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Partitioning of Gadolinium in the Chemical Processing Cell

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A combination of short-term beaker tests and longer-duration Sludge Receipt and Adjustment Tank (SRAT) simulations were performed to investigate the relative partitioning behaviors of gadolinium and iron under conditions applicable to the Chemical Processing Cell (CPC). The testing was performed utilizing non-radioactive simple Fe-Gd slurries, non-radioactive Sludge Batch 6 simulant slurries, and a radioactive real-waste slurry representative of Sludge Batch 7 material. The testing focused on the following range of conditions: a) Fe:Gd ratios of 25-100; b) pH values of 2-6; c) acidification via addition of nitric, formic, and glycolic acids; d) temperatures of ~93 °C and ~22 °C; and e) oxalate concentrations of <100 mg/kg and ~10,000 mg/kg. The purpose of the testing was to provide data for assessing the potential use of gadolinium as a supplemental neutron poison when dispositioning excess plutonium. Understanding of the partitioning behavior of gadolinium in the CPC was the first step in assessing gadolinium's potential applicability.

Significant fractions of gadolinium partitioned to the liquid-phase at pH values of 4.0 and below, regardless of the Fe:Gd ratio. In SRAT simulations targeting nitric and formic acid additions of 150% acid stoichiometry, the pH dropped to a minimum of 3.5-4.0, and the maximum fractions of gadolinium and iron partitioning to solution were both ~20%. In contrast, in a SRAT simulation utilizing a nitric and formic acid addition under atypical conditions (due to an anomalously low insoluble solids content), the pH dropped to a minimum of 3.7, and the maximum fractions of gadolinium and iron partitioning to solution were ~60% and ~70%, respectively. When glycolic acid was used in combination with nitric and formic acids at 100% acid stoichiometry, the pH dropped to a minimum of 3.6-4.0, and the maximum fractions of gadolinium and iron partitioning to solution were 60-80% and 3-5%, respectively. Thus, the presence of glycolic acid increased dissolution of gadolinium, but decreased dissolution of iron.

In beaker tests, the fractions of gadolinium partitioning to solution were all less than the minimum detection limits at pH 6, on the order of a few percent at pH 4, and ranging from 70-90% at pH 2. In contrast, the fractions of iron partitioning to solution were all less than the minimum detection limits at pH 6, $\leq 0.04\%$ at pH 4, and $\leq 0.9\%$ at pH 2. A possible explanation for the small magnitude of these fractions (as compared to the fractions observed in the SRAT simulations) was incomplete equilibrium, due to the short duration (30 minutes) of the beaker tests. As demonstrated by the SRAT simulations, the typical partitioning equilibration time was on the order of hours.

The Fe:Gd ratio appeared to impact the extent of liquid-phase conditions under certain conditions, although the exact relationship was not clear. Temperature impacts on the liquid-phase gadolinium concentrations were modest, with liquid phase concentrations typically increasing about 25% as temperatures rose from ~22 °C to ~93 °C. The presence of high concentrations of oxalate did not appear to change the liquid-phase gadolinium concentrations – however, it did increase the liquid-phase iron concentrations (from being undetectable to being detectable but still minor).

Additional gadolinium partitioning testing is recommended. Of greatest usefulness will be SRAT simulations focusing on a wider range of acid addition scenarios and alternate sludge compositions, particularly those specific to future sludge batches where addition of excess plutonium is being considered.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| SRS | Savannah River Site |
|---------|---|
| DWPF | Defense Waste Processing Facility |
| CPC | Chemical Processing Cell |
| DOE | Department of Energy |
| EM | Environmental Management |
| SRAT | Sludge Receipt & Adjustment Tank |
| TTQAP | Task Technical and Quality Assurance Plan |
| PSAL | Process Science Analytical Laboratory |
| AD | Analytical Development |
| ICP-AES | Inductively coupled plasma-atomic emission spectroscopy |
| IC | Ion chromatography |
| ICP-MS | Inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry |

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Fissile material in the Savannah River Site (SRS) Tank Farm has historically been "neutron-poisoned" by the large quantity of iron inherent to the waste. As the sludge is transferred to the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF), the same iron has provided criticality protection during treatment in the Chemical Processing Cell (CPC) and in the final glass waste form.

Potential disposition of excess plutonium via the Tank Farm and/or DWPF is currently being considered. Such disposition would require introduction of additional neutronpoisoning material to assure criticality safety. To minimize the impact on DWPF production, use of a poisoning material more efficient than iron will likely be necessary. One promising alternative is gadolinium, which absorbs neutrons so efficiently that the mass requirements for criticality safety are two orders of magnitude lower than for iron.

Based on a review of the pre-existing gadolinium solubility data,¹ a conclusion was drawn that insufficient information was available to quantify gadolinium partitioning and subsequent poisoning applicability in the CPC. The pre-existing data suggested that gadolinium solubilities were relatively high in the absence of iron and relatively low when Fe:Gd mass ratios were exceedingly high (\geq 300). However, no data were available for the typical conditions anticipated if excess plutonium were to be added to the waste – namely, if the Fe:Gd ratios were on the order of 25-100.

Gadolinium solubility and partitioning data applicable to the CPC is the subject of this report.

This study was performed at the request of the Department of Energy (DOE)/EM-31 Office of Waste Processing. The work was authorized through a Task Change Request. The project and task numbers are HQTD1004 and WP-4.1.4, respectively.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

The overall goal of this study was to determine the solid-liquid phase partitioning behavior of gadolinium under conditions applicable to the CPC. Understanding of such partitioning behavior is integral to assessing the practicality of using gadolinium as a supplemental neutron poison when dispositioning excess plutonium.

The specific objective of the study was to quantify the fraction of gadolinium partitioning to the liquid phase over the following ranges of conditions:

1) Sludge slurry matrices with Fe:Gd mass ratios of 25-100. (Included amongst the slurry matrices tested were: a) simple sludge simulant with a solid phase comprised primarily of iron hydroxide and gadolinium hydroxide; b) more complex sludge simulant

with a solid phase containing numerous metal hydroxides and oxides; and c) real-waste sludge slurry doped with gadolinium).

2) Slurry pH from 2-6. (pH adjustments were performed utilizing: a) nitric acid; b) formic acid; and c) glycolic acid).

3) Temperatures of ~93 °C and ~22 °C. (93 °C is the typical CPC temperature during acid addition).

4) Oxalate concentrations of ~ 0 mg/kg and $\sim 10,000$ mg/kg. (Oxalate is a chelator used for tank cleaning purposes and can raise the solubility of metals).

5) Equilibration times of 30 minutes and several hours. (Short-term equilibration was tested in small-scale beaker tests, while longer-term equilibration was tested in larger-scale Sludge Receipt and Adjustment Tank [SRAT] simulations).

3.0 QUALITY ASSURANCE

This study was conducted in accordance with the quality assurance protocols identified in the Task Technical and Quality Assurance Plan (TTQAP).² All of the raw data and ancillary information related to this study have been recorded in laboratory notebook SRNL-NB-2010-00102.³

4.0 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Generation of Test Slurry Matrices

Three primary types of slurry matrices were utilized in the testing: 1) simple nonradioactive slurries with solid phases consisting primarily of Fe(OH)₃ and Gd(OH)₃; 2) more complex non-radioactive slurries with solid phases containing several metal hydroxides and oxides (SRS sludge simulant); and 3) a real-waste sludge slurry containing several stable and radioactive constituents (SRS tank waste). The methods for generating and/or preparing each type of slurry matrix are presented below.

Simple Fe-Gd Slurries

The simple slurries were generated utilizing the following steps:

- Dissolve Fe(NO₃)₃·9H₂O and Gd(NO₃)₃·6H₂O in de-ionized water
- Add NaOH to precipitate iron and gadolinium hydroxides
- Allow insoluble solids to settle
- Decant supernatant to concentrate insoluble solids

Three 1-L batches of the simple slurry were prepared – one with an Fe:Gd ratio of 25, one with an Fe:Gd ratio of 50, and one with an Fe:Gd ratio of 100. The masses of

reagents used to prepare each batch are given in Table 4-1. The simple slurries were utilized solely in the beaker tests.

| Reagent | Reagent Mass, g | | |
|--|-----------------|------------|-------------|
| | Fe:Gd = 25 | Fe:Gd = 50 | Fe:Gd = 100 |
| Fe(NO ₃) ₃ ·9H ₂ O | 269.33 | 269.34 | 269.33 |
| $Gd(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$ | 4.26 | 2.15 | 1.08 |
| NaOH | 83.32 | 80.53 | 80.27 |

Table 4-1. Reagents Used to Generate the Simple Fe-Gd Slurries

Note: For each batch, the quantities of reagents were mixed with sufficient water to produce a two liter slurry volume. Then after a settling period, one liter of supernatant was decanted from each to produce a final batch volume of approximately one liter.

For each batch, the $Fe(NO_3)_3 \cdot 9H_2O$ and $Gd(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$ were added to approximately one liter of de-ionized water in a two liter capacity beaker. The contents of the beaker were stirred during and after reagent additions. Following dissolution of the iron and gadolinium salts, the NaOH was added. (Note that the NaOH was dissolved in about 500 mL de-ionized water prior to its addition – thus, it was added in the form of a solution with approximate concentration of 4 M).

As the NaOH was added, the metal salts precipitated out of solution, leaving NaNO₃ as the predominant constituent dissolved in the liquid phase. Additional de-ionized water was mixed with the slurry to bring the total volume to approximately two liters. This produced a supernatant NaNO₃ concentration of ~ 1 M.

Following a settling period of 5-7 days (dependent on batch), approximately one liter of free supernatant was removed, via decanting. The remaining material (supernatant and insoluble solids) had a volume of approximately one liter, with an insoluble solids concentration of 6-7 weight percent (dependent on batch).

Characterization information for the three batches, based on sample analyses performed by the Process Science Analytical Laboratory (PSAL), is given in Table 4-2.

SRS Sludge Simulant Slurries

Two different batches of SRS Sludge Batch 6 (SB6) simulant were utilized in the testing, SB6-E and SB6-H. These simulants had been generated previously, in accordance with the prescribed procedure,⁴ for use in SB6 flowsheet test studies.

Prior to the gadolinium partitioning tests, the SB6 simulant slurries were spiked with $Gd(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$, to attain the desired Fe:Gd ratios. The amounts of $Gd(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$ spiked into the various slurries are given in Table 4-3. Note that two Fe:Gd ratios (25 and 50) were investigated with SB6-E, while only one Fe:Gd ratio (50) was investigated with SB6-H.

| Parameters | Mean Result | | |
|--|-------------|------------|-------------|
| | Fe:Gd = 25 | Fe:Gd = 50 | Fe:Gd = 100 |
| Density, g/mL | | | |
| Slurry | 1.10 | 1.09 | 1.09 |
| Supernatant | 1.05 | 1.05 | 1.05 |
| Solids distribution | | | |
| Total solids, wt% of slurry | 14.5 | 14.1 | 13.8 |
| Insoluble solids, wt% of slurry | 7.1 | 6.7 | 6.0 |
| Soluble solids, wt% of slurry | 7.4 | 7.4 | 7.8 |
| Dissolved solids, wt% of supernatant | 8.0 | 7.9 | 8.3 |
| Metals in slurry, wt% of total solids | | | |
| Iron | 24.5 | 25.9 | 24.1 |
| Gadolinium | 0.951 | 0.521 | 0.242 |
| Sodium | 16.0 | 12.3 | 13.2 |
| Calculated ratio based on measurements | | | |
| Fe:Gd in total solids | 26 | 50 | 100 |
| Metals in supernatant, mg/L | | | |
| Iron | <1.0 | <1.0 | <1.0 |
| Gadolinium | < 0.10 | < 0.10 | < 0.10 |
| Sodium | 2.38E+4 | 2.31E+4 | 2.15E+4 |
| Primary ions in supernatant, M | | | |
| Sodium | 1.03 | 1.01 | 0.93 |
| Nitrate | 1.03 | 0.97 | 1.03 |

| Table 4-2. Cha | aracterization | Data for | the Sim | ple Fe | -Gd Slurries |
|----------------|----------------|----------|---------|--------|--------------|
|----------------|----------------|----------|---------|--------|--------------|

Note: These data were based on analyses performed by the PSAL

| Table 4-3. Qualitities of Gu(1)Q3/3°0112Q Auteu to SDU Simulant | Table 4-3. C | Duantities of | Gd(NO ₃) ₃ .61 | H ₂ O Added to | SB6 Simulants |
|---|--------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
|---|--------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|

| Fe:Gd | Grams Gd(NO ₃) ₃ ·6H ₂ O | ms Gd(NO ₃) ₃ ·6H ₂ O Per Kilogram of Slurry | |
|-------|--|--|--|
| Ratio | SB6-E | SB6-H | |
| 25 | 2.15 | 2.63 | |
| 50 | 1.07 | N/A | |

Characterization data for the SB6 simulant batches, based on sample analyses performed by the PSAL, are given in Table 4-4.

