solids Dec-01 (FTF-118)	Average⁴ Excluding Cases 1 & 3
	(wt. %)	(wt. %)	(wt. %)	(wt. %)	(wt. %)	(wt. %)	(wt. %)
Silver		0.02		0.006	0.006	0.02	0.01
Aluminum	22.9	14.8	15.3	14.4	13.9	12.4	13.9
Boron		0.04	0.003	0.01	≤0.004	≤0.006	0.015
Barium		0.095	0.029	0.07	0.096	0.10	0.09
Calcium		0.80	1.48	0.79	0.84	1.10	0.88
Cadmium		0.007	0.006	0.011	0.01	0.008	0.009
Cerium		0.21		<0.36	<0.39	<0.32	0.31
Cobalt		0.003	0.01	0.006	0.007	0.011	0.008
Chromium		0.03	0.026	0.039	0.032	0.035	0.034
Copper		0.009	0.003	<0.004	<0.004	0.005	0.0057
Iron	1.66	2.85	1.46	1.64	1.90	2.20	2.15
Lanthanum		0.03	0.03	<0.01	<0.01	0.024	0.018
Lithium		0.008	0.005	0.004	0.004	≤0.003	0.005
Magnesium		0.024	0.41	0.24	0.26	0.26	0.25
Manganese	0.32	0.14	0.06	0.14	0.145	0.123	0.137
Molybdenum		0.003	0.007	≤0.01	≤0.009	≤0.009	0.008
Sodium		15.7		17.4	17.0	16.1	16.5
Nickel		0.01	0.017	0.016	0.015	0.012	0.013
Phosphorus		0.05	0.035	<0.042	≤0.044	0.037	0.043
Lead		0.05	0.27	≤0.05	≤0.05	0.05	0.05
Silicon	8.82	7.74	12.3	9.91	10.00	10.4	9.51
Tin		0.01	0.27	<0.025	≤0.02	≤0.024	0.02
Strontium		0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Titanium		0.05	0.095	0.047	0.06	0.064	0.055
Vanadium		0.007	0.006	0.007	0.007	0.013	0.008
Zinc		0.009	0.006	≤0.006	≤0.005	0.008	0.007
Zirconium		0.008		0.013	0.019	0.017	0.014
Mercury	0.067	0.004		0.005	0.004	<0.01	0.006
Potassium				0.014	0.011	<0.01	0.011
Water by weight loss on drying	19.0	25.0	4.3*	34.7	32.8	23.3	28.9**

* calculated from Equation 3 in this study

** calculated from data in this table, value not given in reference 4

Table II Major Waste Species in Tank 19F⁴

Element	Tank 19F Samples	Purex LHW	Hydrated sodalite
	(wt%)	(wt%)	(wt%)
Al	13.9	4.7	14.8
Fe	2.1	24.3	0.0
Na	16.5	3.8	16.8
Si	9.5	0.9	15.4
	42.1	33.6	47.0

Table III Constituents Remaining as Solids in Tank 19F⁴

Constituent	Average Estimated wt%	Quantity Remaining in Tank 19F (gal)	Based on:
Zeolite (hydrated sodalite)	61.8	9,267	Si
Purex Low Heat Waste	8.8	1,324	Fe
Other (primarily coating waste)	29.4	4,410	Balance
Totals	100.00	15,000	

2.3 Zeolite Mineralogy

As early as 1979, the IE-95 (AW-500) zeolite used in the SRS CRC's was known to be primarily the mineral chabazite (a zeolite) mixed with a clay binder (20-25 wt%); the species had been co-fired at 650°C resulting in 20-50 mesh resin particles.² The IE-95 was analyzed in 1988¹⁶ and found to be a mixture of ~30 mol% erionite, ~50 mol% chabazite, and ~20 mol% clay (see Figure 1), where each component had the following nominal composition:

Erionite (PDF #22-854)^f: $(K_{2.4}Na_{3.9}Ca_{0.3}Mg_{0.8})[(Al_{7.1}Fe_{0.5})Si_{28.1}O_{72}] \cdot 23H_2O$

Chabazite (PDF #34-137): $(Na_{1.0}Ca_{1.5})[Al_4Si_8O_{24}] \cdot 12H_2O$

Clay: $Mg_{0.85}Al_{0.50}Fe_{1.7}Si_{14}O_{32} \cdot 4H_2O$

In 1980, Fowler and Wallace⁵ examined the zeolite in Tank 24H and determined by x-ray diffraction (XRD) analysis that the IE-95 chabazite mineral phase had converted to natrodavyne ($Na_6[Al_6Si_6O_{24}](Na_2CO_3)$) and that some of the 20-50 mesh particles had been broken down to finely divided solids. Natrodavyne is in the hexagonal structured cancrinite family of minerals. In 1996, Hay¹⁴ examined the zeolite in Tank 19F and determined by XRD analysis that the IE-95 had converted to nitrated sodalite/cancrinite ($Na_8[Al_6Si_6O_{24}](NO_3)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$). Lastly, in 2001 Swingle¹² determined that the IE-95 had converted to a mixture of hexagonal hydroxy-cancrinite ($Na_6[Al_6Si_6O_{24}](2NaOH) \cdot 4H_2O$) and cubic nitrated sodalite ($Na_6[Al_6Si_6O_{24}](2NaNO_3)$) as shown in Figure 2.

While the use of the varying mineral names is confusing, it is important to note that sodalite and cancrinite family of minerals are structurally related and that natrodavyne is a mineral in the cancrinite family. All sodalite and cancrinite minerals share a common cage like aluminosilicate structure (Figure 3) indicated by the square brackets in each formula, e.g. $[Al_6Si_6O_{24}]$ indicating a cage made up of silica and alumina tetrahedra. The sodalites have a cubic structure while the cancrinites have a hexagonal structure. Crystallographically, cubic and hexagonal (including rhombohedral) structures share common densely packed planes as shown in Figure 4 which makes the XRD identification of the unique species difficult because the Bragg reflections (peaks) in the spectra often overlap.

^f PDF = Powder Diffraction File #

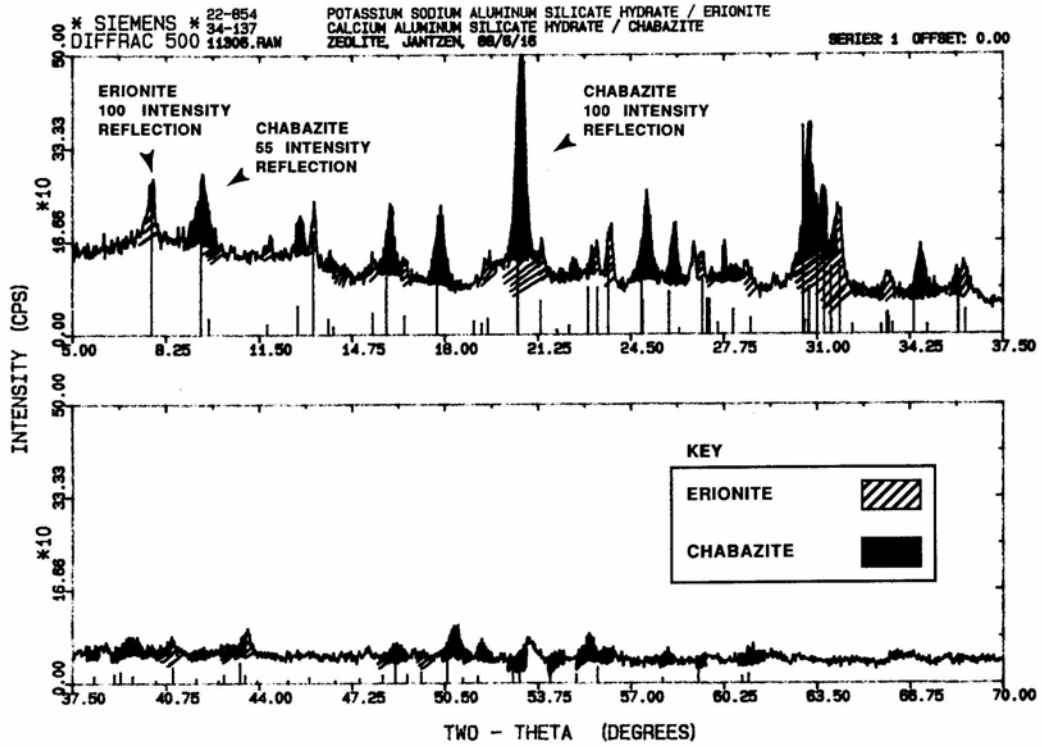


Figure 1 X-ray Diffraction analysis of IE-95 performed in 1988.¹⁶

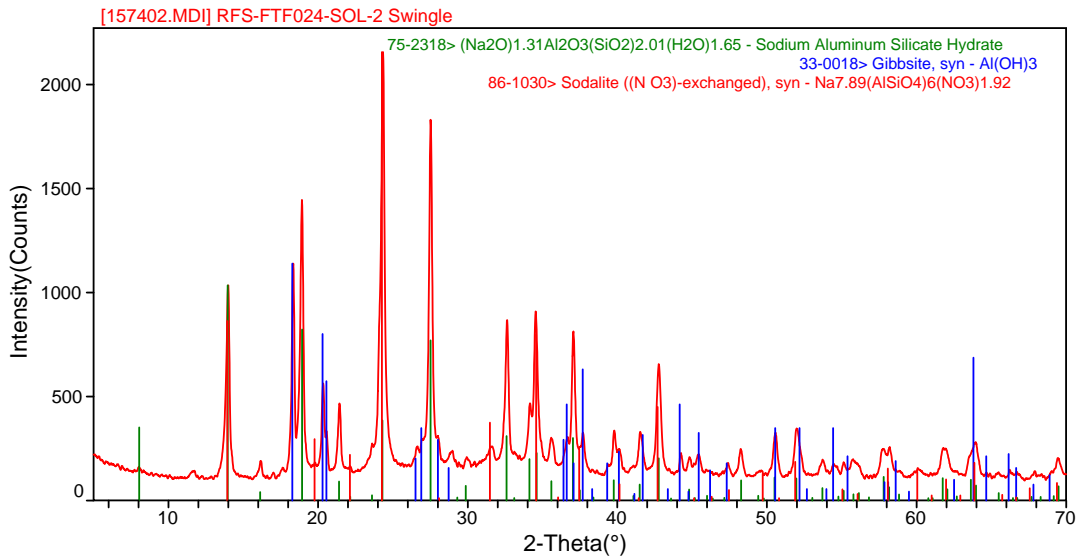


Figure 2. Analysis of converted IE-95 from Tank 19F.¹²

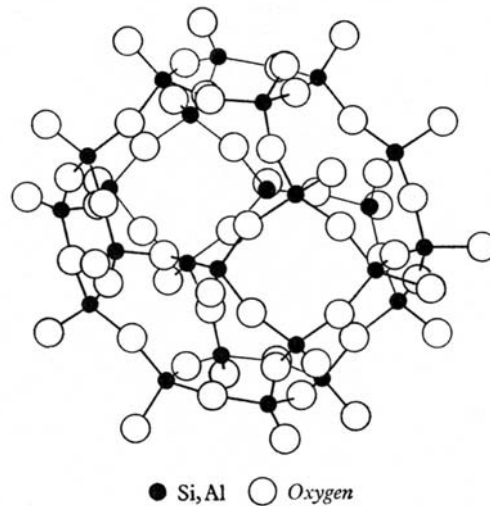


Figure 3. Part of the aluminosilicate framework in the structure of sodalite.¹⁷

The nomenclature within the cubic sodalite and hexagonal cancrinite mineral families is based on the sodium salt that occupies the cavities in each framework.¹⁷ Thus the formula for sodalite found in nature can be written as $\text{Na}_6[\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}] \cdot (2\text{NaCl})$ to indicate that two NaCl are in the cavities of the cage structure while the remaining Na:Si:Al have a 1:1:1 stoichiometry.¹⁷ Substitution of Na_2SO_4 , Na_2CO_3 , NaNO_3 , and/or NaOH into the cage like structure gives the mineral nomenclature in Table IV. Thus the analyses of Fowler and Wallace,⁵ Hay,¹⁴ and Swingle¹² are all in basic agreement, e.g. chabazite has transformed into a sodalite/cancrinite cage-like structure with substitution of a combination of Na_2CO_3 and NaNO_3 in the cage.

