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Monitoring of Atmospheric Radionuclides from the Fukushima Nuclear Accident in Xi'an, China

Aerosol radionuclides (131I, 134Cs, 137Cs) and gaseous radioactive xenon (133Xe) were monitored at Xi'an, China following the accident at the Fukushima nuclear power plant in March 2011. The monitoring results showed that the maximum concentrations of 131I and 133Xe were 3.92 mBq/m3 and 5.5 Bq/m3, respectively, on March 25~27. And the concentrations of all observed radionuclides decreased gradually after April 5. Possible transport pathways of the released radionuclides from Fukushima to Xi'an were investigated. The occurrence of an anticyclone in the Pacific Ocean region and the extended period over which the radionuclides were released made the determination transport pathways complex, but divergence in the plume and easterly flow evidently brought the initial suite of radionuclides to Xi'an.

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