Note that the SB6-E simulant slurry was utilized in a combination of beaker tests and SRAT simulations, while the SB6-H simulant slurry was utilized solely in SRAT simulations.

| Parameters | Mean Result | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| | SB6-E | SB6-H | |
| Density, g/mL | | | |
| Slurry | 1.11 | 1.11 | |
| Supernatant | 1.04 | 1.07 | |
| Solids distribution | | | |
| Total solids, wt% of slurry | 14.5 | 16.5 | |
| Insoluble solids, wt% of slurry | 9.4 | 8.5 | |
| Soluble solids, wt% of slurry | 5.1 | 8.0 | |
| Dissolved solids, wt% of supernatant | 5.6 | 8.7 | |
| Metals in slurry, wt% of total solids | | | |
| Iron | 12.9 | 13.4 | |
| Gadolinium (for Fe:Gd = 25) | 0.50 | 0.56 | |
| Gadolinium (for Fe: $Gd = 50$) | 0.25 | N/A | |
| Sodium | 11.6 | 14.7 | |
| Aluminum | 13.3 | 11.3 | |
| Manganese | 6.2 | 4.7 | |
| Nickel | 1.7 | 1.9 | |
| Chromium | 0.21 | 0.012 | |
| Zirconium | 0.22 | 0.17 | |
| Silicon | 1.0 | 0.065 | |
| Calcium | 0.18 | 0.44 | |
| Magnesium | 0.29 | 0.29 | |
| Sulfur | 0.21 | 0.35 | |
| Chelator in slurry, mg/kg | | | |
| Oxalate | <100 | 815 | |
| Metals in supernatant, mg/L | | | |
| Iron | < 0.10 | < 0.10 | |
| Gadolinium | < 0.10 | Not quantified | |
| Sodium | 2.0E+4 | Not quantified | |
| Aluminum | 3.5E+3 | 3.9E+3 | |
| Potassium | 1.8E+2 | 3.0E+2 | |
| Sulfur | 5.2E+2 | 1.0E+3 | |
| Chromium | 1.1E+1 | 1.8E+1 | |
| Phosphorus | 6.5E0 | 1.6E0 | |
| Primary ions in supernatant, M | | | |
| Sodium | 0.85 | Not quantified | |
| Nitrite | 0.23 | 0.43 | |
| Nitrate | 0.10 | 0.12 | |
| Carbonate | Not quantified | 0.092 | |
| Oxalate | < 0.0013 | Not quantified | |
| Aluminate | 0.13 | 0.14 | |
| Sulfate | 0.014 | 0.028 | |

Table 4-4. Characterization Data for the SB6 Simulant Slurries

Note: These data were based on analyses performed by the PSAL

SRS Real-Waste Sludge Slurry

A washed Sludge Batch 7 (SB7) test slurry, generated during a previous real-waste washing and settling demonstration,⁵ was utilized in the beaker tests. Prior to the beaker tests, the real-waste slurry was spiked with $Gd(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$, to attain an Fe:Gd ratio of 25, and diluted with a combination of de-ionized water and previously-decanted supernatant solution, to reduce the insoluble solids concentration from ~18 wt% to ~14 wt%. (This reduction in the insoluble solids concentration was done to decrease the yield stress of the slurry to a manageable level).⁵ Specifically, 1.21 g Gd(NO₃)₃ $\cdot 6H_2O$, 46.2 g de-ionized water, and 90.1 g supernatant solution were mixed with 390 g of the washed SB7 test slurry.

Characterization data for the real-waste slurry after adding the gadolinium, water, and supernatant are given in Table 4-5. This information is based on sample analyses performed by Analytical Development (AD). Note that: a) the oxalate content of the real-waste slurry was substantial (9100 mg/kg); and b) the uranium and Pu-239 concentrations of the real-waste slurry were identified for purposes of quantifying partitioning of fissile constituents.

4.2 Beaker Tests

The slurry types and experimental conditions of the beaker tests are summarized below. Note that four slurry types were utilized in the beaker tests: 1) simple Fe-Gd slurries; 2) SB6-E sludge simulant slurries; 3) SB6-E sludge simulant slurries spiked with 10,000 mg oxalate per kg slurry; and 4) real-waste sludge slurries.

Simple Fe-Gd slurries:

- Fe:Gd ratios of 25, 50, and 100
- pH values of 2, 4, and 6
- Temperatures of ~93 °C and ~22 °C

SB6-E sludge simulant slurries:

- Fe:Gd ratios of 25 and 50
- pH values of 2 and 4
- Temperatures of ~93 °C and ~22 °C

SB6-E sludge simulant slurries with added oxalate (10,000 mg/kg slurry):

- Fe:Gd ratios of 25 and 50
- pH 4
- Temperatures of ~93 °C and ~22 °C

Real-waste sludge slurries:

- Fe:Gd ratio of 25
- pH 2 and 4
- Temperatures of ~93 °C and ~22 °C

| Parameters | Mean Result |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Density, g/mL | |
| Slurry | 1.17 |
| Supernatant | 1.05 |
| Solids distribution | |
| Total solids, wt% of slurry | 19.4 |
| Insoluble solids, wt% of slurry | 13.5 |
| Soluble solids, wt% of slurry | 5.9 |
| Dissolved solids, wt% of supernatant | 6.8 |
| Metals in slurry, wt% of total solids | |
| Iron | 10.8 |
| Gadolinium | 0.418 |
| Sodium | 13.7 |
| Aluminum | 12.9 |
| Manganese | 2.2 |
| Nickel | 2.0 |
| Mercury | 0.89 |
| Silicon | 1.0 |
| Calcium | 0.49 |
| Magnesium | 0 22 |
| Sulfur | 0.58 |
| Uranium | 3.8 |
| Plutonium-239 | 0.016 |
| Chelator in slurry, mg/kg | |
| Oxalate | 9100 |
| Metals in supernatant, mg/L | |
| Iron | 6.3 |
| Sodium | 2.0E+4 |
| Aluminum | 737 |
| Potassium | 75 |
| Sulfur | 852 |
| Chromium | 37 |
| Phosphorus | 16 |
| Molybdenum | 6.3 |
| Primary ions in supernatant, M | |
| Sodium | 0.89 |
| Nitrite | 0.27 |
| Nitrate | 0.14 |
| Free hydroxide | 0.16 |
| Carbonate | 0.076 |
| Oxalate | 0.073 |
| Aluminate | 0.027 |
| Sulfate | 0.028 |

 Table 4-5. Characterization Data for the Real-Waste Slurry

Note: These data were based on analyses performed by Environmental & Chemical Process Technology and AD

In each test, 100 mL of slurry was transferred to a 250 mL capacity beaker. A magnetic stirring bar was added to the slurry and a watchglass was placed atop the beaker. The slurry was then mixed and heated using a hot plate with magnetic stirring capability. The mixing speed was adjusted to produce a small vortex that would maintain suspension of insolubles, without causing significant splashing. The temperature of the slurry was raised to ~93 °C, with frequent monitoring via thermometer and hotplate temperature adjustments, as necessary. (The watchglass was removed during the temperature measurements, and then replaced once each temperature measurement was complete).

Upon reaching a slurry temperature between 91 and 95 °C, aliquots of concentrated nitric acid solution were added to the slurry to reduce the pH of the slurry to the targeted test condition. The nitric acid was added dropwise, using a disposable slurry pipette, at a rate conducive to maintaining control of the pH and avoiding overheating associated with acidification reactions. A pre-calibrated portable pH meter was used to monitor the pH during and after the nitric acid additions. (The watchglass was removed during the pH measurements, and then replaced once each pH measurement was complete).

The temperature of the slurry was maintained at ~93 °C for a period of 30 minutes. During this time, temperature and pH were monitored every 5 minutes, and as necessary, temperature adjustments were made and/or more nitric acid was added to maintain the targeted conditions.

Upon completion of the 30 minute equilibration period, the beaker was removed from the hotplate, and two 12-15 mL aliquots of the hot slurry were removed from the beaker and transferred to centrifuge tubes. While still hot, these aliquots were centrifuged at ~3000 rpm for 8-10 minutes. Immediately after completing the centrifuge cycle, free supernatant was withdrawn from the top of the centrifuge tubes and prepared for analysis.

The slurry remaining in the beaker was allowed to cool to room temperature, with the watchglass in place to minimize evaporation of water. The cooling period was typically 1-2 hours. Following the cooling period, two 12-15 mL aliquots of the slurry were removed from the beaker and transferred to centrifuge tubes. As in the case of the hot aliquots, the cooled aliquots were centrifuged at ~3000 rpm for 8-10 minutes, and free supernatant was subsequently withdrawn and prepared for analysis.

Supernatant aliquots from all beaker tests were acidified with nitric acid, diluted with deionized water, and then submitted for gadolinium, iron, and sodium analyses by inductively coupled plasma-atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP-AES). Duplicate supernatant aliquots were prepared and submitted for each analysis. Note that the acidification and dilution steps were necessary to maintain dissolution of the analytes and to meet sample analysis volume requirements.

In the case of the oxalate-spiked SB6-E slurry tests, additional supernatant aliquots were diluted with de-ionized water only (no acidification) and submitted for oxalate analyses by ion chromatography (IC). In the case of the real-waste slurry tests, the acidified and diluted supernatant aliquots (the ones prepared for ICP-AES analyses) were also

submitted for Pu-239 analyses by inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry (ICP-MS).

Beaker tests with the non-radioactive slurry matrices (simple Fe-Gd slurries and SB6 simulant slurries) were performed in standard "non-rad" laboratories, and the associated analyses were performed at the PSAL. In contrast, the real-waste beaker tests were performed remotely in the Shielded Cells facility, and the associated analyses were performed by AD.

4.3 SRAT Simulation Testing

Six SRAT simulations were performed using the SB6-E and SB6-H simulant slurry matrices. Each SRAT simulation was conducted in accordance with the prescribed procedure.⁶ A detailed description of the laboratory equipment used in the SRAT simulations and a series of schematics illustrating the laboratory set-up are documented in a 2010 SRNL memorandum.⁷ The slurry volume associated with each simulation was approximately three liters. The typical cycle time was approximately twenty hours.

The experimental conditions of the SRAT simulations are summarized in Table 4-6. The first four simulations were performed using the SB6-E slurry matrix, and a combination of nitric and formic acids. The fifth and sixth simulations were performed using the SB6-H slurry matrix, and a combination of nitric, formic, and glycolic acids. Detailed run parameters for the simulations are given in Appendices A-F.

| SRAT | Simulant | Fe:Gd | Moles Acid Added | Targeted Acid | | Mole % | |
|--------|---------------|-------|---------------------|---------------|--------|--------|----------|
| Run # | Batch | Ratio | Per Liter of Slurry | Stoichiometry | Nitric | Formic | Glycolic |
| SB6-27 | SB6- Е | 25 | 1.8 | 150% | 30 | 70 | 0 |
| SB6-28 | SB6-E | 25 | 1.8 | 150% | 10 | 90 | 0 |
| SB6-29 | SB6- E | 50 | 1.8 | 150% | 30 | 70 | 0 |
| SB6-30 | SB6- E | 50 | 1.8 | 150% | 10 | 90 | 0 |
| GF-13 | SB6-H | 24 | 1.4 | 100% | 49 | 10 | 41 |
| GF-14 | SB6-H | 24 | 1.4 | 100% | 41 | 12 | 47 |

 Table 4-6.
 Summary of SRAT Simulation Conditions

Notes: a) Fe:Gd ratios in the table are based upon original batch characterization of simulant materials and the masses of gadolinium added for each of the SRAT runs; and b) percent acid stoichiometries were calculated based on Equation 2 given in SRNL-L3100-2009-00146 (Koopman, D. C., A. I. Fernandez, and B. R. Pickenheim; *Preliminary Evaluation of Two Proposed Stoichiometric Acid Equations*; June 15, 2009).

Fourteen milliliter slurry sample aliquots were collected at various times during the simulations (during and after acid addition), and then centrifuged while hot at 3000-4000 rpm for 10 minutes. Immediately following centrifugation, the free supernatant was removed from the centrifuge tube and submitted to the PSAL for ICP-AES analysis. At the end of the simulation, a 120 mL sample of the SRAT product was collected and submitted to the PSAL for a series of analyses, including: a) slurry and supernatant elementals by ICP-AES; b) supernatant anions by IC; c) slurry and supernatant densities; d) solids distribution; and e) pH. Two measurements were performed on each sample.

4.4 Test Data Analysis

Analytical results for the replicate supernatant measurements were averaged after adjusting the raw data for dilution. The average concentrations of gadolinium, iron, and sodium were reported for every test case except the GF-13 and GF-14 SRAT simulations. In the GF-13 and GF-14 cases, only the supernatant gadolinium and iron concentrations were reported, as sodium measurements had not been performed. (Note that GF-13 and GF-14 simulations were conducted as part of a different project, with different sampling and analysis protocols).

The supernatant sodium concentrations provided a measure of the extent of water gain or loss during the addition of the acid solutions and the subsequent evaporation occurring while boiling. Under the assumption that all of the sodium was soluble (all in the liquid phase), the estimated fraction of net water gained or lost was $(C_i - C_f)/C_f$, where C_i was the initial supernatant sodium concentration (prior to testing) and C_f was the final supernatant sodium concentration of testing). Note that a positive fraction indicated a net water gain, while a negative fraction indicated a net water loss.

For all tests except those of GF-13 and GF-14, the estimated portions of gadolinium and iron partitioning to the liquid phase were calculated using the following quantities:

- The liquid-phase gadolinium and iron concentrations observed for the test samples
- The gadolinium and iron concentrations in the total solids of the original slurries
- The solids distributions of the original slurries
- The original supernatant density
- The net volumes of water gained or lost during the tests

The initial quantities of gadolinium and iron in a unit mass of slurry were calculated based on the concentrations in the total solids and the total solids content of the slurry. The volume of supernatant associated with the initial slurry was calculated by multiplying the unit slurry mass by the supernatant mass fraction (one minus the insoluble solids mass fraction) and dividing the product by the supernatant density. The final volume of supernatant (at the time of sampling) was determined by applying the net water gain or loss. The final liquid-phase constituent mass was the product of the final liquid-phase concentration and the supernatant volume adjusted for water gain or loss. The estimated portion of the constituent in the liquid phase was the final liquid-phase constituent mass divided by the total constituent mass associated with the initial slurry.

For the GF-13 and GF-14 tests, the liquid-phase partitioning values were estimated using the same calculation approach described above – however, the supernatant volumes were not adjusted for water gains or losses, due to the lack of sodium concentration data. The net effect was that the reported partitioning values for these tests were expected to be underestimates during the period when pH was declining (during the acid additions) and overestimates for the period following the acid additions (when water was boiled off). The maximum extent of underestimation or overestimation in these cases was thought to be $\sim 25\%$ (on a relative basis).

5.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

5.1 Beaker Tests

Simple Fe-Gd Slurries

Gadolinium, iron, and sodium concentrations in the supernatants of the "simple Fe-Gd" slurries are given in Table 5-1. The estimated portions of gadolinium and iron that partitioned to the liquid phase are given in Tables 5-2 and 5-3, respectively. Plots of the supernatant gadolinium concentrations and estimated liquid-phase partitioning under the hot temperature conditions are given as functions of the pH in Figures 5-1 and 5-2, respectively. Note that the gadolinium data from the pH 6 tests were not included in plots, since the measured gadolinium concentrations at pH 6 were all less than the minimum detection limits. Also note that the iron data were not plotted, since the iron concentrations at pH 4 and 6 were all less than the minimum detection limits.