3.0 EXPERIMENTAL

The composition of Decalso was analyzed by LiBO_2 fusion with an HNO_3/HCl uptake (Procedure L28 1.8) followed by Inductively Coupled Plasma Emission Spectroscopy (ICP-ES). The ICP-ES was performed by the SRTC Mobile Laboratory (ML) for the major cation constituents, Na, Ca, Al, and Si. The sample was run in duplicate using Waste Compliance Plan (WCP) glass Batch 1 as a standard. The phase composition of the Decalso was analyzed by SRTC Analytic Development Section (ADS) by XRD.

The water content of the Decalso was measured at 105°C and at the elevated temperatures of 300°C, 600°C, and 900°C. The water content of sample FTF-024 was measured at 300°C, 600°C, and 900°C in the SRTC Shielded Cell Facility (SCF). The Tank 19F sample was not washed before analysis.

Table IV. Structurally Related Sodalite and Cancrinite Mineral Phases

Substitution In Cage Structure	Chemical Formula	Common or Mineral Name	Density (g/cm ³)	Crystal Type	Ref.
Sodalite Group					
2NaCl	Na ₆ [Al ₆ Si ₆ O ₂₄](2NaCl)	Sodalite	2.31*	Cubic*	17
2NaOH	Na ₆ [Al ₆ Si ₆ O ₂₄](2NaOH)•1.5H ₂ O	Basic Sodalite or Hydroxysodalite	2.215**	Cubic**	18
2NaNO ₃	Na ₆ [Al ₆ Si ₆ O ₂₄](2NaNO ₃)	Nitrated Sodalite	2.342	Cubic	PDF#50-0248
Na ₂ SO ₄	Na ₆ [Al ₆ Si ₆ O ₂₄](Na ₂ SO ₄)	Nosean	2.21	Cubic	PDF #17-538
xNaOH + y H ₂ O	Na ₆ [Al ₆ Si ₆ O ₂₄](xNaOH)•yH ₂ O	Basic Nosean			18
1-2(Ca,Na)SO ₄	(Na) ₆ [Al ₆ Si ₆ O ₂₄][(Ca,Na)SO ₄] ₁₋₂	Hauyne	2.4	Cubic	PDF #20-1087
x(Ca,Na)(S,SO ₄ ,Cl)	(Ca,Na) ₆ [Al ₆ Si ₆ O ₂₄][(Ca,Na)S,SO ₄ ,Cl] _x	Lazurite	2.43	Cubic	PDF #17-749
Cancrinite Group					
2NaNO ₃	Na ₆ [Al ₆ Si ₆ O ₂₄](2NaNO ₃)•4H ₂ O	Nitrated Cancrinite	2.51	Hexagonal	PDF #38-513
(Na,Ca,K) ₂ CO ₃	(Na,Ca,K) ₆ [Al ₆ Si ₆ O ₂₄][(Na,Ca,K) ₂ CO ₃] _{1.6} •2.1H ₂ O	Cancrinite	2.60	Hexagonal	PDF #25-776
2(Na, K)Cl	(Na,Ca,K) ₆ [Al ₆ Si ₆ O ₂₄](2(Na,K)Cl) ₂₋₃	Microsommite	2.34	Hexagonal	PDF #20-743
(Na, K)Cl and (Na,K)SO ₄	(Na,Ca,K) ₆ [Al ₆ Si ₆ O ₂₄][(Na,K) ₂ SO ₄ ,Cl] ₃	Davyne	2.46	Hexagonal	PDF #20-379
Na ₂ CO ₃	Na ₆ [Al ₆ Si ₆ O ₂₄](Na ₂ CO ₃)	Natrodavynne	Not given	Hexagonal	PDF #15-794

* PDF # 20-495 ‡ PDF #11-0590 and #38-241

** PDF #11-401

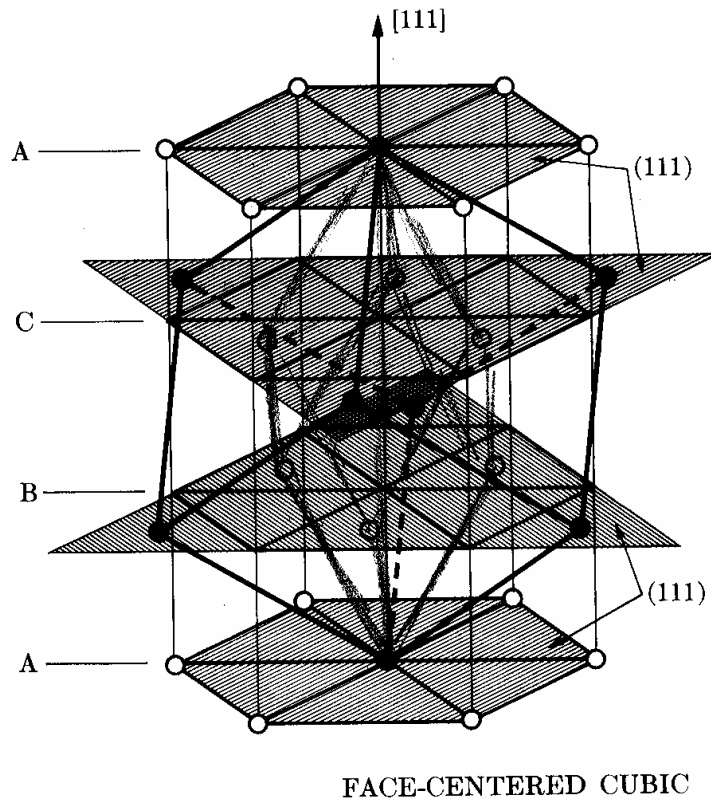


Figure 4. Relationship between the atomic lattices of hexagonal, rhombohedral, and cubic crystal lattices of the sodalite/cancrinite minerals (from Reference 19).

The anion content of the Tank 19F grab sample was also measured by SRTC-ADS by Ion Chromatography (IC) for formate, fluoride, chloride, nitrate, sulfate, oxalate, phosphate, and nitrite.

The bulk density of unreacted IE-95 was measured in this study in a graduated cylinder and 10cc of the zeolite then weighed. The mineral density, exclusive of void volume, of the IE-95 was measured in duplicate by air pycnometry. In a separate study,¹⁵ the density of moist mound unreacted IE-95 was remeasured and compared to the density of the Tank 19F solids (FTF-075 (grab sample), FTF-077 (grab sample), and FTF-118 (core sample), that were measured using calibrated graduated centrifuge tubes.

The particle size of the Decalso and unreacted IE-95 was measured by SRTC ADS with a Microtrac-SRA 150 particle size analyzer. If the particle size exceeded the upper limit of the Microtrac which was 704 μm , then the particle size was measured using a set of nested sieves ranging from 0.25" to 0.0278" (707 μm) so that the sieve measurement and the particle size analyzer ranges overlapped. The weight percent of the IE-95 was converted to volume % by using the mineral phase density measured by air pycnometry.

The particle size of the Tank 19F crusty sample was measured with the same Microtrac-SRA 150 particle size analyzer in a radioactive hood in SRTC. The radioactive particle size analysis was performed three times and the results were averaged.

Conversion of the IE-95 in the presence of high caustic was determined by placing 5 grams of unreacted IE-95 into 30 mL of 5M and 10M NaOH at 90°C for varying amounts of time, e.g. 2 day, 5 day, 7 day, 14 day, 21 day, and 28 day. In addition, 5 grams of Decalso was subjected to 10M NaOH for 2 days at 90°C while 5 grams of IE-95 was subjected to 10M CsOH at 90°C for 7 days. Half of the samples were washed with deionized water and half were left unwashed. The washed and unwashed samples were dried at 90°C overnight. Each of the reaction products, washed and unwashed, was analyzed by XRD.

4.0 QUALITY ASSURANCE

All analyses were conducted by ADS and the SRTC ML according to their routine operating and quality assurance procedures. All sample preparation work was conducted by Shielded Cells Operations personnel, according to written instructions provided by Waste Processing Technology personnel.

5.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

5.1 Tank 19F Solids

The analyses of the Tank 19F solids are summarized from previous works in Table I. Anion analyses were not reported in Table I because none had previously been measured. The Tank 19F crusty grab sample (FTF-024) was measured by IC for the various anions shown in Table V. The only anion of consequence is nitrate which is present at 8.6 wt% indicating that the major anion in the converted zeolite is NO_3^- . This confirms the identification of the nitrated sodalites/cancrinites and indicates that no nitrite is substituting into the cage structure of the converted ion exchange media.

The FTF-024 sample had been dried to a constant weight at 115°C before analyses were completed. While this drives off free and adsorbed water it does not drive off the anions or structural OH or H_2O molecules. Therefore, a mass balance calculation was performed on the chemical analyses in Table I by assuming that each had approximately the same amount of nitrate as FTF-024 (Table V). This mass balance demonstrates (Table VI) that excess $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$ is present in most samples as evidenced in the x-ray diffraction analysis of FTF-024 (see Figure 2). Since the sample had not been washed of adherent soluble solids and sludge, the mass balance demonstrates that excess NO_3^- exists over the amount attributed to the sodalite phase in the form of NaNO_3 .

The weight loss as a function of temperature was measured for the Tank 19F grab sample at 300°C, 600°C, and 900°C and the values are given in Table VII. Since the sample had not been washed before the weight loss was determined, part of the weight loss could be from adherent sludge and soluble solids.

Lastly, the Tank 19F crusty grab sample was analyzed for particle size using a Microtrac particle size analyzer in the SRTC SCF. The average particle size distributions from three consecutive measurements taken in the SCF on the same sample are given in Table VIII. It should be noted that the maximum particle size is about 700 μm which is the maximum value the particle size analyzer in the SCF could measure. The largest volume percent is about 500 μm.

Table V Anion Analysis of Tank 19F Solids

Anion	Tank 19F Solids ADS300161741 FTF=024
	(wt%)
COOH ⁻	<1.0
F ⁻	<0.2
Cl ⁻	<0.2
NO ₃ ⁻	8.6
SO ₄ ⁼	<0.05
C ₂ O ₄ ⁻	<0.1
PO ₄	<0.1
NO ₂ ⁻	<1.0

Table VI Mass Balance of Chemical Data from Table I and Table V

Species	No. 1 Bulk Solids Aug-86 ⁷	No. 2 Bulk Solids Aug-96 ¹¹	No. 3 Crusty Solids Dec-00 ¹² (FTF-024)	No.4 Bulk Solids Sept-01 (FTF- 075)	No. 5 Bulk Solids Sept-01 (FTF- 077)	No. 6 Cored Solids Dec-01 (FTF-118)	Average Excluding No.1 &2 From Ref.4
	(wt %)	(wt %)	(wt %)	(wt %)	(wt %)	(wt %)	(wt %)
Fe(OH) ₃	3.18	5.45	2.79	3.14	3.64	4.21	4.11
Al(OH) ₃	62.12*	39.21	38.54	37.04	35.56	31.04	35.78
NaNO ₃	2.89	3.98	0.00	1.79	1.70	1.30	2.20
Sodalite	57.28	50.27	79.88**	64.36	64.94	67.54	61.76
SUM	125.47	98.90	121.21	106.33	105.84	104.08	103.85

* likely a bad Al analysis when compared to remaining analyses

** likely a bad Si analysis when compared to remaining analyses

Table VII Relative weight loss of Tank 19F Sample and Various Ion Exchange Media

Temperature (°C)	Tank 19F Crusty Grab Sample	Unreacted IE-95	Decalso
105	Not Measured	Not Measured	8.35
300	6.67	Not Measured	15.40
450	Not Measured	12.50	Not Measured
600	10.20	Not Measured	17.00
900	13.90	15.50	18.09
1150	Not Measured	17.66	Not Measured

Table VIII Particle Size Analysis of Tank 19F Sample and Selected Ion Exchange Media

Size (Microns)	Vol% Tank 19F Mound	Vol% Unreacted IE-95	Vol% Unreacted Decalco
1548	Above range	0.075*	Above range
1301.5	Above range	13.59*	Above range
1094	Above range	26.76*	Above range
853	Above range	43.07*	Above range
704	17.13	9.45	13.77
497.8	26.5	3.14	46.31
352	10.92	0.65	27.34
248.9	5.17	1.05	8.90
176	2.99	0.41	2.25
124.45	1.39	0.23	1.17
88	0.45	0.16	0.26
62.23	1.39	0.13	0
44	1.77	0.13	0
31.11	3.95	0.14	0
22	4.43	0.13	0
15.56	4.13	0.15	0
11	4.20	0.17	0
7.78	3.80	0.18	0
5.5	4.26	0.18	0
3.89	1.72	0.13	0
2.75	1.83	0.07	0
1.94	1.90	0	0
1.38	1.53	0	0
0.97	0.52	0	0

* determined by sieving and converting from wt% to vol% based on a mineral density of 2.28 g/cc (see Section 5.2)

5.2 Unreacted IE-95 and Decalso Ion Exchange Media

While the composition of the IE-95 is well documented (see Table IX), no chemical analyses were available for the Decalso ion exchange media reported⁵ to have been discharged to Tank 19F. The chemical analyses performed in this study indicate that the Decalso has the chemical composition shown in Table IX. The Decalso is enriched in Al₂O₃, SiO₂ and Na₂O compared to the IE-95 but contains no Fe₂O₃, MgO, or K₂O. The wt% water loss at 105°C is 8.35 wt% (see Table VII) which is included in the chemical composition given in Table IX.

