Soil Water Potential Observations Below a Waste Tank. (S01-sisson160243-Oral)

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Abstract:

The Hanford vadose zone in the tank farms is contaminated as the result of tanks leaking radioactive wastes. Accurate estimates of the rate and direction of contaminates is of considerable interest to the managers of the tank farms and to regulators and stakeholders. The rate and direction of contaminant transport is simply the product of the pore water velocity and concentrations of contaminate in the soil water. A borehole drilled in the B-Farm was instrumented with water content sensors, tensiometers and vacuum lysimeters to a depth of 240 ft. This paper presents the data obtained to date and discusses the equilibration times of the various monitoring devices.

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