At pH 6, the liquid-phase concentrations of gadolinium were less than the minimum detection limit (1 mg/L), regardless of the Fe:Gd ratio. The corresponding portions of gadolinium partitioning to the liquid-phase at pH 6 were exceedingly small, less than 0.2 % of the total gadolinium. At pH 4, the liquid-phase gadolinium concentrations were detectable, ranging from approximately 6 mg/L for the hot 100:1 Fe:Gd slurry to approximately 100 mg/L for the hot 25:1 Fe:Gd slurry. Still, the estimated portions of gadolinium partitioning to the liquid phase were small, from about 1% for the 100:1 Fe:Gd slurry to about 4% for the 25:1 Fe:Gd slurry.

In contrast, at pH 2, the liquid-phase concentrations of gadolinium were substantial. Specifically, the supernatant gadolinium concentrations for the 25:1, 50:1, and 100:1 Fe:Gd slurries were approximately 2000, 1000, and 500 mg/L, respectively. Correspondingly, the estimated portions of the gadolinium partitioning to the liquid phase were on the order of 80-90%, regardless of the Fe:Gd ratio. Given that the liquid-phase concentrations doubled with the amounts of gadolinium present (twice as much gadolinium in the 25:1 Fe:Gd slurry as in the 50:1 Fe:Gd slurry, and twice as much gadolinium in the 50:1 Fe:Gd slurry as in the 100:1 Fe:Gd slurry), it is conjectured that all of the available gadolinium may have been partitioning into solution in each case.

A comparison of the "hot" and "cold" gadolinium concentrations provides additional support that essentially 100% of the gadolinium partitioned to the liquid-phase at pH 2. Whereas at pH 4, the gadolinium concentrations at elevated temperature conditions were as much as 40-70% higher than those at the cooler temperature, at pH 2, the gadolinium concentrations at elevated temperature were a mere 2-5% higher than those at the cooler temperature. Given the expected increase in solubility at higher temperatures (consistent with the pH 4 results), the similarities between the "cold" and "hot" pH 2 results suggest that the vast majority of the available gadolinium was soluble at the lower temperature.

| mg/L |
|------|
| Na |
|)E+4 |
| 2E+4 |
| 5E+4 |
| 3E+4 |
| E+4 |
| 5E+4 |
| 2E+4 |
| E+4 |
|)E+4 |
|)E+4 |
| E+4 |
| 5E+4 |
| E+4 |
| 6E+4 |
| |

Table 5-1. Supernatant Constituent Concentrations in Simple Fe-Gd Slurries

H = hot (~93 °C when sampled); C = cooled to ~22 °C

| Table 3-2, Soluble 1 of doils of Gauoninum in the Simple Fe-Gu Stuffle | Table | 5-2. | Soluble | Portions | of | Gadolii | nium in | the | Simp | le Fe- | Gd S | Slurries |
|--|-------|------|---------|-----------------|----|---------|---------|-----|------|--------|------|----------|
|--|-------|------|---------|-----------------|----|---------|---------|-----|------|--------|------|----------|

| ForCd | Soluble Portion of Gadolinium, % | | | | | | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--|--|
| Ratio | рН 6, НОТ | pH 6, COLD | рН 4, НОТ | pH 4, COLD | рН 2, НОТ | pH 2, COLD | | |
| 25 | < 0.04 | < 0.04 | 4.4 | 2.9 | 86 | 88 | | |
| 50 | < 0.07 | < 0.08 | 0.62 | 0.35 | 79 | 74 | | |
| 100 | < 0.17 | < 0.17 | 0.96 | 0.54 | 84 | 80 | | |

Table 5-3. Soluble Portions of Iron in the Simple Fe-Gd Slurries

| ForCd | Soluble Portion of Iron, % | | | | | | |
|-------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--|
| Ratio | рН 6, НОТ | pH 6, COLD | рН 4, НОТ | pH 4, COLD | рН 2, НОТ | pH 2, COLD | |
| 25 | < 0.02 | < 0.02 | < 0.02 | < 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.03 | |
| 50 | < 0.02 | < 0.02 | < 0.02 | < 0.02 | 0.30 | 0.39 | |
| 100 | < 0.02 | < 0.02 | < 0.02 | < 0.02 | 0.89 | 0.80 | |



Figure 5-1. Simple Fe-Gd Slurries: Supernatant Gd Concentrations at pH 2 and 4



Figure 5-2. Simple Fe-Gd Slurries: Soluble Portions of Gd at pH 2 and 4

At pH 6 and 4, the liquid-phase concentrations of iron were less than the minimum detection limits (~10 mg/L), regardless of the Fe:Gd ratio. Because of the large quantities of iron in the slurries, the corresponding portions of iron partitioning to the liquid phase were minute, less than 0.02% of the total iron. At pH 2, the liquid-phase concentrations of iron were detectable, ranging from approximately 20 mg/L for the hot 25:1 Fe:Gd slurry to approximately 500 mg/L for the hot 100:1 Fe:Gd slurry. The lower iron concentration for the 25:1 Fe:Gd slurry (where the gadolinium content was higher) suggests that the greater presence of gadolinium may suppress the iron solubility.

The impact of temperature on the supernatant iron concentrations at pH 2 is not clear. For the 25:1 Fe:Gd slurry, the "hot" and "cold" iron concentrations were approximately the same, 17 and 19 mg/L, respectively. The difference between these two concentrations is approximately 10% and not considered significant, as it is less than the expected propagated experimental uncertainty. For the 50:1 Fe:Gd slurry, the "hot" iron concentration (180 mg/L) was 25% lower than the "cold" concentration (240 mg/L). This difference may not be significant either, as it is on the order of the expected uncertainty. In contrast, for the 100:1 Fe:Gd slurry, the 'hot" iron concentration (540 mg/L) was about 70% higher than the "cold" concentration. The 70% difference is considered significant, since it is clearly higher than the expected uncertainty (~25%).

The liquid-phase sodium concentrations ranged from 3.3E+4 to 4.2E+4 mg/L. These concentrations were 40-70% higher than the supernatant sodium concentrations of the original slurries prior to the acid additions and evaporative losses that occurred during boiling (see Table 4-2 for the original supernatant sodium concentration). Note that the sodium concentration increases were reflective of the net water losses that occurred during boiling. (Quantification of these losses was needed to estimate the portions of gadolinium and iron partitioning to the liquid phase).

SB6-E Simulant Slurries (Without Extra Oxalate)

Gadolinium, iron, and sodium concentrations in the supernatants of the various "SB6-E simulant" slurries are given in Table 5-4. The estimated portions of gadolinium and iron that partitioned to the liquid phase are given in Tables 5-5 and 5-6, respectively. Plots of the supernatant gadolinium concentrations and estimated liquid-phase partitioning under the hot temperature conditions are given as a function of the pH in Figures 5-3 and 5-4, respectively.

As was the case for the simple Fe-Gd slurries, the liquid-phase concentrations of gadolinium in the SB6-E slurries were detectable at both the pH 4 and pH 2 conditions. At pH 4, the concentrations were ~20 mg/L, regardless of the Fe:Gd ratio and the slurry temperature. The corresponding portions of gadolinium partitioned to the liquid phase were 2-3%. In contrast, at pH 2, the concentrations were significantly higher, ~800 mg/L for the 25:1 Fe:Gd slurry and ~400 mg/L for the 50:1 Fe:Gd slurry. The corresponding portions of gadolinium partitioned to be ~70%. However, as was the case for the simple slurries, the concentration trends suggest that at pH 2, the portions of gadolinium in the liquid phase may have been closer to 100%.

| Fe:Gd | ոՍ | Tomp | Supernata | nt Concentra | tion, mg/L |
|-------|----|------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| Ratio | рп | remp | Gd | Fe | Na |
| | 1 | Н | 19 | <0.6 | 2.4E+4 |
| 25 | 4 | С | 18 | <0.6 | 2.5E+4 |
| | 2 | Н | 8.2E+2 | 1.1E+2 | 2.6E+4 |
| | | С | 8.3E+2 | 39 | 2.5E+4 |
| | 4 | Н | 18 | < 0.5 | 2.5E+4 |
| 50 | 4 | С | 16 | < 0.5 | 2.6E+4 |
| | C | Н | 4.2E+2 | 1.6E+2 | 2.5E+4 |
| | 2 | С | 4.3E+2 | 57 | 2.6E+4 |

Table 5-4. Supernatant Constituent Concentrations in the SB6-E Slurries

Table 5-5. Soluble Portions of Gadolinium in the SB6-E Slurries

| ForCd | Soluble Portion of Gadolinium, % | | | | | | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--|--|--|--|
| Ratio | рН 4, НОТ | pH 4, COLD | рН 2, НОТ | pH 2, COLD | | | | |
| 25 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 73 | 74 | | | | |
| 50 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 70 | 69 | | | | |

Table 5-6. Soluble Portions of Iron in the SB6-E Slurries

| ForCd | Soluble Portion of Iron, % | | | | | | | |
|-------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--|--|--|--|
| Ratio | рН 4, НОТ | pH 4, COLD | рН 2, НОТ | pH 2, COLD | | | | |
| 25 | < 0.002 | < 0.002 | 0.37 | 0.13 | | | | |
| 50 | < 0.002 | < 0.002 | 0.55 | 0.55 | | | | |



Figure 5-3. SB6-E Slurries: Supernatant Gd Concentrations at pH 2 and 4



Figure 5-4. SB6-E Slurries: Soluble Portions of Gd at pH 2 and 4

At pH 4, the liquid-phase concentrations of iron in the SB6-E slurries were less than the minimum detection limits (0.5-0.6 mg/L). The corresponding portions of iron partitioning to the liquid phase were minute, less than 0.002% of the total iron. In contrast, at pH 2, the liquid-phase concentrations of iron were detectable, although insignificant from the perspective of total iron. Specifically, the "hot" and "cold" iron concentrations were around 110 and 40 mg/L for the 25:1 Fe:Gd ratio slurry (respectively), and around 160 and 60 mg/L for the 50:1 Fe:Gd ratio slurry. The corresponding portions of iron in the liquid phase ranged from ~0.1 to ~0.6%.

Comparison of the "hot" and "cold" gadolinium concentrations at pH 4 showed little or no temperature impact (the differences were smaller than the expected experimental uncertainties of $\sim 25\%$). In contrast, the "hot" iron concentrations at pH 2 were typically three times the "cold" iron concentrations under the same Fe:Gd ratio conditions.

The liquid-phase sodium concentrations ranged from 2.4E+4 to 2.6E+4 mg/L. These concentrations were 20-30% higher than the supernatant concentrations of the original slurries prior to the acid additions and evaporative losses that occurred during boiling (see Table 4-4 for the original sodium concentration).

SB6-E Simulant Slurries with Added Oxalate (10,000 mg/kg slurry)

Gadolinium, iron, sodium, and oxalate concentrations in the supernatants of the "oxalatespiked SB6-E simulant" slurries are given in Table 5-7. The estimated portions of gadolinium and iron that partitioned to the liquid phase are given in Tables 5-8 and 5-9, respectively. A plot showing a comparison of the gadolinium partitioning in the presence and absence of added oxalate is given in Figure 5-5. Note that a plot comparing iron partitioning in the presence and absence of added oxalate was not presented, since the pH 4 supernatant iron concentrations in the absence of added oxalate were less than the minimum detection limits (see Table 5-6).

The liquid-phase concentrations of gadolinium in the oxalate-spiked SB6-E slurries ranged from ~8 to 24 mg/L. In comparison, the liquid-phase gadolinium concentrations for the unspiked SB6-E slurries at pH 4 were all approximately 20 mg/L (Table 5-4). The fact that the gadolinium concentrations in the oxalate-spiked slurries were the same order of magnitude as those in the unspiked slurries suggests that the added oxalate had little or no significant impact on the gadolinium solubility. Of course, since the test was performed at pH 4, additional testing would be necessary to determine potential impacts under alternate pH conditions, particularly at lower pH.

In contrast, the liquid-phase concentrations of iron in the oxalate-spiked SB6-E slurries were one or more orders of magnitude higher than the concentrations in the unspiked slurries. Specifically, the iron concentrations in the presence of the oxalate ranged from ~10-15 mg/L, while the concentrations in the absence of the oxalate (at pH 4) were all less than 0.6 mg/L (Table 5-4). Nonetheless, the portions of iron partitioning to liquid phase in the presence of the oxalate were still small, ranging from ~0.1 to 0.6 %.

| Fe:Gd | nU | Tomp | Supe | ernatant Conc | entration, n | ng/L |
|-------|----|------|------|---------------|--------------|---------|
| Ratio | рп | Temp | Gd | Fe | Na | Oxalate |
| 25 | 4 | Hot | 24 | 13 | 3.8E+4 | 1.7E+3 |
| 23 2 | 4 | Cold | 7.7 | 8.6 | 4.1E+4 | 1.6E+3 |
| 50 | 4 | Hot | 14 | 15 | 3.7E+4 | 2.2E+3 |
| 50 | 4 | Cold | 12 | 13 | 3.5E+4 | 2.3E+3 |

 Table 5-7. Supernatant Constituent Concentrations in SB6-E Slurries with Added Oxalate

| Fe:Gd Ratio | Soluble Portion of Gadolinium, % | | | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| | pH 4, | рН 4, | | | |
| | НОТ | COLD | | | |
| 25 | 1.5 | 0.44 | | | |
| 50 | 1.6 | 1.5 | | | |

 Table 5-9. Soluble Portions of Iron in SB6-E Slurries with Added Oxalate

| ForCd | Soluble Portion of Iron, % | | | | |
|-------|----------------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| Ratio | pH 4, | рН 4, | | | |
| | НОТ | COLD | | | |
| 25 | 0.028 | 0.018 | | | |
| 50 | 0.038 | 0.036 | | | |



Figure 5-5. SB6-E Slurries w/ and w/o Added Oxalate: Soluble Portions of Gd

The liquid-phase sodium concentrations ranged from 3.5E+4 to 4.1E+4 mg/L. These concentrations were 75-105% higher than the original sodium concentration prior to sodium oxalate and acid additions, and prior to evaporative losses that occurred during boiling. The relatively large increases in the sodium concentration were attributed to two primary impacts. First was the relatively large evaporative loss that occurred during acidification and boiling of the oxalate-spiked slurries. As opposed to the slurries without the added oxalate, the oxalate-spiked slurries tended to boil more intensely, especially during the periods of acid addition. Second was the additional sodium that was introduced with the oxalate (in the form of sodium oxalate). Assuming complete dissolution of sodium oxalate, the liquid-phase sodium contribution due to the added sodium oxalate would have been ~6E+3 mg/L.