Table IX. Composition of IE-95 and Decalso Ion Exchange Media Sent to Tank 19F

Oxide	IE-95 (Jantzen ¹⁶)	Decalso Replicate A ML02-7481	Decalso Replicate B ML02-7481
	(wt%)	(wt%)	(wt%)
Al ₂ O ₃	13.7	16.93	16.98
Na ₂ O	2.7	10.50	10.46
Fe ₂ O ₃	3.3		
SiO ₂	58.3	64.17	64.16
CaO	3.8	0.05	0.05
MgO	1.1		
K ₂ O	1.2		
H ₂ O*	15.9	8.35	8.35
SUM	100	100	100

* measured at 105°C

Particle size analysis of the Decalso and IE-95 were performed and the results are tabulated in Table VIII.

The bulk density of the IE-95 zeolite was measured by weighing 10cc of IE-95 from a graduated cylinder after the contents had been lightly tamped down. A density of 0.791 g/cc was measured which converts to a density of 6.58 lbs/gal according to the following formula

$$(0.791 \text{ g/cc}) * (1 \text{ kg}/1000 \text{ g}) * (1000 \text{ cc}/1 \text{ L}) * (3.78 \text{ L}/\text{gal}) * (2.2 \text{ lbs}/\text{kg}) = 6.58 \text{ lbs}/\text{gal} .$$

The 6.58 lbs/gal bulk density measured in this study is consistent with, albeit slightly higher, than the density of 6 lbs/gal used in 1979² to convert gallons of zeolite to pounds. The 6.58 lbs/gal also agrees well with the bulk density analysis of unreacted zeolite performed by Swingle¹⁵ in calibrated centrifuge tubes, which gave a bulk density of 7.09 lbs/gal, somewhat higher than the bulk density measured in this study.

A second sample of unreacted IE-95 was measured by air pycnometry which provides the density of the mineral mixture and does not consider void volume. Duplicate measurements of the IE-95 mineral density gave a density of 2.28 g/cc. This mineral density is not converted to lbs/gal since the sample would have to be completely compacted with no void space in order for the density in lbs/gal to be meaningful. The mineral density was, however, necessary to convert the particle size analyses given in Table VIII from measured wt% of a given sieve size to vol % so that analyses performed with the Microtrac particle size analyzer could be compared to larger particle size analysis measured by sieving.

5.3 Weight Loss and Particle Size of Tank 19F Solids Compared to IE-95 and Decalso

Comparison of the composition of the Tank 19F crusty mound sample (FTF-024) given in Table I and Table V indicate that the mound is made up of a mixture of sludge and converted IE-95 ion exchange media. The presence of 8.6 wt% NO₃⁻ confirms the XRD analyses that a nitrated sodalite or nitrated cancrinite are present. If all of the Si in the mound sample is attributable to the nitrated sodalite, then as much as 60-80 wt% of the mound may be converted IE-95 resin.

A comparison of the weight loss upon drying (Table VII) at various temperatures based on the measurements for the Tank 19F mound sample and the weight loss of the unreacted ion exchange media (Decalso and IE-95) is shown in Figure 5. The weight loss of the Tank 19F mound sample is less than the weight loss of either of the starting ion exchange media before aging in tank solutions. The significance of this will be discussed in more detail in Section 6.0.

The ordinary least squares (OLS) regressions for each of the curves in Figure 5 are as follows:

$$(\text{Wt loss \%})_{\text{Decalso}} = 14.14 + 0.0045 \text{ Temp } ^\circ\text{C} \quad R^2 = 0.99 \quad [\text{Eq. 1}]$$

$$(\text{Wt loss \%})_{\text{IE-95}} = 9.15 + 0.0073 \text{ Temp } ^\circ\text{C} \quad R^2 = 0.99 \quad [\text{Eq. 2}]$$

$$(\text{Wt loss \%})_{\text{T19}} = 3.03 + 0.0121 \text{ Temp } ^\circ\text{C} \quad R^2 = 0.99 \quad [\text{Eq. 3}]$$

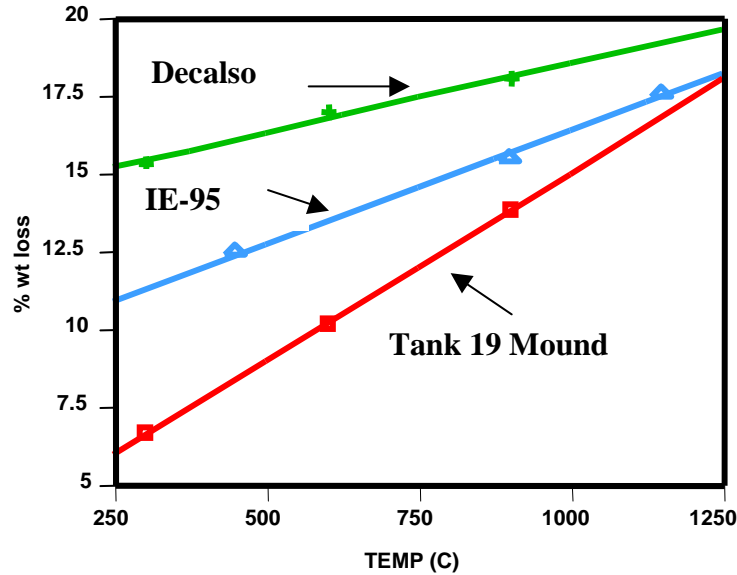


Figure 5 Comparison of the weight loss upon calcining of the Tank 19F mound sample and unreacted ion exchange media (Decalso and IE-95).

A comparison of the particle size analysis from Table VIII for the Tank 19F mound sample and the ion exchange media (Decalso and IE-95) is shown in Figure 6. The particle size ranges of both the mound material and the unreacted ion exchange media exhibit gaussian distributions. The Tank 19F mound material size distribution is skewed to lower particle sizes, e.g. exhibits a tail in the region between 0 and 100 μm . The maximum volume % of the Gaussian distribution is at $\sim 500 \mu\text{m}$. While the Decalso particle size distribution does not show the small particle size tail exhibited by the Tank 19F mound particles, the maximum volume % also occurs close to 500 μm . By comparison, the IE-95 particle size maximum volume % occurs close to 1000 μm or 1 mm as reported in Reference 2. It is noteworthy that the particle size distribution for the IE-95 has the same small particle size tail exhibited by the Tank 19F mound sample, albeit at larger particle sizes. This indicates that the Tank 19F material is indeed the IE-95 that during aging in tank solutions has uniformly converted to a mineral phase with approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ of its original size.

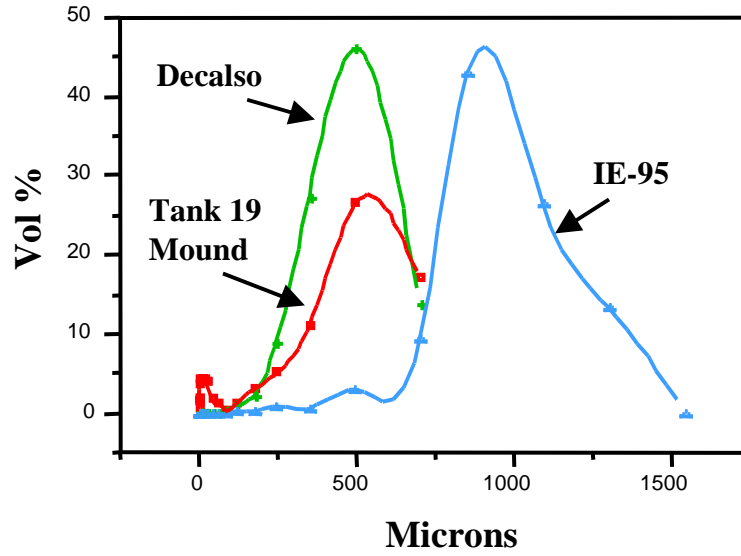


Figure 6. Comparison of the particle size of the Tank 19F mound sample and unreacted ion exchange media (Decalso and IE-95).

6.0 ZEOLITE AGING MECHANISMS

From the analysis of the Tank 19F mound sample, the chabazite, erionite, and clay in the unreacted IE-95 (Figure 1) appear to have converted to nitrated sodalite and hydroxycancrinite (Figure 2). A brief look at this transformation from a crystallographic viewpoint, as shown in Figure 7, indicates that the elongated hexagonal/rhombohedral structures of chabazite and erionite have collapsed to smaller unit cell sizes of a simpler crystallographic space groups (cubic and hexagonal). However, the 6 membered rings of (Si,Al)O₄ tetrahedra which comprise the framework of the chabazite and erionite are retained in the sodalite and cancrinite structures. In the sodalite structure some of the 6 membered (Si,Al)O₄ tetrahedral rings have collapsed to 4 membered (Si,Al)O₄ rings. In addition, the more open cage like structures of the chabazite and erionite contained crystallographic sites that could accommodate 12 to 72 waters of hydration per unit cell. The reaction product sodalite has no waters of hydration and the cancrinite has only four waters of hydration per unit cell. Concomitant with the structural rearrangement and dehydration is an increase in the density of the resulting reaction products even though they are in an aqueous solution.

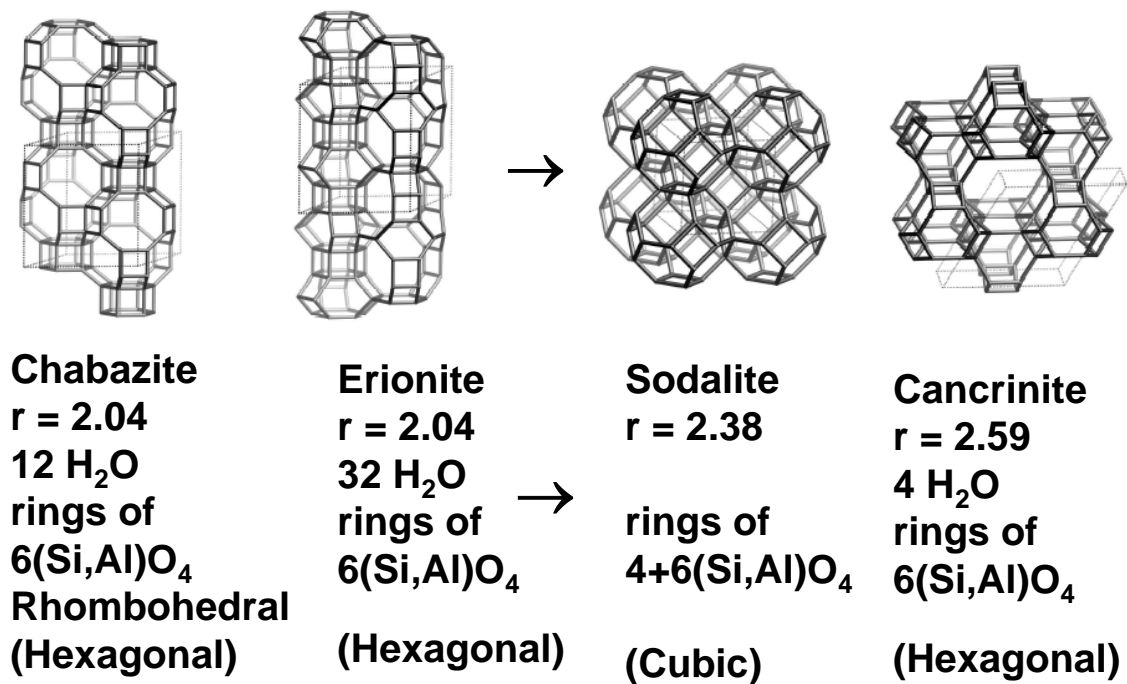
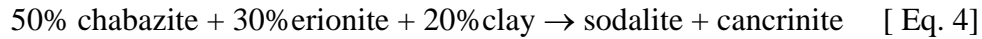


Figure 7. Structural morphology of the transformation of chabazite and erionite to sodalite and cancrinite.

