Geophysical Research Abstracts, Vol. 9, 08421, 2007 SRef-ID: 1607-7962/gra/EGU2007-A-08421 © European Geosciences Union 2007



Verification of underground nuclear tests by atmospheric pumping

R. Annewandter (1), M. Kalinowski (1)

(1) Carl Friedrich von Wiezsäcker Center for Science and Peace Research

Cyclical changes in barometric pressure can draw gas upward out of the soil into the atmosphere. In fractured permeable medium, the resulting transport process may be of orders of magnitude more significant than molecular diffusion [1]. Clandestine underground nuclear tests produces at depth of several hundered meters radionuclides, which migrate to the surface induced by this atmospheric pumping. A deep understanding of the transport mechanism is needful to state the estimated time of arrival for on-site inspectors of the CTBTO. This poster presents the methods.

Acknowledgments

This work is funded by the German Foundation for Peace Research.

References

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