The liquid-phase oxalate concentrations were on the order of 2E+3 mg/L. This suggests that: a) only about one-third of the sodium oxalate partitioned to the liquid phase; and/or b) a portion of the oxalate was destroyed (decomposed to by-products) during acidification.

SRS Real-Waste Sludge Slurry

Gadolinium, iron, and sodium concentrations in the supernatants of the "real-waste" slurries are given in Table 5-10. Also given in Table 5-10 are the supernatant concentrations of plutonium-239, a constituent important from the standpoint of being fissile. The corresponding estimated portions of Gd, Fe, and Pu-239 that partitioned to the liquid phase are given in Table 5-11. Plots of the supernatant constituent concentrations and estimated partitioning under the hot temperature conditions are given as functions of the pH in Figures 5-6 and 5-7, respectively.

Liquid-phase concentrations of the Gd, Fe, and Pu-239 were detectable at both of the pH conditions tested (pH 4 and 2). As expected, the liquid-phase concentration of each constituent at pH 2 was higher than the corresponding concentration at pH 4. The liquid-phase concentrations were highest for gadolinium (~20 to ~900 mg/L), second highest for iron (~10 to ~50 mg/L), and lowest for Pu-239 (~0.2 to ~0.3 mg/L).

Note that at pH 4, the liquid-phase iron concentrations (~10 mg/L) were: a) similar to those observed for the oxalate-spiked SB6-E slurry; and b) significantly higher than those observed for the simple Fe-Gd slurries and unspiked SB6-E slurries. Given that the real-waste slurry contained significant oxalate (see Table 4-5), the results are consistent with the assumption that high oxalate concentrations can raise the iron solubility.

The corresponding portions of constituents that partitioned to the liquid phase ranged from ~2 to ~75% for gadolinium, ~0.50 to ~0.75% for Pu-239, and ~0.03 to ~0.15% for iron. In each case, the lower value applied to the pH 4 case and the higher value applied to the pH 2 case. Based on these results, it is clear that the vast majority of the gadolinium, iron, and plutonium stayed together in the solid phase at pH 4. However, at pH 2, the majority of the gadolinium partitioned to the liquid phase, while most of the iron and plutonium remained together in the solid phase.

| Fe:Gd | лU | Tomp | Super | rnatant Con | centration, | mg/L |
|-------|----|------|--------|-------------|-------------|--------|
| Ratio | рп | Н | Gd | Fe | Pu-239 | Na |
| | 4 | Н | 25 | 9.3 | 0.22 | 3.7E+4 |
| 25 | 4 | С | 19 | 8.8 | 0.22 | 3.8E+4 |
| 25 | 2 | Н | 8.7E+2 | 49 | 0.33 | 3.8E+4 |
| | | С | 8.8E+2 | 43 | 0.33 | 3.8E+4 |

Table 5-10. Supernatant Constituent Concentrations in Real-Waste Slurry

 Table 5-11. Soluble Portions of Constituents in Real-Waste Slurry

| Constituent | Soluble Portion of Constituent, % | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|---|------|------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | pH 4, HOT | pH 4, HOT pH 4, COLD pH 2, HOT pH 2, COLD | | | | | | | |
| Gadolinium | 2.3 | 1.7 | 75 | 74 | | | | | |
| Iron | 0.032 | 0.030 | 0.16 | 0.14 | | | | | |
| Pu-239 | 0.53 | 0.50 | 0.75 | 0.73 | | | | | |



Figure 5-6. Real-Waste Slurry: Supernatant Metal Concentrations at pH 2 and 4



Figure 5-7. Real-Waste Slurry: Soluble Portions of Metals at pH 2 and 4

Comparison of the "hot" and "cold" constituent concentrations showed little or no clear temperature impact (the differences were typically the same magnitude as the expected experimental uncertainties, ~25%, or smaller).

The liquid-phase sodium concentrations were all ~3.8E+4 mg/L. These concentrations were ~90% higher than the supernatant concentrations of the original slurry (see Table 4-5). The relatively large increases in the liquid-phase sodium concentration were attributed to the same impacts identified for the oxalate-spiked SB6-E slurry: 1) large evaporative losses due to heightened boiling intensities; and 2) additional supernatant sodium due to dissolution of solid-phase sodium oxalate.

Summary of Gd and Fe Partitioning in Beaker Tests

A plot summarizing all of the estimated gadolinium partitioning data for the beaker tests is given as a function of pH in Figure 5-8. Note that a similar plot for the iron partitioning data has not been presented, since in all tests the soluble portion of iron was trivial (<1.0%).



Figure 5-8. Summary of Beaker Test Gd Partitioning Data

Regardless of the slurry matrix, Fe:Gd ratio, and temperature, the portions of gadolinium partitioning to the liquid-phase were major at pH 2 (70-90%), minor at pH 4 (a few percent or less), and below the minimum detection limits at pH 6. In contrast, the portions of iron partitioning to the liquid-phase over the pH 2-6 range were all very minor (0.02-0.9%) or below the minimum detection limits.

5.2 SRAT Simulations

SB6-27 (Fe:Gd target of 25; 30% nitric acid, 70% formic acid)

Liquid-phase constituent and pH data for SB6-27 are given in Table 5-12. Plots of the pH profile, Gd and Fe concentrations, and Gd and Fe partitioning behavior are given as functions of time in Figures 5-9, 5-10, and 5-11, respectively. SRAT product analyses indicated that the final total solids content was 22.8 wt% and the Fe:Gd ratio was 28.

| Time, | ոԱ | Liquid-Phase | e Concentrat | ion, mg/L | Soluble Portion of Constituent, % | | |
|-------|-----|--------------|--------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------|--|
| hrs | pn | Gadolinium | Iron | Sodium | Gadolinium | Iron | |
| 4.4 | 6.0 | 2.7E-1 | 4.9E0 | 1.9E+4 | 0.036 | 0.026 | |
| 5.0 | 5.0 | 2.5E0 | 5.2E0 | 1.8E+4 | 0.35 | 0.029 | |
| 6.1 | 4.0 | 7.9E+1 | 2.5E+1 | 1.8E+4 | 11 | 0.13 | |
| 6.9 | 3.6 | 1.6E+2 | 5.0E+1 | 1.9E+4 | 21 | 0.27 | |
| 10.3 | 4.2 | 1.8E+2 | 4.2E+3 | 2.4E+4 | 19 | 18 | |
| 13.3 | 4.4 | 1.5E+2 | 5.0E+3 | 2.7E+4 | 14 | 18 | |
| 16.3 | 4.6 | 9.7E+1 | 4.6E+3 | 2.4E+4 | 10 | 19 | |
| 19.3 | 5.0 | 4.2E+1 | 3.6E+3 | 2.5E+4 | 4.1 | 14 | |
| 20.0 | 5.2 | 4.0E+1 | 1.7E+3 | 2.7E+4 | 3.8 | 6.4 | |

 Table 5-12. Liquid-Phase Concentrations, Partitioning, and pH during SB6-27



Figure 5-9. SB6-27: pH Profile



Figure 5-10. SB6-27: Gd and Fe Supernatant Concentrations



Figure 5-11. SB6-27: Gd and Fe Partitioning

As shown in Figure 5-9, the acid additions of SB6-27 reduced the slurry pH to a minimum value of 3.6, which occurred about seven hours into the SRAT simulation. Approximately 2.5 hours earlier (t = 4.4 hrs), the pH was 6.0, and by the end of the simulation (t = 20.0 hrs), the pH had risen from 3.6 to 5.2.

Over the time period from t = 4.4 hours until the end of the simulation, the liquid-phase gadolinium concentrations varied by a factor of ~600 and the liquid-phase iron concentrations varied by a factor of ~1000 (see Figure 5-10). Specifically, the gadolinium concentrations ranged from ~0.3 to ~180 mg/L, with the minimum observed at t = 4.4 hours and the maximum observed at t = 10.3 hours. In contrast, the iron concentrations ranged from ~5 to ~5000 mg/L, with the minimum observed at t = 4.4 hours and the maximum observed at t = 13.3 hours.

The corresponding portions of gadolinium and iron partitioning to the liquid-phase ranged from ~0.04% to ~21% and ~0.03% to ~19%, respectively (see Figure 5-11). Despite the higher relative iron concentrations, the partitioning behaviors of the gadolinium and iron were very similar to one another. However, the partitioning of iron into the liquid-phase lagged several hours behind the partitioning of gadolinium. This can be seen in Figure 5-11, where the highest partitioning values for iron appear to the right of the highest partitioning values for gadolinium. This difference suggests that the dissolution of solid-phase iron was significantly slower than that of solid-phase gadolinium.

The liquid-phase sodium concentrations during SB6-27 ranged from 1.8E+4 to 2.7E+4 mg/L. These concentrations indicate that acid additions diluted the slurry by ~10%, and boiling/evaporation removed about one-third of the total water. The total solids content and the Fe:Gd ratio measurements of the SB6-27 SRAT product (22.8 wt% and 28, respectively) are consistent with expectations (taking analytical uncertainties into account) and provide assurance that the SRAT simulation was executed properly.

SB6-28 (Fe:Gd target of 25; 10% nitric acid, 90% formic acid)

Liquid-phase constituent and pH data for SB6-28 are given in Table 5-13. Plots of the pH profile, Gd and Fe concentrations, and Gd and Fe partitioning behavior are given as functions of time in Figures 5-12, 5-13, and 5-14, respectively. SRAT product analyses indicated that the final total solids content was 22.8 wt% and the Fe:Gd ratio was 28.

| Time, | ոՍ | Liquid-ph | hase Concentration, mg/L | | Soluble Portion of Constituent, % | | |
|-------|-----|------------|--------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|--------|--|
| hrs | рп | Gadolinium | Iron | Sodium | Gadolinium | Iron | |
| 3.7 | 6.0 | 5.8E-1 | 8.8E0 | 1.8E+4 | 0.082 | 0.048 | |
| 4.3 | 5.0 | 6.5E0 | 4.7E0 | 2.0E+4 | 0.84 | 0.023 | |
| 6.1 | 4.0 | 1.2E+2 | 6.2E+1 | 1.9E+4 | 17 | 0.32 | |
| 9.7 | 4.6 | 1.2E+2 | 3.7E+3 | 2.2E+4 | 14 | 16 | |
| 12.7 | 4.9 | 9.4E+1 | 5.1E+3 | 2.6E+4 | 9.1 | 19 | |
| 15.7 | 5.6 | 1.4E+1 | 2.3E+3 | 2.5E+4 | 1.4 | 9.0 | |
| 18.7 | 6.1 | 3.9E0 | 2.4E+2 | 2.7E+4 | 0.37 | 0.86 | |
| 19.0 | 6.3 | 1.6E0 | 7.9E-1 | 2.7E+4 | 0.15 | 0.0028 | |

 Table 5-13. Liquid-Phase Concentrations, Partitioning, and pH during SB6-28



Figure 5-12. SB6-28: pH Profile



Figure 5-13. SB6-28: Gd and Fe Supernatant Concentrations



Figure 5-14. SB6-28: Gd and Fe Partitioning

As shown in Figure 5-12, the acid additions of SB6-28 reduced the slurry pH to a minimum value of 4.0, which occurred about six hours into the SRAT simulation. Approximately 2.5 hours earlier (t = 3.7 hrs), the pH was 6.0, and by the end of the simulation (t = 19.0 hrs), the pH had risen from 4.0 to 6.3. Note that both the minimum and final pH values of SB6-28 were higher than those of SB6-27. These differences were attributed to the lower fraction of nitric acid utilized in the SB6-28 simulation (10% nitric acid in SB6-28 versus 30% nitric acid in SB6-27).

Over the time period from t = 3.7 hours until the end of the simulation, the liquid-phase gadolinium concentrations varied by a factor of ~200 and the liquid-phase iron concentrations varied by a factor of ~6500 (see Figure 5-13). Specifically, the gadolinium concentrations ranged from ~0.6 to ~120 mg/L, with the minimum observed at t = 3.7 hours and the maximum observed between t \approx 6 and t \approx 10 hours. In contrast, the iron concentrations ranged from ~0.8 to ~5000 mg/L, with the minimum observed at the end of the simulation (t = 19.0 hours) and the maximum observed at t = 12.7 hours.

The corresponding portions of gadolinium and iron partitioning to the liquid-phase ranged from ~0.08% to ~17% and ~0.003% to ~19%, respectively (see Figure 5-14). Clearly, the maximum portions of gadolinium and iron partitioning to the liquid phase were similar to one another, and consistent with the maximum portions identified in the previous SRAT simulation (SB6-27). Also consistent with the previous SRAT simulation, by several hours.

The liquid-phase sodium concentrations during SB6-28 ranged from 1.8E+4 to 2.7E+4 mg/L, the same as observed in SB6-27. The total solids content and the Fe:Gd ratio measurements of the SB6-28 SRAT product (22.8 wt% and 28, respectively) are consistent with expectations (taking analytical uncertainties into account) and provide assurance that the SRAT simulation was executed properly.

SB6-29 (Fe:Gd target of 50; 30% nitric acid, 70% formic acid)

Liquid-phase constituent and pH data for SB6-29 are given in Table 5-14. Plots of the pH profile, Gd and Fe concentrations, and Gd and Fe partitioning behavior are given as functions of time in Figures 5-15, 5-16, and 5-17, respectively. SRAT product analyses indicated that the final total solids content was 21.4 wt% and the Fe:Gd ratio was 49.

| Time, | ոՍ | Liquid-phase | e Concentra | tion, mg/L | Soluble Portion of Constituent, % | | |
|-------|-----|--------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------------------|-------|--|
| hrs | рп | Gadolinium | Iron | Sodium | Gadolinium | Iron | |
| 3.8 | 6.0 | 2.0E-1 | 3.8E0 | 1.8E+4 | 0.049 | 0.021 | |
| 4.3 | 5.0 | 3.6E-1 | 4.1E0 | 1.9E+4 | 0.089 | 0.022 | |
| 5.2 | 4.0 | 1.7E+1 | 2.6E+1 | 1.7E+4 | 4.5 | 0.16 | |
| 6.6 | 3.5 | 6.2E+1 | 9.1E+1 | 1.8E+4 | 16 | 0.52 | |
| 9.9 | 4.1 | 7.8E+1 | 4.5E+3 | 2.1E+4 | 17 | 21 | |
| 12.9 | 4.4 | 6.8E+1 | 5.7E+3 | 2.5E+4 | 13 | 23 | |
| 15.9 | 4.7 | 4.0E0 | 5.1E+3 | 2.4E+4 | 7.6 | 22 | |
| 18.9 | 4.9 | 2.4E+1 | 4.1E+3 | 2.4E+4 | 4.5 | 17 | |
| 21.8 | 5.3 | 1.1E+1 | 4.0E+3 | 2.6E+4 | 2.0 | 16 | |

 Table 5-14. Liquid-Phase Concentrations, Partitioning, and pH during SB6-29



Figure 5-15. SB6-29: pH Profile



Figure 5-16. SB6-29: Gd and Fe Supernatant Concentrations



Figure 5-17. SB6-29: Gd and Fe Partitioning

As shown in Figure 5-15, the acid additions of SB6-29 reduced the slurry pH to a minimum value of 3.5, which occurred about seven hours into the SRAT simulation. Approximately three hours earlier (t = 3.8 hrs), the pH was 6.0, and by the end of the simulation (t = 21.8 hrs), the pH had risen from 3.5 to 5.3. The minimum and final pH values of SB6-29 were very similar to those of SB6-27. This similarity was expected, since SB6-27 and SB6-29 were both acidified identically (30% nitric acid and 70% formic acid).