The aging of zeolites to denser more stable phases by Ostwald ripening is a well known²⁰, phenomena.^f Phases age by densifying and dewatering to minerals that are more stable than their hydrous analogues. The aging of zeolites to their structurally related feldspathoid minerals, the sodalites and cancrinites, is also a well known and well-understood phenomena.^{21, 22} Ostwald's rule of successive transformation demonstrates that the products found at the longest times represent phases which are thermodynamically more stable under the synthesis conditions than their predecessors.²⁰ This is in agreement with the known fact that zeolites of the chabazite type (Al₂O₃:8SiO₂) are the stable phase in ~200% excess NaOH while the denser dewatered sodalites (Al₂O₃:2SiO₂) are the stable phase in ≥300% excess NaOH at temperatures ≤100°C.²⁰

6.1 Tank 19F Sample Verification

Verification that the dewatering/densification reaction



is the operative mechanism by which IE-95 converted to sodalite/cancrinite in SRS waste tanks can be gathered by comparing the water weight loss of the IE-95 and the Tank 19F mound material at the tank temperature of ~40°C. The reaction shown in Equation 4 indicates that the left hand side (LHS) has the following numbers of hydrated water molecules:

$$0.3 * 23 \text{ moles H}_2\text{O} + 0.5 * 12 \text{ moles H}_2\text{O} + 0.2 * 4 \text{ moles H}_2\text{O} = 13.7 \text{ H}_2\text{O} * 18 \text{g/mole} = 246 \text{ g H}_2\text{O}$$

while the right hand side (RHS) only has 1*4 moles H₂O*18g/mole=72 grams H₂O. The difference between the LHS and the RHS is 174 g H₂O/mole of IE-95 that is 71 wt% of the total water on the LHS of Equation 4. For comparison, if Equations 2 and 3 are solved at the tank temperature of 40°C, the difference in weight loss between these two equations, divided by the weight loss of the unconverted IE-95, is 63 wt%. The comparison of the theoretical water loss of 71 wt% to the experimentally determined Tank 19F mound loss of ~63 wt% is confirmatory of the proposed mechanism.

Another way in which Equation 4 can be verified is to examine a parameter known as the framework density. The framework density for silicate minerals²³ is given by

$$d_f = \frac{1000n_T}{V_{cell}} \quad [\text{Eq. 5}]$$

^f According to Ostwald's rule, in the formation of polymorphs of a given compound, the first polymorph to be formed from vapour, liquid or solution tends to be the least stable thermodynamically which is then in succession replaced by more and more stable polymorphs²⁰

where d_f = framework density, n_T = number of tetrahedral atoms in 1000 \AA^3 of the unit cell, and V_{cell} = volume of the crystallographic cell.

The calculated d_f for chabazite found in the virgin IE-95 is 4.86 while that of erionite is 15.69. The calculated framework densities for nitrated sodalite and hydroxy-cancrinite, found in the Tank 19F mound are 16.58 and 16.64 respectively. Therefore, the combined densification and dehydration reactions given in Equation 4 are operative in the aqueous SRS tank environments.

6.2 Simulant Verification

In order to examine the mechanism by which IE-95 converts from chabazite, erionite, and clay to nitrated sodalite and hydroxy-cancrinite, laboratory experiments with simulants were performed. Virgin IE-95 was placed in 5M and 10M NaOH. The IE-95 samples were placed in an oven at 90°C for varying amounts of time. Slightly elevated temperatures were used to enhance the rate of reaction although Tank 19F has reportedly⁴ seen maximum temperatures of 80°C . Samples were left in the oven for 2 day, 5 day, 7 day, 14 day, 21 day, and 28 day time durations.

After only 2 days in 10M NaOH, the virgin IE-95 had broken down into smaller platelets consistent with the particle size analyses shown in Figure 12. The reacted particles were covered with a gelatinous material which was removed during washing in deionized water (Figure 8). After 7 days in 10M NaOH, the gelatinous coating on the IE-95 has turned a milky white color (Figure 9). However, after washing this coating off the sample, what appears to be unreacted IE-95 again became apparent. Analysis by XRD before and after washing the reacted particles demonstrated that the gelatinous coating was various carbonate species such as calcite (Ca,MgCO_3), natronite (Na_2CO_3), and thermonatrite ($\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$) as shown in Table X. These phases are water soluble and are not apparent in the XRD spectra of the washed samples of IE-95. Conversely, the reaction product SiO_2 only appears in the washed samples after the gelatinous, presumably, amorphous SiO_2 is washed away (Table X).

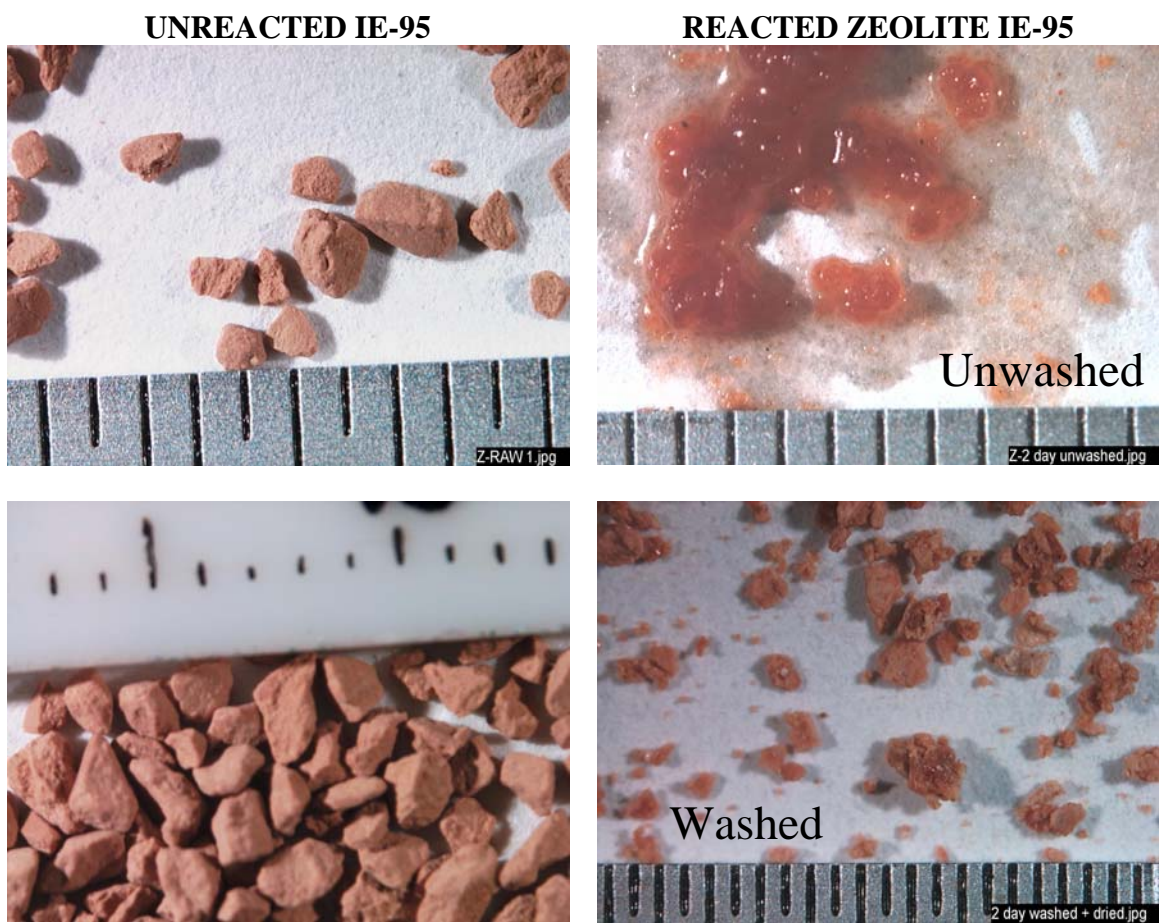


Figure 8. IE-95 before and after reaction with 10M NaOH at 90°C for 2 days. Steel ruler markings are 0.5 mm.

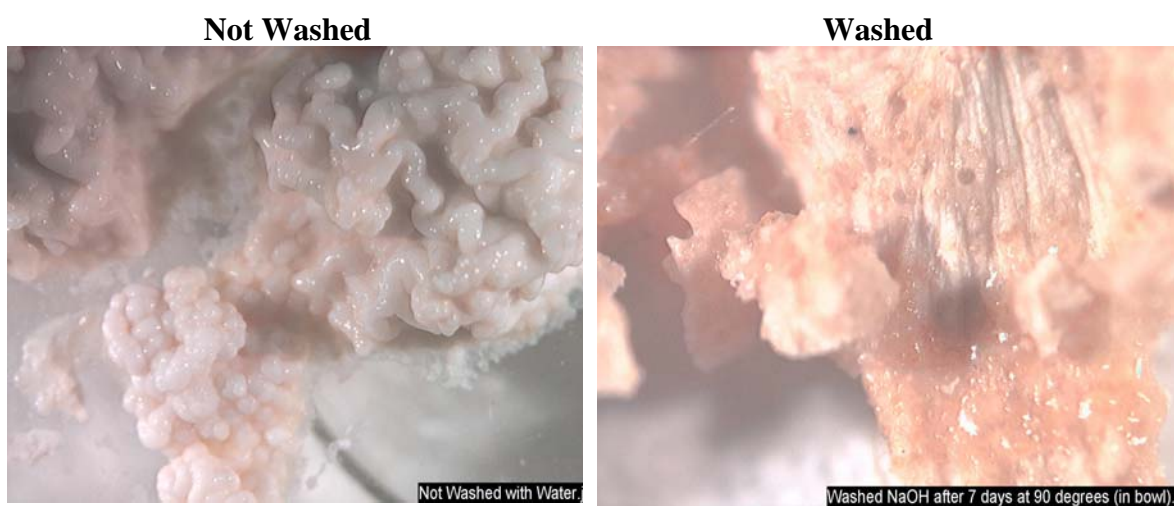


Figure 9. IE-95 after reaction with 10M NaOH at 90°C for 7 days.

Table X Conversion of IE-95 to Other Mineral Phases in the Presence of NaOH and CsOH

Time (days)	IE-95 10M NaOH Not Washed	IE-95 5M NaOH Not Washed	IE-95 10M NaOH Washed	IE-95 5M NaOH Washed	IE-95 10M CsOH Not Washed	IE-95 10M CsOH Washed
2	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 + (\text{Ca},\text{Mg})\text{CO}_3$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}\text{CO}_3 + \text{SiO}_2$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{H}_{0.88}\text{CO}_3)_{1.44}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{SiO}_2$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{H}_{0.88}\text{CO}_3)_{1.44}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{SiO}_2$	Not tested	Not tested
5	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 + (\text{Ca},\text{Mg})\text{CO}_3 + \text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 \bullet \text{H}_2\text{O}$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{H}_{0.88}\text{CO}_3)_{1.44}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{SiO}_2$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{H}_{0.88}\text{CO}_3)_{1.44}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{SiO}_2$	Not tested	Not tested
7	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + (\text{Ca},\text{Mg})\text{CO}_3 + \text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 \bullet \text{H}_2\text{O}$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}\text{CO}_3 + \text{SiO}_2$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{H}_{0.88}\text{CO}_3)_{1.44}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{SiO}_2$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{H}_{0.88}\text{CO}_3)_{1.44}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{SiO}_2$	$\text{Cs}_3\text{Ca}_{0.4}\text{Al}_{3.8}\text{Si}_{8.3}\text{O}_{24}$ (Cs Chabazite)	$\text{Cs}_3\text{Ca}_{0.4}\text{Al}_{3.8}\text{Si}_{8.3}\text{O}_{24}$ (Cs Chabazite) + $\text{CsAlSi}_2\text{O}_6$ (Pollucite)
14	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Chabazite} + \text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 + \text{Vermiculite}$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}\text{CO}_3$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{SiO}_2$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{H}_{0.88}\text{CO}_3)_{1.44}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	Not tested	Not tested
21	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 + \text{Zeolite Y} + \text{Chabazite}$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}\text{CO}_3$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{H}_{0.88}\text{CO}_3)_{1.44}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{SiO}_2$	Not tested	Not tested
28	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 + (\text{Ca},\text{Mg})\text{CO}_3$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 + \text{Zeolite Y} + \text{Chabazite}$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{SiO}_2$	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 + \text{SiO}_2 + \text{CaCO}_3$	Not tested	Not tested

PDF# 76-1639 for Sodalite, $\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$
 PDF#46-1045 for Quartz, SiO_2
 PDF # 43-0697 for Magnesian Calcite, $(\text{Ca},\text{Mg})\text{CO}_3$
 PDF#86-2226 for Chabazite, $\text{Ca}_{1.85}(\text{Al}_{3.7}\text{Si}_{8.3}\text{O}_{24})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{7.6}$
 PDF # 38-0240 for Zeolite Y, $\text{Na}_{2.06}\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_{3.8}\text{O}_{11.63} \bullet 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$
 PDF # 44-046 for Cs Chabazite $(\text{Cs}_3\text{Ca}_{0.4}\text{Al}_{3.8}\text{Si}_{8.3}\text{O}_{24})$

PDF#24-1045 for Sodalite, $\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}\text{CO}_3$
 PDF#37-0451 for Natrite, Na_2CO_3
 PDF#08-0448 for Thermonatrite, $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 \bullet \text{H}_2\text{O}$
 PDF # 16-0613 for Vermiculite, $\text{Mg}_x(\text{Mg},\text{Fe})_3(\text{Si},\text{Al})_4\text{O}_{10}(\text{OH})_2 \bullet 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$
 PDF#77-1145 for Cancrinite, $\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{H}_{0.88}\text{CO}_3)_{1.44}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$
 PDF # 38-0240 for Zeolite Y $(\text{Na}_{2.06}\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_{3.8}\text{O}_{11.63} \bullet 8\text{H}_2\text{O})$

In addition, 5 grams of IE-95 were subjected to 10M CsOH at 90°C for 7 days and 5 grams of Decalso was subjected to 10M NaOH for 2 days at 90°C. Half of the samples were washed with deionized water and half were left unwashed. The washed and unwashed samples were dried at 90°C overnight. The IE-95 reaction products were analyzed by XRD. The IE-95 in 10M CsOH converted to two cesium bearing minerals (see Table X), a Cs-substituted chabazite (the IE-95 is originally a Na, Ca chabazite) and pollucite ($\text{CsAlSi}_2\text{O}_6$). The IE-95 reacted very little in the CsOH. Each grain (washed and unwashed) had a light coating of a white reaction product (Figure 10). The Decalso reacted in 10M NaOH for only 2 days, turned gelatinous like water glass and would not dry sufficiently so that x-ray spectra could be obtained (Figure 11).



Figure 10. IE-95 reacted in 10M CsOH for 7 days. Steel ruler markings are 0.5 mm.



Figure 11. Decalso reacted in 10M NaOH for 2 days. Steel ruler markings are 0.5 mm.

7.0 ZEOLITE PARTICLE SIZE AND IMPACTS ON HYDRAGARD® SAMPLING IN DWPF

The particle size distribution for the Tank 19F zeolite material is listed in Table VIII and plotted in Figure 6. This material was transferred to Tank 18F from Tank 19F and a portion of it was recently transferred to Tank 7F and onto Tank 51H where it has become part of SB3. The average particle size of 500 μm shown in Figure 6 for the zeolite portion of the sludge indicates that there may be problems in operating the DWPF Hydragard® samplers and in obtaining a representative sample of slurries containing this material. However, sieve analyses of Tank 51H sludge after receipt from Tank 18F indicated only 0.04 wt% particulates over 38 μm .²⁴ The >38 μm particles appear to be coal (black) and not zeolite. There are several potential reasons why zeolite particles as large as 500 μm may not have been observed in the Tank 51H sludge:

- particles may have degraded in size during all the tank homogenization and transfers
- the Tank 51H sample sieved may not have been representative of the Tank 51H contents since the zeolite fraction is heavy and tends to differentially settle
- acid washing of the Tank 51H sample during sieving may have dissolved or reduced the size of the zeolite particles.

Sieve analyses of Tank 7F sludge after receipt from Tank 18F also did not indicate any particles over 106 μm ²⁵ but the same acid washing procedure was used in all the sieve analyses which may have dissolved or degraded the zeolite particles.

Comparison of undegraded zeolite from Tank 19F to work conducted over the past several years evaluating the impact on the DWPF from implementing ion exchange using Crystalline Silicotitanate (CST) to remove cesium from the aqueous fraction of high level waste is shown in Figure 12. The spent CST resin would have been blended with sludge and glass formers (frit) in the DWPF. As part of this process, the slurry must be representatively sampled and the contents analyzed to ensure that acceptable glass product will be produced. Tests were conducted to assess the performance of the DWPF sampling system in the presence of CST particles which have a size distribution similar to that of the Tank 19F zeolite. These tests demonstrated that the CST particles could not be accurately sampled without size reduction.

The DWPF melter feed is sampled using a Hydragard® sampling valve, which directs a stream of slurry into a 15 ml “peanut” vial. The slurry is pumped out of the process tank and returned to the tank through a recirculation loop. The Hydragard® valve draws a side stream from this recirculation flow and directs the stream through the sampling valve. The stream flows through the sample vial and overflows into the recycle collection tank. After a preset time, usually 40 seconds, the Hydragard® valve is closed and a sample of the slurry trapped in the vial. Chemical analyses of these samples form the basis for glass quality assurance. Significant errors in the composition measurement may result in producing unacceptable glass product.

The Hydragard[®] sampling system was designed to handle slurries of frit and sludge. Frit particles are in the size range of 80 to 200 mesh (177 – 74 μm) while sludge particles are typically in the particle size range of 1 – 5 microns or smaller. Testing during DWPF startup²⁶ verified that the recirculation loop and Hydragard[®] sampler worked satisfactorily for slurries with this particle size distribution. However, to obtain a workable pressure drop across the ion exchange column, the CST was engineered into a particle approximately 500 – 700 μm in diameter. Initial testing²⁷ using a mock-up of the DWPF Hydragard[®] sampling system with a melter feed of sludge simulant, frit, and approximately 10 wt% CST revealed that the Hydragard[®] sampler rapidly plugged because of the presence of the larger CST particles. As a result of these tests, it was evident that the particle size of spent CST resin must be reduced before blending with the DWPF sludge stream. As an initial estimate of the required particle size, it was decided that CST be size-reduced such that the maximum particle size is less than the largest frit particle which would likely provide both mixing and sampling properties adequate for processing in the DWPF. The testing was repeated with CST particles that were size reduced to a maximum size less than 177 μm with satisfactory results.²⁸

The particle size distribution of the Tank 19F mound material is compared to that of CST in Figure 12. Both distributions have an average particle size of about 500 microns and a significant fraction of the particles are greater than 177 microns in size. Figure 13 plots the cumulative distribution of particles for both materials. Because of the significant tail at smaller particle size, approximately 37% of the Tank19F material is less than 177 microns in size and could be accurately sampled with the DWPF Hydragard[®] system. However, the remaining 63% of the material would not be reliably sampled which could lead to some error in the estimation of the melter feed composition. With CST, sufficient size reduction did not occur during the DWPF process to allow use of as-received CST as DWPF feed material.²⁸ The CST required mechanical size reduction to produce a feed material that could be representatively sampled by the DWPF Hydragard[®] system.

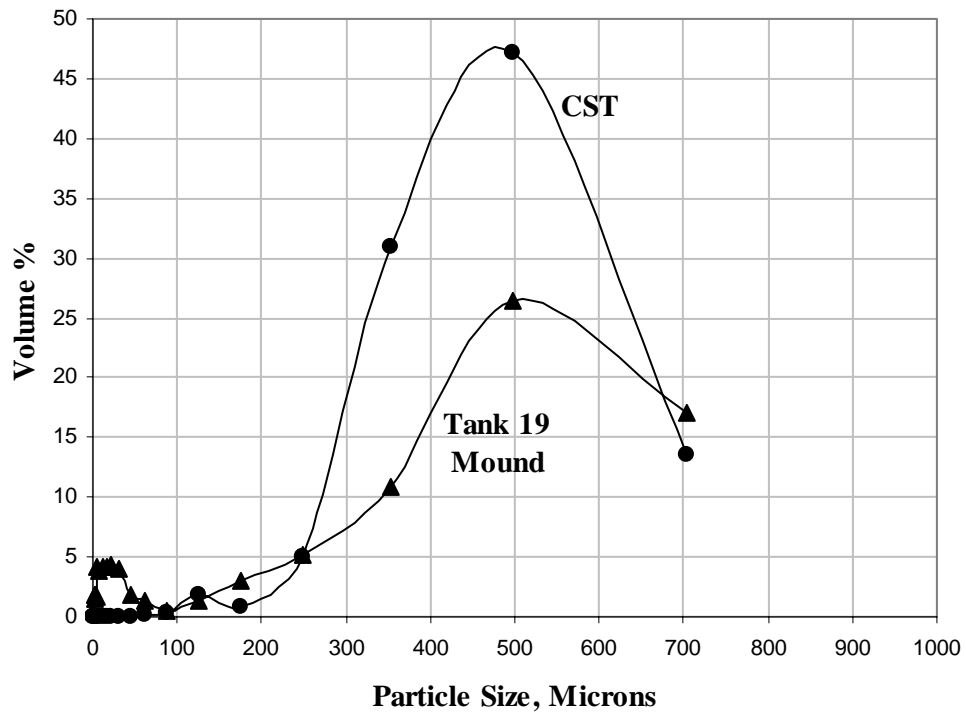


Figure 12. Particle size distributions of Tank19F mound material and CST.