Over the time period from t = 3.8 hours until the end of the simulation, the liquid-phase gadolinium concentrations varied by a factor of ~400 and the liquid-phase iron concentrations varied by a factor of ~1500 (see Figure 5-16). Specifically, the gadolinium concentrations ranged from ~0.2 to ~80 mg/L, with the minimum observed at t = 3.8 hours and the maximum observed at t \approx 10 hours. In contrast, the iron concentrations ranged from ~4 to ~5700 mg/L, with the minimum observed at t = 3.8 hours and the maximum observed at t = 12.9 hours.

The maximum liquid-phase concentration of gadolinium in SB6-29 was about half that observed in SB6-27 (the other simulation with identical acid addition). These data support the hypothesis that gadolinium solubility decreases as the Fe:Gd ratio increases, since the only difference between the SB6-29 and SB6-27 simulations was that the SB6-29 slurry contained half the gadolinium of the SB6-27 slurry (50:1 Fe:Gd for SB6-29 and 25:1 Fe:Gd for SB6-27).

The corresponding portions of gadolinium and iron partitioning to the liquid-phase ranged from ~0.05% to ~17% and ~0.02% to ~23%, respectively (see Figure 5-17). As in the previous two SRAT simulations, the maximum portions of gadolinium and iron that were soluble during SB7-29 were the same order of magnitude (~20%), despite the significantly lower slurry gadolinium content of SB6-29 (half that of the SB6-27 and SB6-28 slurries). Also consistent with the previous SRAT simulations was the lagging of iron dissolution behind gadolinium dissolution by several hours.

The liquid-phase sodium concentrations during SB6-29 ranged from 1.8E+4 to 2.6E+4 mg/L. The similarity between these concentrations and the ones observed in SB6-27 and SB6-28 is not unexpected given the typical consistency of SRAT simulation operations. The total solids content and the Fe:Gd ratio measurements of the SB6-29 SRAT product (21.4 wt% and 49, respectively) are consistent with expectations (taking analytical uncertainties into account) and provide assurance that the SRAT simulation was executed properly.

SB6-30 (Fe:Gd target of 50; 10% nitric acid, 90% formic acid)

Note: SRAT run SB6-30 is considered anomalous since the quantity of insoluble solids was approximately 50% lower than planned. This was apparently due to inadequate mixing of the slurry prior to transfer into the SRAT rig. As a result, the acid stoichiometry and Fe:Gd ratio were both significantly different from the targets. For this reason, the SB6-30 data should <u>not</u> be considered representative of data obtained under typical baseline conditions.

Liquid-phase constituent and pH data for SB6-30 are given in Table 5-15. Plots of the pH profile, Gd and Fe concentrations, and Gd and Fe partitioning behavior are given as functions of time in Figures 5-18, 5-19, and 5-20, respectively. SRAT product analyses indicated that the final total solids content was 17.1 wt% and the Fe:Gd ratio was 26.

| Time, | nЦ | Liquid-phase Concentration, mg/L | | | Soluble Portion of Constituent, % | | |
|-------|-----|----------------------------------|--------|--------|-----------------------------------|-------|--|
| hrs | hn | Gadolinium | Iron | Sodium | Gadolinium | Iron | |
| 3.1 | 6.0 | 2.7E-1 | 5.3E0 | 1.6E+4 | 0.088 | 0.065 | |
| 3.4 | 5.0 | 2.1E0 | 2.6E0 | 1.7E+4 | 0.67 | 0.031 | |
| 5.1 | 4.0 | 5.9E+1 | 3.5E+1 | 1.7E+4 | 18 | 0.40 | |
| 5.6 | 3.7 | 9.4E+1 | 3.1E+2 | 1.7E+4 | 29 | 3.6 | |
| 9.1 | 4.1 | 2.4E+2 | 6.1E+3 | 2.4E+4 | 53 | 51 | |
| 12.1 | 4.4 | 2.7E+2 | 7.4E+3 | 2.4E+4 | 59 | 60 | |
| 15.2 | 4.8 | 2.2E+2 | 9.0E+3 | 2.5E+4 | 46 | 72 | |
| 18.1 | 5.3 | 1.2E+2 | 8.7E+3 | 2.4E+4 | 26 | 70 | |
| 18.6 | 5.4 | 4.9E+1 | 3.9E+3 | 2.6E+4 | 9.7 | 30 | |

Table 5-15. Liquid-Phase Concentrations, Partitioning, and pH during SB6-30



Figure 5-18. SB6-30: pH Profile







Figure 5-20. SB6-30: Gd and Fe Partitioning

As shown in Figure 5-18, the acid additions of SB6-30 reduced the slurry pH to a minimum value of 3.7, which occurred about six hours into the SRAT simulation. Approximately three hours earlier (t = 3.1 hrs), the pH was 6.0, and by the end of the simulation (t = 18.6 hrs), the pH had risen from 3.7 to 5.4. The minimum and final pH values of SB6-30 were clearly lower than those of SB6-28 (4.0 and 6.3, respectively), which was initially surprising given that the targeted acidification protocols for SB6-30 and SB6-28 were the same (10% nitric acid and 90% formic acid). The reason for the pH difference became apparent after reviewing the relative solids contents of the SB6-28 and SB6-30 SRAT products (22.8 and 17.1 wt%, respectively).

The solids content of the SB6-28 SRAT product (22.8 wt%) agreed well with the final solids target identified in the acid calculation (23.0 wt%). In contrast, the solids content of the SB6-30 SRAT product (17.1 wt%) was significantly lower than the final solids target (23.0 wt%) – by a factor of approximately 25%. This low solids content was atypical and attributed to inadequate suspension of insoluble solids during transfer of the simulant slurry into the SRAT rig – which lessened the insoluble solids content of the test aliquot. The net effect was that the SB6-30 simulation was run under unintentionally anomalous conditions, with an acid stoichiometry that was very likely different from the 150% target. (Uncertainties in the initial solids distribution of the SB6-30 sludge prevented a reliable determination of the actual acid stoichiometry). Note that the depressed Fe:Gd ratio measured in the SRAT product (26, as opposed to the value of 50

that was targeted) was reflective of the lower quantity of iron present, due to reduced insoluble solids content.

Over the time period from t = 3.1 hours until the end of the simulation, the liquid-phase gadolinium concentrations varied by a factor of ~1000 and the liquid-phase iron concentrations varied by a factor of ~3500 (see Figure 5-19). Specifically, the gadolinium concentrations ranged from ~0.3 to ~270 mg/L, with the minimum observed at t = 3.1 hours and the maximum observed at t = 12.1 hours. In contrast, the iron concentrations ranged from ~3 to 9000 mg/L, with the minimum observed at t = 3.4 hours and the maximum observed at t = 15.2 hours.

The maximum liquid-phase concentrations of gadolinium and iron in SB6-30 were about twice those observed in SB6-28. These differences were attributed to the lower solids concentrations, which consumed less acid, resulting in lower pH conditions and enhanced dissolution of available solid-phase metals.

The corresponding portions of gadolinium and iron partitioning to the liquid-phase ranged from ~0.09% to ~60% and ~0.03% to ~70%, respectively (see Figure 5-20). Based on these values, the maximum portions of gadolinium and iron that were soluble during SB6-30 were about 3-4 times those of the previous three SRAT simulations (SB6-27, -28, and -29). The significant increase in liquid-phase partitioning during SB6-30 demonstrates the impact of a significantly lower initial insoluble solids concentration. Regardless of the higher relative acidity, the onset of iron dissolution in SB6-30 still lagged the onset of gadolinium dissolution gadolinium by several hours, just like in SB6-27, -28, and -29.

The liquid-phase sodium concentrations during SB6-30 ranged from 1.6E+4 to 2.6E+4 mg/L. Note that the minimum sodium concentration was ~10-15% less than the minimum sodium concentrations of SB6-27, -28, and -29. This difference may have been related to the atypically lower total solids content of the SB6-30 simulation and/or the analytical uncertainty.

GF-13 (Fe:Gd target of 25; 49% nitric acid, 10% formic acid, 41% glycolic acid)

Liquid-phase constituent and pH data for GF-13 are given in Table 5-16. Plots of the pH profile, Gd and Fe concentrations, and Gd and Fe partitioning behavior are given as functions of time in Figures 5-21, 5-22, and 5-23, respectively. SRAT product analyses indicated that the final total solids content was 25.7 wt% and the Fe:Gd ratio was 30.

| Time, | лU | Concentration, mg/L Soluble Portion | | Soluble Portion | of Constituent, % |
|-------|-----|-------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|-------------------|
| hrs | рп | Gadolinium | Iron | Gadolinium | Iron |
| 4.0 | 6.0 | 1.9E-1 | 3.1E0 | 0.017 | 0.0094 |
| 5.0 | 4.8 | 6.2E-1 | 1.4E0 | 0.055 | 0.0042 |
| 6.0 | 4.4 | 3.8E+2 | 4.5E+1 | 34 | 0.14 |
| 7.0 | 4.0 | 3.0E+2 | 3.5E+1 | 27 | 0.11 |
| 7.9 | 3.6 | 4.7E+2 | 2.5E+2 | 42 | 0.76 |
| 11.5 | 3.7 | 7.2E+2 | 3.6E+2 | 64 | 1.1 |
| 14.5 | 3.8 | 8.2E+2 | 9.0E+2 | 73 | 2.7 |
| 17.5 | 3.9 | 7.9E+2 | 1.1E+3 | 70 | 3.3 |
| 20.6 | 4.0 | 9.1E+2 | 4.0E+2 | 81 | 1.2 |

 Table 5-16. Liquid-Phase Concentrations, Partitioning, and pH during GF-13



Figure 5-21. GF-13: pH Profile



Figure 5-22. GF-13: Gd and Fe Supernatant Concentrations





As shown in Figure 5-21, the acid additions of GF-13 reduced the slurry pH to a minimum value of 3.6, which occurred about eight hours into the SRAT simulation. Approximately five hours earlier (t = 4.0 hrs), the pH was 6.0, and by the end of the simulation (t = 20.6 hrs), the pH had risen from 3.6 to 4.0. As compared to the previous SRAT simulations (SB6-27, -28, -29, and -30), the increase in pH following acid addition was significantly less for the GF-13 simulation. This difference was attributed to the presence of glycolic acid, which was absent from the previous simulations.

Over the time period from t = 4.0 hours until the end of the GF-13 simulation, the liquidphase gadolinium concentrations varied by a factor of ~5000 and the liquid-phase iron concentrations varied by a factor of ~800 (see Figure 5-22). Specifically, the gadolinium concentrations ranged from ~0.2 to 910 mg/L, with the minimum observed at t = 4.0 hours and the maximum observed at t = 20.6 hours (the end of the simulation). In contrast, the iron concentrations ranged from 1.4 to 1100 mg/L, with the minimum observed at t = 5.0 hours and the maximum observed at t = 17.5 hours. The relatively high gadolinium and iron concentrations in the latter stages of the simulation reflect the relatively low pH conditions that endured following acid addition.

The maximum liquid-phase gadolinium concentrations in GF-13 were significantly higher (up to ten times higher) than those of the previous SRAT simulations. In contrast, the maximum iron concentrations in GF-13 were significantly lower (by a minimum factor of five) than those of the previous SRAT simulations. Additionally, the gadolinium and iron dissolution in GF-13 occurred nearly simultaneously (note the overlap of the concentration curves in Figure 5-22), as opposed to the previous simulations in which iron dissolution lagged considerably behind gadolinium dissolution. These differences were attributed to the presence of glycolic acid, which was utilized in GF-13, but absent from the previous simulations. Based on the results, it is conjectured that glycolic acid increases the gadolinium solubility, decreases the iron solubility, and raises the rate at which solid-phase iron dissolves.

The corresponding portions of gadolinium and iron partitioning to the liquid-phase in GF-13 ranged from ~0.02% to ~80% and ~0.01% to ~3%, respectively (see Figure 5-23). Clearly, the high proportion of gadolinium partitioned to the liquid phase at the end of the simulation (~80%) left little gadolinium remaining in the solid phase. (Considering the impacts of normal experimental uncertainties and process fluctuations, the possibility of complete dissolution of gadolinium is real). In comparison, the very minor portion of iron that partitioned to solution provided confidence that the vast majority of iron remained intact in the solid phase.

The total solids content and the Fe:Gd ratio measurements of the GF-13 SRAT product (25.7 wt% and 30, respectively) are consistent with expectations (taking analytical uncertainties into account) and provide assurance that the SRAT simulation was executed properly.