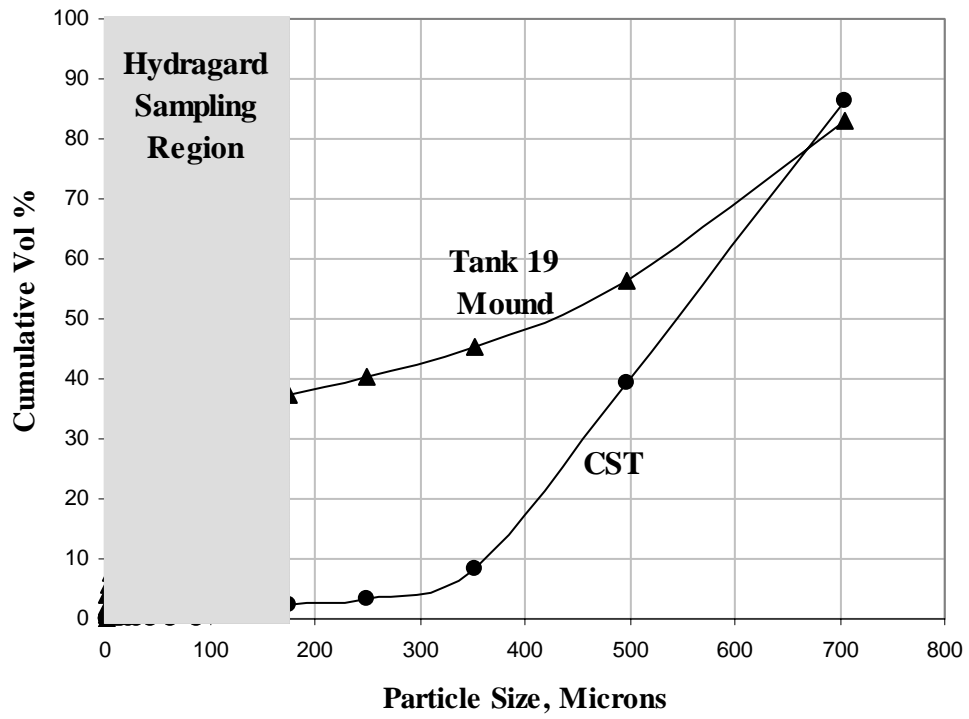
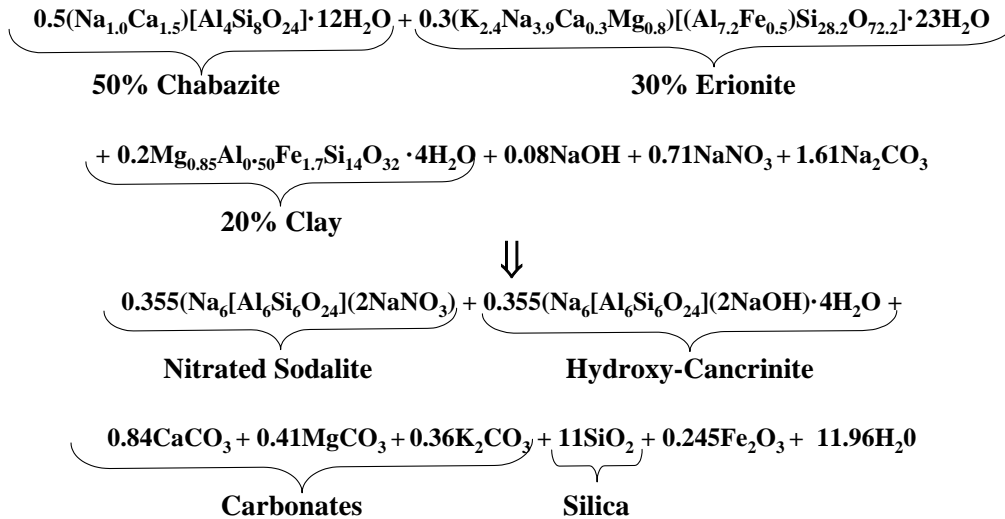


Figure 13. Cumulative particle size distributions of Tank19F mound material and CST.

8.0 ZEOLITE AGING MECHANISM AND IMPACTS ON SLUDGE WASHING

The composition of the IE-95 is known¹⁶ to be ~50% chabazite, 30% erionite, and 20% clay binder of the compositions given in the equation below:



The composition of the converted zeolite is known from the x-ray identification of each phase from Tank 19F as shown in Section 6.1 and Figure 2. The composition of the other conversion products, the carbonates and silica, are known from the comparison of the washed and unwashed simulated samples of IE-95 subjected to 5M and 10M NaOH (Section 6.2 and Table X). Based on the known starting materials and the known reaction products the equation for IE-95 conversion to nitrated sodalite and hydroxy-cancrinite, carbonates, and silica is as shown above assuming a 50:50 mixture of the nitrated sodalite and hydroxy-cancrinite in the Tank 19F mound material. This means that for every mole of IE-95 converted, 11 moles of SiO₂ are liberated. From the microscopic examination of the converted zeolite (Figure 9) and the lack of any x-ray diffraction reflections for SiO₂ in the Tank 19F sample (Figure 2) this SiO₂ may be amorphous even though the x-ray diffraction spectra of the simulants (Table X) indicate that it is partially crystalline. All of the Decalso is considered to be amorphous based on the experiments described in Section 8.0 and shown in Figure 11.

Whether the SiO₂ liberated upon conversion of IE-95 to sodalite and hydroxy-cancrinite is amorphous or crystalline, it is still a component of the Tank 19F mound, e.g. it is likely that not all of the Si analyzed in the Tank 19F mound is sodalite/cancrinite but some is free SiO₂. Free SiO₂ may become mobile when the Tank 19F component in SB3 sludge is washed. The SB3 washwater will have to undergo the newly implemented evaporator feed qualification based on Si and Al concentration so that it does not become problematic for the SRS evaporators.²⁹ Conversely, the amorphous SiO₂ may likely have reacted with excess NaOH in Tank 19F and converted to additional sodalite since Al, as NaAl(OH)₄, was also present in excess.

9.0 ZEOLITE SILICA CONTENT AND IMPACT ON GLASS PROCESSING IN DWPF

In order to assess the impact of the additional silica and alumina on potential glass processing in DWPF, it is assumed that the Tank 19F mound is 50% nitrated sodalite and 50% hydroxy-cancrinite. This also assumes that any SiO_2 liberated during the conversion of the IE-95 to sodalite/cancrinite continued to react with $\text{NaAl}(\text{OH})_4$ and excess NaOH in the tank creating more sodalite/cancrinite rather than amorphous silica indicated by the decomposition reactions shown in Section 8.0.

Since the nitrated sodalite and hydroxy-cancrinite have the same number of moles of Si and Al, and both have similar molecular weights, the chemical formula of nitrated cancrinite was used to convert the Si measured in Table I to weight % zeolite solids in the tank. Use of the selective transfer of Tank 19F solids material after salt deinventory in gallons (see Section 2.2) suggests that ~14,338 kgs of zeolite may have been transferred to from Tank 19F to Tank 18F and ultimately to SB3. However, assuming homogeneous transfer of Tank 19F solids material after salt deinventory suggests that a maximum of 48,120 kgs of zeolite could potentially have been transferred. Since only 54,600 lbs. (24,818 kgs.) of zeolite were discharged to Tank 19F before the 1980's deinventory began (See Section 2.1), it is unlikely that twice that amount (48,120 kgs) of zeolite could have been available for transfer to Tank 18F although the liberated SiO_2 from IE-95 conversion could have formed additional sodalite/cancrinite in situ in the waste tank and effectively increased the mass. The only other possibility, based on the Tank 19F heel analyses of d'Entremont and Thomas,⁴ is that the transfers from Tank 19F to Tank 18F were selective, e.g. salt and sludge solids were preferentially transferred over the zeolite solids. The selective transfer hypothesis suggests that ~14,338 kgs of zeolite solids may ultimately become part of SB3. All subsequent calculations of the impact of the mound material will be made using the 14,338 kgs of zeolite that could be transferred to Tank 18F and ultimately to SB3.

The contribution of the Tank 18F mound zeolite rich material from Tank 19F has not, here-to-fore, been factored into the glass chemistry analysis for SB3 as documented by Peeler, Bibler, and Edwards.³ The impact of the zeolite mound material from Tank 18F that may be blended into SB3 was not considered in the previous study by Peeler, et al³ because the amount of zeolite had not been factored into the Waste Characterization System (WCS) composition projections used in that study. Additional frit optimization for SB3 has been performed³⁰ but the optimization has also not considered the zeolite fraction of the SB3 sludge batch.

The Peeler, et. al.³ blending strategy study covered six scenarios, which provided the initial technical basis for evaluating the impact of individual or multiple waste streams to SB3. These scenarios included:

- Case #1 (Baseline): SB3 (including the Tank 51H heel and sand associated with Tank 7F)
- Case #2 SB3 baseline with only the Pu/Gd addition
- Case #3 SB3 baseline with only the Am/Cm addition

- Case #4 SB3 baseline with both Am/Cm and Pu/Gd additions
- Case #5 SB3 (including the Tank 51H heel – excluding Tank 7F sand)
- Case #6 SB3 (including the Tank 51H heel – excluding Tank 7F sand) with both Am/Cm and Pu/Gd additions

The six blending scenarios are reassessed in this study as an example of the potential impact of the zeolite on SB3. The same frits and scenarios were used to demonstrate, on a one-on-one comparative basis, the calculated compositions and glass properties predicted in the Peeler, et al study³ without zeolite to those with zeolite. The average zeolite mound mass from Table I in this study was converted to oxide wt% and normalized to 100% in order to convert the composition to a glass forming oxide (calcine) basis. Table XI summarizes the individual sludge compositions from Peeler et al³ and contrasts them to the compositions including the zeolite mound contribution (in oxide wt%) and masses (in kgs on an oxide basis). These compositions are used to evaluate the glass properties of SB3 with the average amount of zeolite. This assessment assumes that the individual waste streams or sludges (Table XI) are “compositional centroids” representing, on average, a composition expected to be blended into SB3. It should also be noted that the nominal compositions do not account for compositional sludge variation.

Table XII summarizes the nominal compositions of the six blending scenarios from the Peeler et al study³ and compares them to the nominal compositions calculated assuming the presence of the zeolite mound may account for up to ~3.8 wt% of the blend in each case. The blended sludge compositions given in Table XII are weighted averages based on the oxide wt%’s and total masses either reported or calculated (Table XI). The data shaded in Table XII clearly indicates that the amount of silica increases by ~ 1 wt%, the amount of alumina by ~0.6 wt%, and the amount of sodium by ~0.75 wt% in the SB3 calcines for each case when the contribution from the zeolite mound in Tank 18F is added. Conversely, the sludge components such as Fe₂O₃, MnO, U₃O₈, and NiO are “diluted” by the additional alkali, silica, and alumina of the zeolite mound mass (see Table XII).

The composition of the blending calculations assumes that individual streams will be evenly distributed or uniformly blended resulting in a “constant” feed to the melter (once frit additions are made). The blending calculations in Table XII are used in conjunction with the DWPF property predictions generated by glass property models.^{31,32} These glass property models are the basis of the DWPF Product Composition Control System (PCCS), which is used to determine the acceptability of each batch of DWPF melter feed.

The PCCS system imposes several constraints on the composition of the feed to define acceptability. These constraints relate process or product properties to composition via prediction models. A feed batch is deemed acceptable if its sample-composition measurements lead to acceptable property predictions after accounting for modeling, measurement, and/or analytic uncertainties.³³

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Table XI. Nominal Individual Sludge Compositions (in wt%, calcine oxide basis)

Oxide	SB3	Tank 7F Sand	Pu/Gd	Am/Cm	T19F/T18F Zeolite
Ag ₂ O	6.897E-04	0.000	0.000	1.074E-03	0.000
Al ₂ O ₃	18.528	0.000	0.000	1.040	35.204
AmO ₂	1.465E-03	0.000	0.000	0.275	0.000
B ₂ O ₃	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.065
BaO	0.256	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.135
CaO	3.686	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.650
CdO	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.014
Ce ₂ O ₃	0.357	0.000	0.000	0.598	0.487
Cm ₂ O ₃	1.011E-08	0.000	0.000	0.063	0
Cr ₂ O ₃	0.379	0.000	0.000	0.404	0.067
Cs ₂ O	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
CuO	0.203	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.010
Eu ₂ O ₃	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Fe ₂ O ₃	41.200	0.000	0.000	4.020	4.120
Gd ₂ O ₃	0.002	0.000	60.398	0.159	0.000
K ₂ O	0.441	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.018
La ₂ O ₃	0.206	0.000	0.000	0.427	0.028
Li ₂ O	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.284	0.014
MgO	0.193	0.000	0.000	0.007	0.556
MnO	7.348	0.000	0.000	0.143	0.237
MoO ₃	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.021	0.016
Na ₂ O	10.886	0.000	0.000	0.000	29.813
Nd ₂ O ₃	0.685	0.000	0.000	1.234	0.000
NiO	1.647	0.000	0.000	0.237	0.022
P ₂ O ₅	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
PbO	0.307	0.000	0.000	0.226	0.062
PdO	3.757E-02	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.000
Pr ₂ O ₃	0.188	0.000	0.000	0.301	0.000
PuO ₂	0.021	0.000	39.602	0.045	0.000
RuO ₂	0.284	0.000	0.000	0.043	0.000
RhO ₂	0.080	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000
SiO ₂	2.145	100.000	0.000	0.817	27.270
Sm ₂ O ₃	0.101	0.000	0.000	0.121	0.000
SnO ₂	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.034
SrO	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.032
ThO ₂	0.147	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
TiO ₂	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.010	0.123
U ₃ O ₈	9.486	0.000	0.000	89.430	0.000
ZnO	0.421	0.000	0.000	0.017	0.012
ZrO ₂	0.761	0.000	0.000	0.026	0.000
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Mass (in kg)	358236.7	4550	286.35	3796.20	14,338

Table XII Nominal Sludge Calcine Compositions (Wt%) for Various Blending Scenarios With and Without the Tank 19F/Tank 18F Zeolite Contribution

Oxide	Case #1 (baseline) SB3 (including Tank 51H heel) with Tank 7F sand	Case #1 (baseline) SB3 (including Tank 51H heel) with Tank 7F sand and Zeolite	Case #2 SB3 baseline with Pu/Gd	Case #2 With Zeolite SB3 baseline with Pu/Gd and Zeolite	Case #3 SB3 baseline with Am/Cm	Case #3 With Zeolite SB3 baseline with Am/Cm and Zeolite
Ag	6.81E-04	6.551E-04	6.80E-04	6.546E-04	6.843E-04	6.585E-04
Al ₂ O ₃	18.295	18.938	18.281	18.924	18.116	18.760
AmO ₂	1.45E-03	1.392E-03	1.446E-03	1.391E-03	4.280E-03	4.119E-03
B ₂ O ₃	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.002
BaO	0.253	0.249	0.253	0.248	0.250	0.246
CaO	3.640	3.564	3.637	3.562	3.602	3.529
CdO	0.00E+00	0.001	0.00E+00	5.318E-04	1.183E-05	5.383E-04
Ce ₂ O ₃	0.353	0.358	0.353	0.358	0.355	0.360
Cm ₂ O ₃	9.98E-09	9.599E-09	9.97E-09	9.592E-09	6.475E-04	6.231E-04
Cr ₂ O ₃	0.374	0.363	0.374	0.362	0.375	0.363
Cs ₂ O	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
CuO	0.200	0.193	0.200	0.193	0.198	0.191
Eu ₂ O ₃	4.69E-03	4.508E-03	4.68E-03	4.504E-03	4.684E-03	4.507E-03
Fe ₂ O ₃	40.681	39.292	40.649	39.262	40.301	38.940
Gd ₂ O ₃	0.002	0.002	0.050	0.048	0.004	0.003
K ₂ O	0.435	0.420	0.435	0.419	0.431	0.415
La ₂ O ₃	0.203	0.197	0.203	0.197	0.206	0.199
Li ₂ O	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.003	0.003
MgO	0.191	0.205	0.191	0.204	0.189	0.203
MnO	7.256	6.989	7.250	6.984	7.182	6.921
MoO ₃	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001
Na ₂ O	10.749	11.474	10.740	11.465	10.637	11.359
Nb ₂ O ₃	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Nd ₂ O ₃	0.677	0.652	0.676	0.651	0.682	0.658
NiO	1.627	1.565	1.625	1.564	1.612	1.552
P ₂ O ₅	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.002
PbO	0.303	0.292	0.303	0.292	0.303	0.291
Pd	3.71E-02	3.60E-02	3.71E-02	3.566E-02	3.674E-02	3.535E-02
Pr ₂ O ₃	0.185	0.178	0.185	0.178	0.187	0.180
PuO ₂	0.021	0.020	0.052	0.050	0.021	0.020
RuO ₂	0.281	0.270	0.280	0.270	0.278	0.268
Rh	7.88E-02	7.60E-02	7.87E-02	7.571E-02	7.796E-02	7.502E-02
SiO ₂	3.373	4.281	3.370	4.278	3.346	4.247
Sm ₂ O ₃	0.100	0.096	0.100	0.096	0.100	0.097
SnO ₂	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001
SrO	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001
ThO ₂	0.145	0.139	0.145	0.139	0.143	0.138
TiO ₂	0.000	0.005	0.000	0.005	0.000	0.005
U ₃ O ₈	9.367	9.011	9.360	9.004	10.196	9.812
Y ₂ O ₃	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
ZnO	0.416	0.400	0.415	0.400	0.412	0.396
ZrO ₂	0.751	0.723	0.751	0.722	0.744	0.716
Total	100.000	100.00	100.000	100.000	100.000	100.000
Mass (in kg)	362,804	377,142	363,090	377,428	366,600	380,937

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Table XII. Nominal Sludge Calcine Compositions (Wt%) for Various Blending Scenarios With and Without the Tank 19F/Tank 18F Zeolite Contribution (Cont'd)

Oxide	Case #4 SB3 baseline with Pu/Gd and Am/Cm	Case #4 With Zeolite SB3 baseline with Pu/Gd and Am/Cm and Zeolite	Case #5 SB3 with Tank 51H Heel and without Sand	Case #5 With Zeolite SB3 with Tank 51H Heel and without Sand and with Zeolite	Case #6 With Zeolite SB3 without Tank 51H Heel and without sand, Pu/Gd, and Am/Cm	Case #6 With Zeolite SB3 without Tank 51H Heel and without sand, Pu/Gd, and Am/Cm and Zeolite
Ag	6.838E-04	6.581E-04	6.896E-04	6.631E-04	6.924E-04	6.660E-04
Al ₂ O ₃	18.102	18.746	18.528	19.169	18.330	18.972
AmO ₂	4.277E-03	4.116E-03	1.465E-03	1.409E-03	4.331E-03	4.166E-03
B ₂ O ₃	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.003	0.000	0.002
BaO	0.250	0.246	0.256	0.252	0.253	0.249
CaO	3.600	3.526	3.686	3.608	3.645	3.569
CdO	1.182E-05	5.379E-04	0.000E+00	5.388E-04	1.196E-05	5.444E-04
Ce ₂ O ₃	0.355	0.360	0.357	0.362	0.360	0.364
Cm ₂ O ₃	6.470E-04	6.227E-04	1.010E-08	9.716E-09	6.551E-04	6.302E-04
Cr ₂ O ₃	0.374	0.363	0.379	0.367	0.379	0.367
Cs ₂ O	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
CuO	0.198	0.191	0.203	0.196	0.201	0.193
Eu ₂ O ₃	4.680E-03	4.504E-03	4.745E-03	4.563E-03	4.739E-03	4.558E-03
Fe ₂ O ₃	40.270	38.911	41.198	39.771	40.776	39.381
Gd ₂ O ₃	0.051	0.049	0.002	0.002	0.051	0.049
K ₂ O	0.431	0.415	0.441	0.425	0.436	0.420
La ₂ O ₃	0.206	0.199	0.206	0.199	0.208	0.201
Li ₂ O	0.003	0.003	0.000	0.001	0.003	0.003
MgO	0.189	0.202	0.193	0.207	0.191	0.205
MnO	7.177	6.916	7.348	7.074	7.267	6.999
MoO ₃	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001
Na ₂ O	10.629	11.351	10.885	11.614	10.763	11.488
Nb ₂ O ₃	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Nd ₂ O ₃	0.682	0.657	0.685	0.660	0.691	0.665
NiO	1.611	1.551	1.647	1.584	1.631	1.569
P ₂ O ₅	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.002
PbO	0.302	0.291	0.307	0.295	0.306	0.295
Pd	3.671E-02	3.533E-02	3.757E-02	3.612E-02	3.717E-02	3.575E-02
Pr ₂ O ₃	0.186	0.179	0.188	0.180	0.189	0.182
PuO ₂	0.052	0.050	0.021	0.020	0.053	0.051
RuO ₂	0.278	0.267	0.284	0.273	0.281	0.271
Rh	7.790E-02	7.497E-02	7.976E-02	7.669E-02	7.888E-02	7.587E-02
SiO ₂	3.343	4.243	2.145	3.112	2.130	3.087
Sm ₂ O ₃	0.100	0.096	0.101	0.097	0.101	0.098
SnO ₂	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001
SrO	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001
ThO ₂	0.143	0.138	0.147	0.141	0.145	0.139
TiO ₂	0.000	0.005	0.000	0.005	0.000	0.005
U ₃ O ₈	10.188	9.805	9.486	9.121	10.316	9.923
Y ₂ O ₃	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
ZnO	0.411	0.396	0.421	0.405	0.416	0.401
ZrO ₂	0.743	0.715	0.761	0.732	0.752	0.724
Total	100.000	100.00	100.000	100.00	100.00	100.000
Mass (in kg)	366,886	381,224	358,254	372,591	362,336	376,674

Calculations were performed on the data in Table XII (the nominal sludge compositions converted to a calcine basis) to simulate blending of the calcined feed with various glass forming frits (Frit 200, 165 and 320) for a one-to-one comparison with the Peeler, et. al.³ study. These blended calcined sludge/frit mixtures were used as the basis for the glass impact assessment of the Tank 19F mound material. These three different frits were assessed as examples.

The properties assessed in this study included durability (Product Consistency Test (PCT) (ASTM 1997) response in terms of ΔG_P),³⁴ viscosity (η),³¹ liquidus temperature (T_L using both the previous³¹ and newly implemented³² models), and Al_2O_3 and alkali concentrations. To establish or project operational windows for the various blending scenarios, predicted properties must be assessed relative to established acceptance criteria. Acceptable predicted properties for this assessment are based on satisfying their respective Property Acceptable Region (PAR) limit values (see Table XIII) – not the more restrictive Measurement Acceptability Region (MAR) limits. It should be noted that the PAR limit set for assessing the new T_L model was conservatively set at 1010°C (consistent with that used by Brown et al.³²).[§] It is anticipated that the PAR limits for the new model will not be this restrictive (in terms of limiting the projected compositional operating window). Therefore, in the assessment discussions that follow, when the new T_L model imposes or limits the projected operational window, one must remember the use of this conservatively set PAR limit. More specifically, failing this constraint (as currently defined) does not necessarily mean that it would be an unacceptable glass given the conservative 1010°C PAR limit.

Table XIII PAR Limits for Various Properties

Property	PAR Limit
T_L (existing)	< 1024.95°C
T_L (new)	< 1010°C
ΔG_P (durability)	> -12.7178
$\eta_{1150^\circ C}$ (melt viscosity)	21.5–105.4 Poise
Al_2O_3	≥ 3.0 wt% (in glass)
Σ alkali	< 19.3 wt% (in glass)

The ΔG_P calculations used in this study represent the glass durability / composition (ΔG_P) model currently implemented in PCCS and used by DWPF. That model utilizes specific

[§] Information regarding the new T_L model was used to assist in the evaluation of glass compositions in this study. The PAR for this relationship is composition-dependent but has been conservatively set at 1010°C. The full impact of this new T_L model on the DWPF operating window is still being assessed, so no attempt was made in this study to incorporate the actual PAR determinations for the new model.

$\Delta G_{P,i}$ values reported by Jantzen et al³⁴ (typically for elements whose oxides concentrations are present at > 0.5 wt% in glass) to predict the ΔG_P for a specific SME composition which, prior to processing, is then compared to three SME acceptability criteria, the most restrictive of which is -12.7178. The use of a modified ΔG_P as derived by Peeler et al³ by substituting ΔG_i 's for chemically similar oxide components was not considered in this study. The modified ΔG_P calculation was not used because Peeler et al³ had shown that the impacts of considering these minor oxides were minimal to the overall prediction of glass durability in SB3.