GF-14 (Fe:Gd target of 25; 41% nitric acid, 12% formic acid, 47% glycolic acid)

Liquid-phase constituent and pH data for GF-14 are given in Table 5-17. Plots of the pH profile, Gd and Fe concentrations, and Gd and Fe partitioning behavior are given as functions of time in Figures 5-24, 5-25, and 5-26, respectively. SRAT product analyses indicated that the final total solids content was 25.2 wt% and the Fe:Gd ratio was 30.

| Time, | лU | Supernatant Cor | centration, mg/L | Soluble Portion of | of Constituent, % |
|-------|-----|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| hrs | рп | Gadolinium | Iron | Gadolinium | Iron |
| 4.7 | 6.0 | 6.8E-1 | 1.6E+1 | 0.062 | 0.048 |
| 5.7 | 5.1 | 3.0E0 | 2.1E0 | 0.27 | 0.0062 |
| 6.7 | 4.7 | 4.7E+1 | 3.4E0 | 4.3 | 0.010 |
| 7.7 | 4.3 | 3.3E+2 | 9.8E+1 | 30 | 0.29 |
| 8.3 | 4.0 | 4.4E+2 | 2.4E+2 | 40 | 0.72 |
| 11.3 | 4.4 | 6.1E+2 | 1.2E+3 | 56 | 3.7 |
| 14.3 | 4.6 | 4.3E+2 | 1.4E+3 | 39 | 4.3 |
| 17.3 | 4.7 | 3.2E+2 | 1.7E+3 | 29 | 5.0 |
| 21.0 | 4.8 | 5.0E+2 | 3.0E+2 | 45 | 0.91 |

 Table 5-17. Liquid-Phase Concentrations, Partitioning, and pH during GF-14



Figure 5-24. GF-14: pH Profile



Figure 5-25. GF-14: Gd and Fe Supernatant Concentrations



Figure 5-26. GF-14: Gd and Fe Partitioning

As shown in Figure 5-24, the acid additions of GF-14 reduced the slurry pH to a minimum value of 4.0, which occurred about eight hours into the SRAT simulation. Approximately three and a half hours earlier (t = 4.7 hrs), the pH was 6.0, and by the end of the simulation (t = 21.0 hrs), the pH had risen from 4.0 to 4.8. Note that the minimum and final pH values of GF-14 were higher than those of GF-13 (3.6 and 4.0, respectively). These pH differences were attributed to the lower fraction of nitric acid utilized in the GF-14 simulation.

Over the time period from t = 4.7 hours until the end of the GF-14 simulation, the liquidphase gadolinium concentrations varied by a factor of ~900 and the liquid-phase iron concentrations varied by a factor of ~800 (see Figure 5-25). Specifically, the gadolinium concentrations ranged from ~0.7 to 610 mg/L, with the minimum observed at t = 4.7 hours and the maximum observed at t = 11.3 hours. In contrast, the iron concentrations ranged from ~2 to 1700 mg/L, with the minimum observed at t = 5.7 hours and the maximum observed at t = 17.3 hours. The relatively high gadolinium and iron concentrations in the latter stages of the simulation reflect the relatively modest increase in pH that occurred following the acid addition.

The maximum liquid-phase gadolinium concentration in GF-14 was about 30% lower than that in GF-13. In contrast, the maximum liquid-phase iron concentration in GF-14 was about 50% higher than that in GF-13. Whether these differences can be attributed to the higher formic acid content (12% in GF-14 versus 10% in GF-13) and/or the higher glycolic acid content (47% in GF-14 versus 41% in GF-13) is not clear.

As in the case of GF-13, gadolinium and iron dissolution in GF-14 occurred nearly simultaneously, as opposed to the SB6-27 to SB6-30 simulations in which iron dissolution lagged significantly behind gadolinium dissolution. This observation provides additional support that the presence of glycolic acid raises the rate at which solid-phase iron dissolves.

The corresponding portions of gadolinium and iron partitioning to the liquid-phase in GF-14 ranged from ~0.06% to ~60% and ~0.006% to ~5%, respectively (see Figure 5-26). Although the maximum portion of gadolinium in the liquid-phase was somewhat lower than in GF-13 (~80%), it was still high, leaving a minority of gadolinium in the solid phase. In contrast, the maximum portion of iron in the liquid-phase was still relatively small, leaving the vast majority of iron intact in the solid phase.

The total solids content and the Fe:Gd ratio measurements of the SRAT product (25.2 wt% and 30, respectively) are consistent with expectations (taking analytical uncertainties into account) and provide assurance that the SRAT simulation was executed properly.

Summary of Gd and Fe Partitioning in SRAT Simulations

In the SRAT simulations performed in the absence of glycolic acid (SB6-27, -28, 29, -30), the minimum pH values ranged from 3.5-4.0, and the maximum portions of gadolinium partitioning to the liquid-phase were approximately equal to or less than the corresponding portions of iron. In the first three simulations (SB6-27, -28, and -29), the maximum portions of soluble gadolinium and iron were all about 20%. Note that these three simulations included two cases in which the Fe:Gd ratio was 25 (SB6-27 and -28) and one case in which the Fe:Gd ratio was 50 (SB6-29). The similar extent of gadolinium partitioning in the SB6-29 simulation despite the significantly lower gadolinium content is an indication of the complexity of solubilization mechanisms in sludge.

In the fourth simulation (SB6-30), the maximum portions of gadolinium and iron partitioning to the liquid-phase were significantly larger, ~60% and ~70%, respectively. These larger portions were attributed to the unintended low solids concentrations, which consumed less acid, making more acid available for dissolution of solid-phase metals.

In the SRAT simulations performed in the presence of glycolic acid (GF-13 and -14), the range of minimum pH values (3.6-4.0) was about the same as in the SB6- series of simulations – however, the maximum portions of gadolinium partitioning to the liquid phase were significantly higher, while the maximum portions of iron partitioning to the liquid phase were significantly lower. Specifically, the maximum portions of gadolinium in solution were about 80% and 60%, while the maximum portions of iron were about 3% and 5%, respectively. These results suggested that use of glycolic acid facilitated gadolinium solubilization and impeded iron solubilization.

The rates that gadolinium partitioned to solution during and after the acid additions were clearly higher than those of iron, as evidenced by the lag between the times of the maximum liquid-phase gadolinium concentration and the times of the maximum liquid-phase iron concentration. Specifically, the maximum supernatant iron concentrations were found to occur about 3-6 hours after the maximum supernatant gadolinium concentrations. Based on this timeframe, the supernatant concentrations observed in the 30-minute beaker tests should not be considered representative of equilibrium conditions.

The tracking of gadolinium partitioning in additional SRAT simulation testing would be helpful to better define the impacts of process parameters. Of most usefulness would be SRAT simulation testing focusing on gadolinium under conditions of: 1) a wider range of acid addition scenarios; 2) a wider range of sludge compositions; and 3) one or more real-waste sludge matrices. The additional SRAT simulation testing should address anticipated sludge batch conditions applicable to excess plutonium disposition scenarios.

Although the potential application of gadolinium as a supplemental neutron poison is clear, future evaluations should also address the possibility of crediting other neutronabsorbing constituents, particularly those constituents that are already present in the waste. The ability to credit such pre-existing constituents may be beneficial under conditions where adequate poisoning by iron and/or gadolinium alone is impractical.

6.0 CONCLUSIONS

1) Measurable liquid-phase gadolinium partitioning is to be expected in the Chemical Processing Cell, particularly as the pH drops to 4.0 or less. In SRAT simulations utilizing nitric and formic acids at 150% acid stoichiometry, the maximum fractions of gadolinium and iron partitioning into solution were comparable, both at $\sim 20\%$. In contrast, in a SRAT simulation utilizing nitric and formic acids under anomalously low solids concentrations, the maximum fractions of gadolinium and iron partitioning into solution ranged from 60-70%. Glycolic acid used in combination with nitric and formic acids appears to significantly increase the fraction of gadolinium partitioning into solution, while reducing the fraction of iron partitioning into solution. Specifically, in SRAT simulations utilizing nitric, formic, and glycolic acid at 100% acid stoichiometry. the maximum fractions of gadolinium partitioning into solution were ~60-80%, while the maximum fractions of iron partitioning into solution were only ~3-5%. Conditions that reduce the pH significantly below 4.0 will also result in high gadolinium dissolution. Although the Fe:Gd ratio appears to impact partitioning, the exact relationship is not clear. Regardless, a conservatively large gadolinium content (with respect to the neutron poisoning demand) is advantageous from the perspective of having a reserve of excess gadolinium in the solid phase.

2) The equilibration times for gadolinium and iron partitioning were typically longer than the durations of the beaker tests (particularly for iron, which partitioned to solution considerably slower than gadolinium). As a consequence, the results obtained from the beaker tests were thought to underestimate liquid-phase partitioning in many cases. Nonetheless, the beaker tests demonstrated that the vast majority of gadolinium partitioned to the liquid phase at pH 2, regardless of the other conditions (Fe:Gd ratio, slurry matrix, temperature, and oxalate concentration).

3) The impacts of temperature on the liquid-phase gadolinium concentrations appear to be modest at best. Typically, the concentrations observed at elevated temperatures (~93 °C) were about 25% higher than at room temperatures (~22 °C). However, in some instances, the concentrations at elevated temperature were less than those at room temperature. These differences suggest that the uncertainties of the measured concentrations were of the same order as the concentration differences.

4) The presence of oxalate had an immeasurable effect on the liquid-phase gadolinium concentrations, although it did raise the liquid-phase iron concentrations. This difference provides an advantage for using gadolinium as a neutron poison when processing high oxalate content waste.

5) Additional SRAT simulation tests addressing gadolinium partitioning over a wider range of alternate conditions would provide a stronger basis for gauging the adequacy of

gadolinium as a neutron poison in the CPC. Of greatest usefulness would be SRAT simulations focusing on a larger range of acid addition scenarios and other sludge compositions, particularly those specific to future sludge batches where excess plutonium disposition is being considered.

6) Crediting other constituents in waste as potential neutron poisons may be beneficial in cases where adequate poisoning by iron and/or gadolinium alone is impractical.

7.0 RECOMMENDATION

Perform additional SRAT simulation testing with gadolinium partitioning monitored under conditions of: a) alternate acid addition scenarios; b) alternate sludge simulant matrices; and c) real-waste sludge. The specific conditions of the testing should be chosen to target the conditions anticipated for future sludge batches into which excess plutonium additions are planned.

8.0 REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A: RUN PARAMETERS FOR SRAT RUN #SB6-27

4 L CPC Run Parameters SB6-E Qualification Support Run SB6-27

| | | | | | Ru | in # SB6-27 |
|---|------------------------|------------------|------------------------|--|--------|-------------|
| Equipment Set-up and Slud | ge Batching | | | | | |
| Initial MWWT Mass (g) | 60.8 | | | | | |
| GC File Name | SB627- | | GC Pre-Calibration Gas | 41544446 | | |
| GC Start Time | 6:10 | | | | | |
| Leak Checks | | | | | | |
| Pre-Leak Check | | | _ | | | |
| Flow Input | 90.0 | sccm | Flow Output | 84.4 | sccm | |
| Sludge and Trim Chemical Ta | rget Addition Mass | ses | | | | |
| | Target (g) | Actual (g) | | | Target | Actual (g) |
| Sludge Simulant | 3,500.00 | 3500.05 | SB6E simulant | Rh(NO ₃) ₃ *2H ₂ O sol'n | 2.4236 | 2.419 |
| AgNO ₃ | 0.1178 | 0.1199 | | RuCl₃ | 1.4152 | 1.4059 |
| HgO (yellow) | 10.4037 | 10.4494 | | Flush Water | 100.00 | 100.049 |
| Pd(NO ₃) ₂ *H ₂ O sol'n | 0.2286 | 0.2298 | | Gd(NO3)3*6H2O | 7.5200 | 7.5153 |
| CaCO₃ | 6.6080 | 6.6091 | | Initial Sample | 0.00 | |
| pH Probe Calibration/Checks | prior to acid addition | on and after run | 1 | | | |
| Pre-Run Probe Calibration | | | | | | |
| pH 4 Buffer | 4.00 | | pH 10 Buffer | 10.00 | рН 7 с | heck 7.11 |
| Post-Run Probe Check | | | | | | |
| pH 4 Buffer | 4.07 | | pH 10 Buffer | 9.97 | pH 7 b | ouffer 7.13 |

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| SRAT Cycle Parameters | | | | | Run # | SB6-27 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| SRAT Air purge (slm) | 0.928 | | SRAT He purge (sccm) | 4.64 | - | |
| Nafion Dryer pure (slm) | 4.000 | | | | | |
| Initial sludge pH | 13.43 | | SRAT Start Time | 6:42 | (power to mantle) | |
| | | | | | | Antifoam addition |
| Initial Antifoam Addition | | | 1 | :10 antifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | completion time |
| 200 ppm antifoam target, g | 7.17 | initial | Actual amount added | 7.17 | 7.17 | 6:30 |
| 100 ppm antifoam target, g | 3.58 | emergency | Actual amount added | | | |
| Additional ant | tifoam needed (g) | | | Time | | |
| Nitric Acid Addition | | | | | | |
| Acid Molarity (M) | 10.40 | | Tray head initial weight (g) | 1691.3 | Acid volume (ml) | 166.995 |
| Acid add | ition rate (ml/min) | 1.084 | Tray | y head final weight (g) | 1472.4 | |
| Nitri | ic Acid Start Time | 7:47 | Nitric Acid Stop Time | 10:27 | Acid mass (g) | 218.744 |
| Acid Flush Water (g) | 0.00 | | SRAT pH | 7.13 | | |
| Antifoam before Formic Acid | | actual (g) | 1 | :10 antifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | antifoam time |
| 100 ppm antifoam target, g | 3.58 | before formic | Actual amount added | 3.58 | 3.58 | 10:28 |
| Formic Acid Addition | | | | | | |
| Acid Molarity (M) | 23.80 | | Tray head initial weight (g) | 1631.5 | Acid volume (ml) | 170.291 |
| Acid add | ition rate (ml/min) | 1.075 | Tray | y head final weight (g) | 1427.3 | |
| Form | c Acid Start Time | 10:41 | Formic Acid Stop Time | 13:24 | Acid mass (g) | 206.86 |
| Acid Flush Water (g) | 0.00 | | SRAT pH | 3.64 | | |
| Antifoam before Boiling | | actual (g) | 1 | :10 antifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | antifoam time |
| 500 ppm antifoam target, g | 17.92 | before boiling | Actual amount added | 17.92 | 17.92 | 13:28 |
| Boiling | | | | | | |
| Target boil-up rate (g/min) | 5.4 | | | | Start of boiling | 13:50 |
| Measured boil-up rate | | 5.0 mL/min | @ 78%-1500; 5.4 mL/min @ | 2 79%; 5.1 mL/min @ | 79% - 1640; 5.4 mL/min @ | 80% - 1815 |
| Dewater target mass (g) | 1000.7 | 1 | Dewater final mass (g) | 1001.1 | | |
| Dewater Completion Time | 17:18 | | Reflux time | 12 hours | SRAT end time | 1:50 |
| Measured boil-up rate | | 5.4 mL/min @ | 2 80% - 2030; 5.5 mL/min @ | 2 80% - 2236 | - | |
| | End of boiling pH | 4.95 | SF | RAT Product Mass (g) | | 3,005.09 |
| Temp | at end of boiling | 100.5 | ℃ | | | |
| End of SR | AT MWWT Mass | 47.12 | (g) | | | |
| End of S | RAT FAVC Mass | 24.99 | (g) SRAT Product Mass a | fter sampling (g) | 2,723.85 | 2,705.09 |