A summary of the predicted properties of the six different sludge batch scenarios blended with each of the three frits being used as examples is shown in Table XIV. The predicted properties demonstrate the following:

- the maximum waste loading with the zeolite mound material present is consistently higher than the maximum waste loading without the zeolite mound material present
 - the maximum waste loadings for SB3 without zeolite was 37-37.5 wt% with Frit 320 depending on the sludge scenario being considered (see Table XIII)
 - the maximum waste loadings for SB3 with zeolite was 0.5-2 wt% waste loading higher (37.5-39 wt%) with Frit 320 regardless of the sludge scenario being considered (see Table XIII and Figure 14)
 - the maximum waste loading is always limited by the new liquidus temperature (T_L) of the glass for the sludge scenarios examined in this study
 - the new T_L in turn is driven by the amount of sludge components such as Fe_2O_3 , NiO , and MnO present in the glass which is diluted by the increased Na_2O , Al_2O_3 and Na_2O present in the zeolite material
 - the zeolite (high sodium aluminosilicate) dilutes the sludge components in the glass and lowers the T_L allowing for higher waste loadings
- the proposed glasses based on Frits 320, 165, and 200 are all durable regardless of sludge scenario and the presence of zeolite
- the proposed glasses all have acceptable viscosities despite increased Al_2O_3 from the zeolite
 - the viscosities with Frit 320 and Frit 165 are comparable
 - the viscosities with Frit 200 are higher which may negatively impact melt rate

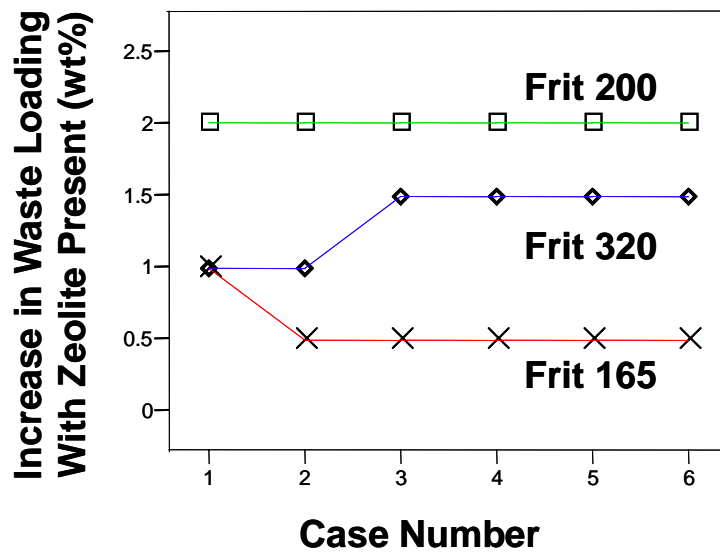


Figure 14. Increases in waste loading that can be achieved with various frits for SB3 due to the presence of zeolite. Data from Table XIII.

Table XIV. Summary of Predicted Properties at Maximum Allowable Waste Loading (using the new T_L model and PAR limits).

	Max WL with Zeolite	Max WL without Zeolite ^t			Al ₂ O ₃	Σ Alkalis	Viscosity	PCCS ΔG _p	Old T _L	New T _L
Frit-Sludge Case	(wt%)	(wt%)	Satisfies PAR	Violates PAR	(wt fraction)	(wt fraction)	(Poise)	(kcal/mol)	(°C)	(C)
165-Case 1	36.5	35.5	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0690	0.170	35.7	-9.71	1103.4	1008.8
200-Case 1	32.5	30.5	Durable; Visc;T _L ;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0620	0.147	73.8	-8.22	1037.9	1009.1
320-Case 1	38.5	37.5	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0730	0.169	40.9	-9.09	1114.0	1004.9
165-Case 2	36.5	36.0	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0690	0.170	35.8	-9.71	1103.1	1008.5
200-Case 2	32.5	30.5	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0620	0.147	73.9	-8.22	1037.7	1008.9
320-Case 2	38.5	37.5	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0730	0.169	40.9	-9.09	1113.7	1004.7
165-Case 3	36.5	36.0	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0680	0.170	36.0	-9.71	1100.1	1006.5
200-Case 3	32.5	30.5	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0610	0.147	74.2	-8.22	1035.4	1006.9
320-Case 3	39.0	37.5	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0730	0.168	40.5	-9.04	1118.6	1009.1
165-Case 4	36.5	36.0	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0680	0.170	36.5	-9.71	1099.8	1006.3
200-Case 4	32.5	30.5	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0610	0.146	74.3	-8.22	1035.2	1006.7
320-Case 4	39.0	37.5	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0730	0.168	40.6	-9.09	1118.3	1008.9
165-Case 5	36.0	35.5	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0690	0.171	36.0	-9.80	1103.7	1006.8
200-Case 5	32.0	30.0	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0610	0.147	72.4	-8.30	1037.2	1006.9
320-Case 5	38.5	37.0	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0740	0.169	38.9	-9.14	1122.8	1009.5
165-Case 6	36.0	35.5	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0680	0.171	34.9	-9.80	1100.0	1004.3
200-Case 6	32.0	30.0	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0610	0.147	72.9	-8.29	1034.5	1004.4
320-Case 6	38.5	37.0	Durable; Visc;New T _L ; Al ₂ O ₃ ; alkali	Old T _L	0.0730	0.169	39.3	-9.14	1118.8	1006.9

t = from Peeler et al³

10.0 CONCLUSIONS

A maximum of 48,120 kgs of sodium aluminosilicate rich zeolite from the Tank 19F mound may have been transferred to Tank 18F and potentially to SB3 if the transfers of solids from Tank 19F to Tank 18F were homogeneous. However, calculations of the residual zeolite in Tank 19F indicates that only 14,338 kgs of zeolite were transferred indicating that the salt and sludge solids in the mound in Tank 19F were transferred to Tank 18F selectively over the zeolite solids. This is in agreement with the fact that only ~24,818 kgs of zeolite were discharged to Tank 19F over its lifetime of zeolite receipt. This converts to approximately 3.8 wt% of the proposed SB3 constituents if all of the zeolite material in Tank 18F is blended into SB3.

The two potential impacts of the Tank 19F zeolite mound on DWPF processing relates to (1) the Hydragard[®] samples taken for determination of the acceptability of a macrobatch of DWPF feed and (2) the achievable waste loading. An additional impact that may affect processing of SB3 and/or the evaporation of SB3 washwater relates to the liberation of SiO₂ from the zeolite to the sludge when it aged from chabazite and erionite (IE-95 constituents) to the cancrinite/sodalite phases currently found in the Tank 19F mound.

In terms of the Hydragard[®] sampling of SB3 feeds for DWPF SME process control:

- the larger zeolite particles found in Tank 19F (average particle size of 500µm) and subsequently transferred to Tank 18F are too large to pass through the sampling valve and may plug the valve unless they are size reduced during subsequent transfers, homogenization, or processing
- the DWPF sampling system may not be capable of obtaining a representative sample of sludge containing zeolite if the particle size is not size reduced during subsequent transfers, homogenization, or processing
- sampling could miss an estimated 60% of the material causing misbatching of the feeds to the DWPF if the particle size is not size reduced during subsequent transfers, homogenization, or processing
- zeolite must be further degraded (particle size reduced) before Hydragard[®] sampling can be considered accurate for DWPF process control if the particle size is not size reduced during subsequent transfers, homogenization, or processing

The potential effects of the large size of the zeolite particles found in the Tank 19F solids, as reported in this study, are considered minimal for processing of SB3 in DWPF. This conclusion is based on recent sieve analyses of Tank 51H sludge after receipt from Tank 18F which indicate that only 0.04 wt% particulates over 38 µm are present in the sludge. These particulates appear to be coal and not zeolite. The sieve analyses indicate that the zeolite that was transferred may have degraded in size during all the tank homogenization and transfers if the sample that was sieved was representative of the tank contents. Moreover, recent analyses of Tank 18F indicate that the heel remaining in

Tank 18F is enriched in silica,¹ presumably zeolite, indicating that not all the zeolite from Tank 18F was transferred to SB3. The zeolite heel in Tank 18F will only become problematic for DWPF processing if the contents of Tank 18F ever become feed for subsequent DWPF feed.

The second potential impact on DWPF processing will be the ability to achieve higher waste loadings by ~0.5-2.0 wt%. In order to have a 1:1 correlation of the calculated waste loadings with and without zeolite present, comparisons to earlier calculations were made based on Frits 320, 165, and 200. The predicted glass properties at the property acceptable region (PAR) demonstrates the following:

- the maximum waste loading with the zeolite mound material present is consistently higher than the maximum waste loading without the zeolite mound material present
 - the maximum waste loadings for SB3 without zeolite was 37-37.5 wt% with Frit 320 depending on the sludge scenario being considered
 - the maximum waste loadings for SB3 with zeolite was 0.5-2 wt% waste loading higher (37.5-39 wt%) with Frit 320 regardless of the sludge scenario being considered
 - the maximum waste loading is always limited by the new liquidus temperature (T_L) of the glass for the sludge scenarios examined in this study
 - the new T_L in turn is driven by the amount of sludge components such as Fe_2O_3 , NiO , and MnO present in the glass which is diluted by the increased Na_2O , Al_2O_3 , and Na_2O present in the zeolite material
 - the zeolite (high sodium aluminosilicate) dilutes the sludge components in the glass and lowers the T_L allowing for higher waste loadings
- the proposed glasses based on Frits 320, 165, and 200 are all durable regardless of sludge scenario and the presence of zeolite, this is consistent with new optimized frits developed for SB3
- the proposed glasses all have acceptable viscosities despite increased Al_2O_3 from the zeolite
 - the viscosities with Frit 320 and Frit 165 are comparable
 - the viscosities with Frit 200 are higher which may negatively impact melt rate
- almost all the glasses violate the old T_L model but all the glasses satisfy the new, more rigorous, T_L model which has been implemented in DWPF

Another potential impact of the zeolite from Tank 19F in SB3 may affect the processing of SB3 and/or the evaporation of SB3 washwater:

¹ Jonathan Thomas, personnel communication September 16, 2003.

- during zeolite aging from the IE-95 components chabazite and erionite to the sodalite/cancrinite mineral phases identified in the Tank 19F mound, 11 moles of SiO₂ are liberated
- the SiO₂ liberated may be amorphous or may have reacted with excess NaOH in Tank 19F to form more sodalite in which case the conservative 14,338 kgs of zeolite transferred to SB3 may be as high as 48,120 kgs
- the SiO₂ liberated may be amorphous and may be entrained in or part of the SB3 sludge
- if the SiO₂ liberated during zeolite conversion is amorphous it could become mobile during sludge washing causing the washwater to fail the newly implemented Si feed qualification limit that was implemented to avoid problematic aluminosilicate scale in the SRS evaporators

Other findings in this study that have little to no impact on DWPF processing and/or the evaporators are the following:

- the mineral components of the IE-95 resin, chabazite and erionite, age in HLW tanks at ~40°C to sodalite and cancrinite (feldspathoids)
- the identification of natrodavyne as a reaction product of IE-95 is consistent with recent identification of sodalite/cancrinite species since natrodavyne is a carbonate substituted cancrinite
- anion analysis indicated that NO₃⁻ is the only anion in the sodalite/cancrinite, e.g. no NO₂⁻ was present in the mound material
- mass balance of the cation and anion analysis suggests that on average the Tank 19F mound is ~62 wt% sodalite, 2.2 wt% NaNO₃, 36 wt% Al(OH)₃ and 4 wt% Fe(OH)₃
- aging is a dewatering and densification mechanism (Ostwald ripening), the reaction products are denser than the zeolites from which they are derived but more thermodynamically stable
- the cell volumes of the reaction products are 1/3 the cell volumes of the zeolites
- the framework densities of the reaction products are higher than that of the zeolites
- the particle size of the reaction products is about 2/3 of the original IE-95 but the particle size distributions are identical, Gaussian with a low particle size tail indicating that the IE-95 converted in-situ
- densification (aging) is associated with dehydration and loss of SiO₂

- the measured dehydration of the Tank 19F mound while in contact with aqueous solution is consistent with this mechanism
- the mechanism and reaction products were identified by studying the conversion of IE-95 in 5M and 10M NaOH as a function of time in both the washed and unwashed conditions
- conversion of IE-95 is rapid, ~2 days, in 10M NaOH
- conversion of IE-95 in 10M CsOH forms Cs substituted chabazite (the original mineral phase in IE-95 and a Cs aluminosilicate known as pollucite ($\text{CsAlSi}_2\text{O}_6$))
- the bulk density of IE-95 is ~0.791 g/cc while the mineral density is 2.28 g/cc
- a second ion exchange media, Decalso, was also added to Tank 19F but in smaller amounts than the IE-95
- Decalso was analyzed to be an amorphous sodium aluminosilicate
- Decalso degrades in 10M NaOH to an amorphous aluminosilicate gel

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