APPENDIX B: RUN PARAMETERS FOR SRAT RUN #SB6-28

4 L CPC Run Parameters SB6-E Qualification Support Run SB6-28

| | | | | | Run # | SB6-28 |
|---|------------------------|------------------|------------------------|--|------------|------------|
| Equipment Set-up and Slud | ge Batching | | | | | |
| Initial MWWT Mass (g) | 51.54 | | | | | |
| GC File Name | SB628- | | GC Pre-Calibration Gas | 41544464 | | |
| GC Start Time | 6:10 | | | | | |
| Leak Checks | | | | | | |
| Pre-Leak Check | | | | | | |
| Flow Input | 90.0 | sccm | Flow Output | 98.7 | sccm | |
| Sludge and Trim Chemical Ta | rget Addition Mass | ses | | | | |
| | Target (g) | Actual (g) | | | Target | Actual (g) |
| Sludge Simulant | 3,500.00 | 3500.05 | SB6E simulant | Rh(NO ₃) ₃ *2H ₂ O sol'n | 2.4236 | 2.4293 |
| AgNO ₃ | 0.1178 | 0.1182 | | RuCl₃ | 1.4152 | 1.4186 |
| HgO (yellow) | 10.4037 | 10.4061 | | Flush Water | 100.00 | 100.034 |
| Pd(NO ₃) ₂ *H ₂ O sol'n | 0.2286 | 0.2250 | | Gd(NO3)3*6H2O | 7.5200 | 7.5346 |
| CaCO₃ | 6.6080 | 6.6098 | | Initial Sample | 0.00 | |
| pH Probe Calibration/Checks | prior to acid addition | on and after run | | | | |
| Pre-Run Probe Calibration | | | | | | |
| pH 4 Buffer | 4.01 | | pH 10 Buffer | 10.02 | pH 7 checl | x 7.13 |
| Post-Run Probe Check | | | | | | |
| pH 4 Buffer | 4.09 | | pH 10 Buffer | 10.31 | pH 7 buffe | r 7.21 |

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| SRAT Cycle Parameters | | | | | Run # | SB6-28 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| SRAT Air purge (slm) | 0.928 | | SRAT He purge (sccm) | 4.64 | - | |
| Nafion Dryer pure (slm) | 4.000 | | | | | |
| Initial sludge pH | 13.54 | | SRAT Start Time | 6:39 | (power to mantle) | |
| | | | | | | Antifoam addition |
| Initial Antifoam Addition | | | 1 | :10 antifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | completion time |
| 200 ppm antifoam target, g | 7.17 | initial | Actual amount added | 7.17 | 7.17 | 5:35 |
| 100 ppm antifoam target, g | 3.58 | emergency | Actual amount added | | | |
| Additional ant | ifoam needed (g) | | | Time | | |
| Nitric Acid Addition | | | | | | |
| Acid Molarity (M) | 10.40 | | Tray head initial weight (g) | 1334.6 | Acid volume (ml) | 55.665 |
| Acid add | ition rate (ml/min) | 1.084 | Tra | y head final weight (g) | 1260.9 | |
| Nitri | c Acid Start Time | 7:43 | Nitric Acid Stop Time | 8:36 | Acid mass (g) | 72.915 |
| Acid Flush Water (g) | 0.00 | | SRAT pH | 10.54 | | |
| Antifoam before Formic Acid | | actual (g) | 1 | :10 antifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | antifoam time |
| 100 ppm antifoam target, g | 3.58 | before formic | Actual amount added | 3.58 | 3.58 | 8:41 |
| Formic Acid Addition | | | | | | |
| Acid Molarity (M) | 23.60 | | Tray head initial weight (g) | 1641.9 | Acid volume (ml) | 220.773 |
| Acid add | ition rate (ml/min) | 1.075 | Tra | y head final weight (g) | 1379.3 | |
| Formi | c Acid Start Time | 8:53 | Formic Acid Stop Time | 12:23 | Acid mass (g) | 265.97 |
| Acid Flush Water (g) | 0.00 | | SRAT pH | 4.03 | | |
| Antifoam before Boiling | | actual (g) | 1 | :10 antifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | antifoam time |
| 500 ppm antifoam target, g | 17.92 | before boiling | Actual amount added | 17.92 | 17.92 | 12:32 |
| Boiling | | | | | | |
| Target boil-up rate (g/min) | 5.4 | | | | Start of boiling | 13:00 |
| Measured boil-up rate | | 5.5 @ | 2 75% - 14:07; 5.5 @ 75% - | 1806 | | |
| Dewater target mass (g) | 1053.0 | 1 | Dewater final mass (g) | 0.053 | | |
| Dewater Completion Time | 16:40 | | Reflux time | 12 hours | SRAT end time | 1:00 |
| Measured boil-up rate | | 3.9 @ | 70% - 01:25; 5.2 @ 75% - | 22:15 | - | |
| · · · · · | End of boiling pH | 6.08 | SF | RAT Product Mass (g) | | 2,850.07 |
| Temp | at end of boiling | 101.6 | °C | | | |
| End of SR | AT MWWT Mass | 44.85 | (g) | | | |
| End of S | RAT FAVC Mass | 26.26 | (g) SRAT Product Mass a | fter sampling (g) | 2,572.90 | 2,550.07 |

APPENDIX C: RUN PARAMETERS FOR SRAT RUN #SB6-29

4 L CPC Run Parameters SB6-E Qualification Support Run SB6-29

| | | | | | Run # | SB6-29 |
|---|------------------------|------------------|------------------------|--|------------|----------------|
| Equipment Set-up and Slud | ge Batching | | | | | |
| Initial MWWT Mass (g) | 43.26 | | | | | |
| GC File Name | SB629- | | GC Pre-Calibration Gas | 41544464 | | |
| GC Start Time | 3:52 | | | | | |
| Leak Checks | | | | | | |
| Pre-Leak Check | | | | | | |
| Flow Input | 90.0 | sccm | Flow Output | 97.6 | sccm | |
| Sludge and Trim Chemical Ta | rget Addition Mass | ses | | | | |
| _ | Target (g) | Actual (g) | | | Target | Actual (g) |
| Sludge Simulant | 3,500.00 | 3500.00 | SB6E simulant | Rh(NO ₃) ₃ *2H ₂ O sol'n | 2.4236 | 2.4236 |
| AgNO ₃ | 0.1178 | 0.1178 | | RuCl₃ | 1.4152 | 1.4152 |
| HgO (yellow) | 10.4037 | 10.4037 | | Flush Water | 100.00 | 100.0 |
| Pd(NO ₃) ₂ *H ₂ O sol'n | 0.2286 | 0.2286 | | Gd(NO3)3*6H2O | 3.7600 | 3.7600 |
| CaCO₃ | 6.6080 | 6.608 | | Initial Sample | 0.00 | |
| pH Probe Calibration/Checks | prior to acid addition | on and after run | | | | |
| Pre-Run Probe Calibration | | | | | | |
| pH 4 Buffer | 4.00 | | pH 10 Buffer | 10.00 | pH 7 chec | ck 7.03 |
| Post-Run Probe Check | | | | | | |
| pH 4 Buffer | 3.98 | | pH 10 Buffer | 9.91 | pH 7 buffe | er <u>6.94</u> |

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| SRAT Cycle Parameters | | | | | Run # | SB6-29 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| SRAT Air purge (slm) | 0.928 | | SRAT He purge (sccm) | 4.64 | - | |
| Nafion Dryer pure (slm) | 4.000 | | | | | |
| Initial sludge pH | 12.86 | | SRAT Start Time | 7:03 | (power to mantle) | |
| - | | | | | | Antifoam addition |
| Initial Antifoam Addition | | | 1 | :10 antifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | completion time |
| 200 ppm antifoam target, g | 7.17 | initial | Actual amount added | 7.17 | 7.17 | 6:25 |
| 100 ppm antifoam target, g | 3.58 | emergency | Actual amount added | | | |
| Additional ant | tifoam needed (g) | | | Time | | |
| Nitric Acid Addition | | | | | | |
| Acid Molarity (M) | 10.40 | | Tray head initial weight (g) | 1664.3 | Acid volume (ml) | 166.995 |
| Acid add | ition rate (ml/min) | 1.084 | Tray | y head final weight (g) | 1446.2 | |
| Nitri | ic Acid Start Time | 8:07 | Nitric Acid Stop Time | 10:45 | Acid mass (g) | 218.744 |
| Acid Flush Water (g) | 0.00 | | SRAT pH | 6.64 | | |
| Antifoam before Formic Acid | | actual (g) | 1 | :10 antifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | antifoam time |
| 100 ppm antifoam target, g | 3.58 | before formic | Actual amount added | 3.58 | 3.58 | 10:52 |
| Formic Acid Addition | | | | | | |
| Acid Molarity (M) | 23.60 | | Tray head initial weight (g) | 1627.0 | Acid volume (ml) | 171.712 |
| Acid add | ition rate (ml/min) | 1.082 | Tray | y head final weight (g) | | |
| Form | c Acid Start Time | 10:55 | Formic Acid Stop Time | 13:37 | Acid mass (g) | 206.86 |
| Acid Flush Water (g) | 0.00 | | SRAT pH | 3.52 | | |
| Antifoam before Boiling | | actual (g) | 1 | :10 antifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | antifoam time |
| 500 ppm antifoam target, g | 17.92 | before boiling | Actual amount added | 17.92 | 17.92 | 13:48 |
| Boiling | | | | | | |
| Target boil-up rate (g/min) | 5.4 | | | | Start of boiling | 14:02 |
| Measured boil-up rate | | | 5.4 @ 80% - 144 | 5; 5.5 @ 80% - 1538; (| 5.7 @ 80% - 1628 | |
| Dewater target mass (g) | 1000.7 | 1 | Dewater final mass (g) | 1000.7 | | |
| Dewater Completion Time | 17:00 | | Reflux time | 12 hours | SRAT end time | 2:02 |
| Measured boil-up rate | 5.2 @ 789 | % - 1718; 4.7 @ | 78% - 1834; 5.3 @ 81% - | 2205; 4.8 @ 81% - 24 | 30 | |
| | End of boiling pH | 4.88 | SF | RAT Product Mass (g) | N/A | 3,005.09 |
| Temp | at end of boiling | 101.9 | °C | | | |
| End of SR | AT MWWT Mass | 47.0778 | (g) | | | |
| End of S | RAT FAVC Mass | 32.9672 | (g) SRAT Product Mass a | fter sampling (g) | 2,677.50 | 2,705.09 |

SB6 30

Bup #

APPENDIX D: RUN PARAMETERS FOR SRAT RUN #SB6-30

4 L CPC Run Parameters SB6-E Qualification Support Run SB6-30

| | | | | | Kull # | 500-50 |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|--|-------------|------------|
| Equipment Set-up and Slud | ge Batching | | | | | |
| Initial MWWT Mass (g) | 47.12 | | | | | |
| GC File Name | SB630- | | GC Pre-Calibration Gas | 41544464 | | |
| GC Start Time | 3:52 | | | | | |
| Leak Checks | | | | | | |
| Pre-Leak Check | | | | | | |
| Flow Input | 90.0 | sccm | Flow Output | 81.3 | sccm | |
| Sludge and Trim Chemical Ta | rget Addition Mass | ses | | | | |
| | Target (g) | Actual (g) | | | Target | Actual (g) |
| Sludge Simulant | 3,500.00 | 3500 | SB6E simulant | Rh(NO ₃) ₃ *2H ₂ O sol'n | 2.4236 | 0.4236 |
| AgNO₃ | 0.1178 | 0.1178 | | RuCl₃ | 1.4152 | 1.4152 |
| HgO (yellow) | 10.4037 | 10.4037 | | Flush Water | 100.00 | 100.0 |
| Pd(NO ₃) ₂ *H ₂ O sol'n | 0.2286 | 0.2286 | | Gd(NO3)3*6H2O | 3.7600 | 3.7600 |
| CaCO₃ | 6.6080 | 6.6080 | | Initial Sample | 0.00 | |
| pH Probe Calibration/Checks | prior to acid additio | on and after run | | - | | |
| Pre-Run Probe Calibration | | | | | | |
| pH 4 Buffer | 4.00 | | pH 10 Buffer | 10.00 | pH 7 check | 6.99 |
| Post-Run Probe Check | | | | | | |
| pH 4 Buffer | 4.13 | | pH 10 Buffer | 10.05 | pH 7 buffer | 7.11 |

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| SRAT Cycle Parameters | | | | | Run # | SB6-30 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|---|-------------------|
| SRAT Air purge (slm) | 0.928 | | SRAT He purge (sccm) | 4.64 | | |
| Nafion Dryer pure (slm) | 4.000 | | | | | |
| Initial sludge pH | 13.09 | | SRAT Start Time | 7:03 | (power to mantle) | |
| - | | - | | | | Antifoam addition |
| Initial Antifoam Addition | | | 1 | :10 antifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | completion time |
| 200 ppm antifoam target, g | 7.17 | initial | Actual amount added | 7.17 | 7.17 | 6:40 |
| 100 ppm antifoam target, g | 3.58 | emergency | Actual amount added | | | |
| Additional ant | ifoam needed (g) | | | Time | | |
| Nitric Acid Addition | | | | | | |
| Acid Molarity (M) | 10.40 | | Tray head initial weight (g) | 1666.7 | Acid volume (ml) | 55.665 |
| Acid add | ition rate (ml/min) | 1.084 | Tray | y head final weight (g) | 1593.4 | |
| Nitri | c Acid Start Time | 8:14 | Nitric Acid Stop Time | 9:07 | Acid mass (g) | 72.915 |
| Acid Flush Water (g) | 0.00 | | SRAT pH | 10.64 | _ | |
| Antifoam before Formic Acid | | actual (g) | 1 | :10 antifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | antifoam time |
| 100 ppm antifoam target, g | 3.58 | before formic | Actual amount added | 3.58 | 3.58 | 9:27 |
| Formic Acid Addition | | | | | | |
| Acid Molarity (M) | 23.60 | | Tray head initial weight (g) | 1617.9 | Acid volume (ml) | 220.773 |
| Acid add | ition rate (ml/min) | 1.082 | Tray | y head final weight (g) | 1352.4 | |
| Form | c Acid Start Time | 9:26 | Formic Acid Stop Time | 12:54 | Acid mass (g) | 265.97 |
| Acid Flush Water (g) | 0.00 | | SRAT pH | 3.71 | | |
| Antifoam before Boiling | | actual (g) | 1 | :10 antifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | antifoam time |
| 500 ppm antifoam target, g | 17.92 | before boiling | Actual amount added | 17.93 | 17.93 | 13:00 |
| Boiling | | | | | | |
| Target boil-up rate (g/min) | 5.4 | | | | Start of boiling | 13:23 |
| Measured boil-up rate | | - - | 5.42 @ 82% - 1440; 5.5 @ 8 | 82% - 1510; 5.6 @ 829 | <mark>% - 1709; 5.7 @ 82% - 2040</mark> | |
| Dewater target mass (g) | 1053.0 | 1 | Dewater final mass (g) | 1054.1 | | |
| Dewater Completion Time | 16:46 | | Reflux time | 12 hours | SRAT end time | 1:23 |
| Measured boil-up rate | | | 5.9 @ 82% - 2305 | | - | |
| | End of boiling pH | 5.25 | SF | RAT Product Mass (g) | N/A | 2,850.07 |
| Temp | at end of boiling | 100.5 | °C | | | |
| End of SR | AT MWWT Mass | 48.015 | (g) | | | |
| End of S | RAT FAVC Mass | 41.472 | (g) SRAT Product Mass a | fter sampling (g) | 2,556.00 | 2,550.07 |

APPENDIX E: RUN PARAMETERS FOR SRAT RUN #GF-13

4 L CPC Run Parameters SB6-H flowsheet development Run GF-13

| | | | | | Run # | GF-13 |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| Equipment Set-up and Sludg | e Batching | | | | | |
| Initial MWWT Mass (g) | 44.8 | | | | | |
| GC File Name | GFS13- | | GC Pre-Calibration Gas | 41544464 | | |
| GC Start Time | 8:05 | | | | | |
| Leak Checks | | | | | | |
| Pre-Leak Check | | | | | | |
| Flow Input | 90.0 | sccm | Flow Output | 84.2 sc | cm | |
| Sludge and Trim Chemical Targ | get Addition Mass | es | | | | |
| | Target | Actual (g) | | | Target | Actual (g) |
| Sludge Simulant | 2,850.00 | 2850.00 | Rh(| (NO3)3 solution | 3.7640 | 3.7632 |
| AgNO3 | 0.1077 | 0.1125 | | BaO | 0.5327 | 0.5331 |
| HgO | 8.4364 | 8.4350 | | CdO | 0.4192 | 0.4185 |
| Pd(NO3)2 solution | 0.6396 | 0.6402 | | Cr2O3 | 0.6061 | 0.6070 |
| RuCl3 | 2.5387 | 2.5399 | G | d(NO3)3*6H20 | 7.5000 | 7.5007 |
| pH Probe Calibration/Checks p | rior to acid additio | on and after run | flu | ush water | | 260 |
| Pre-Run Probe Calibration | | | | | | |
| pH 4 Buffer | 4.00 | | pH 10 Buffer | 10.00 | pH 7 check | 7.12 |
| Post-Run Probe Check | | | | | | |
| pH 4 Buffer | 3.90 | | pH 10 Buffer | 9.91 | pH 7 buffer | 7.06 |

| SRAT Cycle Parameters | | | | | Run # | GF-13 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| SRAT Air purge (slm) | 0.768 | | SRAT He purge (sccm) | 3.84 | | |
| Initial sludge pH | 13.23 | | SRAT Start Time | 8:20 | (power to mantle) | |
| | | | | | | Antifoam addition |
| Initial Antifoam Addition | | | 1:10 a | ntifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | completion time |
| 200 ppm antifoam target, g | 5.93 init | ial | Actual amount added | 5.93 | 5.93 | 8:21 |
| 100 ppm antifoam target, g | 2.97 em | nergency | Actual amount added | | | |
| Additional antifoam | needed (g) | | | Time | | |
| Nitric Acid Addition | | | | | | |
| Acid Molarity (M) | 10.40 | | Tray head initial weight (g) | 1469.9 | Acid volume (ml) | 174.689 |
| Acid addition ra | ate (ml/min) | 0.90 | Tray hea | ad final weight (g) | 1242 | |
| Nitr <u>ic Acid</u> | Start Time | 9:31 | Nitric Acid Stop Time | 12:50 | Acid mass (g) | 228.823 |
| Acid Flush Water (g) | 0.00 | | SRAT pH | 4.68 | | |
| Antifoam before Formic/Glycolic Aci | d | actual (g) | 1:10 a | ntifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | antifoam time |
| 100 ppm antifoam target, g | 2.97 bet | tween acid | Actual amount added | 2.97 | 2.97 | 12:57 |
| Formic/Glvcolic Acid Addition | | | | | | |
| Acid Molarity (M) | n/a | - | Tray head initial weight (g) | 1676.3 | Acid volume (ml) | 144.287 |
| Acid addition ra | ate (ml/min) | 0.89 | Tray hea | ad final weight (g) | 1494.6 | |
| Formic/Glycolic Acid | Start Time | 13:15 | Acid Stop Time | 16:01 | Acid mass (g) | 181.33 |
| Acid Flush Water (g) | 0.00 | | SRAT pH | 3.60 | (0) | |
| Antifoam before Boiling | | actual (g) | 1:10 a | ntifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | antifoam time |
| 500 ppm antifoam target, g | 14.83 bef | fore boiling | Actual amount added | 14.83 | 14.83 | 16:13 |
| Boilina | | | | | | |
| Target boil-up rate (g/min) | 4.5 | | Reflux Time, hrs | 12hrs 0min | Start of boiling | 16:30 |
| Measured boil-up rate | | | | | 5 | |
| | 000.0 | | Devictor final mass (a) | 077.7 | | |
| Dewater target mass (g) | 966.6 | | Dewater final mass (g) | 977.7 | CDAT and time | 4.20 |
| Measured beil up rate | 20:12 | | Renux lime | | SRAT end lime | 4.30 |
| | | 0.07 | | | 0.444.07 | 0.550.40 |
| End o | t boiling pH | 3.97 | SRAI | Product Mass (g) | 2,411.35 | 2,550.19 |
| I emp. at en | a of boiling | 100.7 | | | | |
| | | 47.978 | (g) (a) CDAT Dradwat Mass of | | 0.059.40 | 0,400,40 |
| End of SRAT F | AVC Mass | 21.246 | g) SRAT Product Mass at | ter sampling (g) | 2,058.40 | 2,400.19 |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Post-Leak Check | | | | | | |
| Flow Input | 90.0 sc | cm | Flow Output | 82.6 | sccm | |

APPENDIX F: RUN PARAMETERS FOR SRAT RUN #GF-14

4 L CPC Run Parameters SB6-H flowsheet development Run GF-14

| | | | | | Run # | GF-14 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| Equipment Set-up and Sludge | e Batching | | | | | |
| Initial MWWT Mass (g) | 47.8 | | | | | |
| GC File Name | GFS14- | | GC Pre-Calibration Gas | 41544464 | | |
| GC Start Time | 8:05 | | | | | |
| Leak Checks | | | | | | |
| Pre-Leak Check | | | | | | |
| Flow Input | <u>90.0</u> scc | m | Flow Output | 99.4 | sccm | |
| Sludge and Trim Chemical Targ | get Addition Masses | | | | | |
| | Target A | ctual (g) | | _ | Target | Actual (g) |
| Sludge Simulant | 2,850.00 | 2850.00 | Rh | (NO3)3 solution | 3.7640 | 3.7636 |
| AgNO3 | 0.1077 | 0.1078 | | BaO | 0.5327 | 0.5332 |
| HgO | 8.4364 | 8.4391 | | CdO | 0.4192 | 0.4192 |
| Pd(NO3)2 solution | 0.6396 | 0.6406 | | Cr2O3 | 0.6061 | 0.6073 |
| RuCl3 | 2.5387 | 2.5392 | G | Gd(NO3)3*6H20 | 7.5000 | 7.4999 |
| pH Probe Calibration/Checks pl | rior to acid addition a | and after run | flu | ush water | | 200 |
| Pre-Run Probe Calibration | | | | | | |
| pH 4 Buffer | 4.01 | | pH 10 Buffer | 10.00 | pH 7 check | 7.01 |
| Post-Run Probe Check | | | | | | |
| pH 4 Buffer | 4.23 | | pH 10 Buffer | 9.9 | pH 7 buffer | 6.88 |

| SRAT Cycle Parameters | | | | | Run # | GF-14 |
|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| SRAT Air purge (slm) | 0.768 | | SRAT He purge (sccm) | 3.84 |] | |
| Initial sludge pH | 13.02 | | SRAT Start Time | 9:08 | (power to mantle) | |
| | | | | | | Antifoam addition |
| Initial Antifoam Addition | | | 1:10 a | ntifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | completion time |
| 200 ppm antifoam target, g | 5.93 | initial | Actual amount added | 5.93 | 5.93 | 8:45 |
| 100 ppm antifoam target, g | 2.97 | emergency | Actual amount added | | | |
| Additional antifo | am needed (g) | | | Time | | |
| Nitric Acid Addition | | | | | | |
| Acid Molarity (M) | 10.40 | | Tray head initial weight (g) | 1620.6 | Acid volume (ml) | 146.198 |
| Acid additio | on rate (ml/min) | 0.90 | Tray hea | ad final weight (g) | 1431.2 | |
| Nitr <u>ic A</u> | Acid Start Time | 9:40 | Nitric Acid Stop Time | 1:02 | Acid mass (g) | 191.502 |
| Acid Flush Water (g) | 0.00 | | SRAT pH | 5.51 | | |
| Antifoam before Formic/Glycolic | Acid | actual (g) | 1:10 a | ntifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | antifoam time |
| 100 ppm antifoam target, g | 2.97 | between acid | Actual amount added | 2.97 | 2.97 | 13:07 |
| Formic/Glycolic Acid Addition | | | | | | |
| Acid Molarity (M) | n/a | - | Trav head initial weight (g) | 1656.2 | Acid volume (ml) | 167.076 |
| Acid additio | on rate (ml/min) | 0.89 | Trav hea | d final weight (g) | 1447 | |
| Formic/Glycolic A | Acid Start Time | 13:12 | Acid Stop Time | 16:24 | Acid mass (g) | 209.96 |
| Acid Flush Water (g) | 0.00 | | SRAT pH | 4.03 | | |
| Antifoam before Boiling | | actual (g) | 1:10 a | ntifoam-water sol'n | water flush (g) | antifoam time |
| 500 ppm antifoam target, g | 14.83 | before boiling | Actual amount added | 14.83 | 14.83 | 16:30 |
| Boiling | | | | | | |
| Target boil-up rate (g/min) | 4.5 | | Reflux Time, hrs | 12hrs 0min | Start of boiling | 17:00 |
| Measured boil-up rate | | | | | | |
| Dowator target mass (g) | 057 3 | | Dewater final mass (a) | 008.2 | | |
| Dewater Completion Time | 937.3 20·27 | | Reflux time | 900.2 | SRAT and time | 5:00 |
| Measured boil-up rate | 20.21 | | ittelidx time | | SIGN ENd time | 5.00 |
| | | 1 0 | SDAT | Draduat Maaa (a) | 2 424 70 | 2 546 54 |
| Ei Tomp a | | 4.0 | SKAT I | FIDUUCLINIASS (y) | 2,434.70 | 2,540.54 |
| Find of SPAT | | F6 0601 (| | | | |
| End of SRA | | 24 2678 | .9) (a) SRAT Product Mass of | ter compling (a) | 2 031 40 | 2 306 54 |
| | | 24.2070 | g) SIAT FIODUCT Mass at | ter sampling (g) | 2,031.40 | 2,390.04 |
| GC Finish Time | 7.12 | | | | | |
| GC Post Calibration Gas | 1.12 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Post-Leak Check | | | | | | |
| Flow Input | 90.0 | sccm | Flow Output | 90.1 | sccm | |

Distribution:

B. N. Attaway, 773-A C. J. Bannochie, 773-42A A. B. Barnes, 999-W M. H. Barnett, 766-H M. H. Beasley, 773-A D. R. Best, 999-W P. L. Bovan, 704-27S J. M. Bricker, 704-27S T. O. Burckhalter, 999-1W P. U. Burkhalter, 773-A M. C. Chandler, 703-H M. C. Clark, 704-27S D. R. Click, 773-A D. A. Crowley, 773-43A J. W. DuVall, 999-1W H. H. Elder, 704-24S A. P. Fellinger, 773-41A T. L. Fellinger, 704-26S A. I. Fernandez, 999-W S. D. Fink, 773-A B. J. Giddings, 786-5A K. D. Gilbreath, 766-H J. M. Gillam, 766-H B. A. Hamm, 766-H E. K. Hansen, 999-W C. C. Herman, 999-W E. W. Holtzscheiter, 704-15S J. F. Iaukea, 704-30S P. R. Jackson, 703-46A L. C. Johnson, 773-A M. A. Jones, 773-A

D. P. Lambert, 999-W M. T. Keefer, 766-H D. C. Koopman, 999-W S. L. Marra, 773-A J. B. McCord, 766-H J. E. Occhipinti, 704-S J. M. Pareizs, 773-A D. K. Peeler, 999-W F. M. Pennebaker, 773-42A S. G. Phillips, 704-15S B. R. Pickenheim, 704-28S H. M. Pittman, 704-27S J. W. Ray, 704-S S. H. Reboul, 773-A J. M. Ridley, 704-S T. A. Reilly, CCC-3 W. T. Riley, 999-W A. R. Shafer, 704-27S H. B. Shah, 766-H D. C. Sherburne, 704-S P. T. Simmons, 999-1W A. V. Staub, 704-27S M. E. Stone, 999-W D. J. Wheeler, 773-A V. J. Williams, 999-1W B. J. Wiedenman, 773-A A. W. Wiggins, 704-60H W. R. Wilmarth, 773-A R. J. Workman, 999-1W G. L. Smith, DOE/HQ-EM J. D. Vienna, PNNL