

The National Collection of Industrial, Food and Marine Bacteria (NCIMB) provides environmental consultancy and testing services to industries including oil and gas, waste management and occupational hygiene, for problem solving and routine monitoring. NCIMB is ISO 9001 certified and licensed by the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA).

## Specialist test equipment

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We are fully equipped to carry out:

- Gamma and Alpha Spectroscopy for radiochemical analysis
- Gas Chromatography
- Atomic Absorption Spectrometry
- DNA sequencing.

## Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) Testing Service

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Oilfield scales – an unwanted by-product of oil production – may contain naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM). This is traditionally referred to as LSA scale, due to its relatively Low Specific Activity.

LSA NORM scale is formed by precipitation of radioactive salts, which are present in very low concentrations in naturally occurring oilfield brines. These solid scale deposits may have 100 times higher radioactivity than natural levels, due to the presence of Actinium-228 and Radium-226 and their daughters in decay series, as well as Lead-210.

It is a requirement that the total radioactivity in scale deposits is reported to the appropriate Environment Agency prior to disposal into the environment. NCIMB provides the required test service, under SEPA authorisation, to determine the level of radioactivity in scale samples.

## Occupational Hygiene Testing

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Understanding the environment to which workers are exposed is a critical part of sound occupational hygiene control.

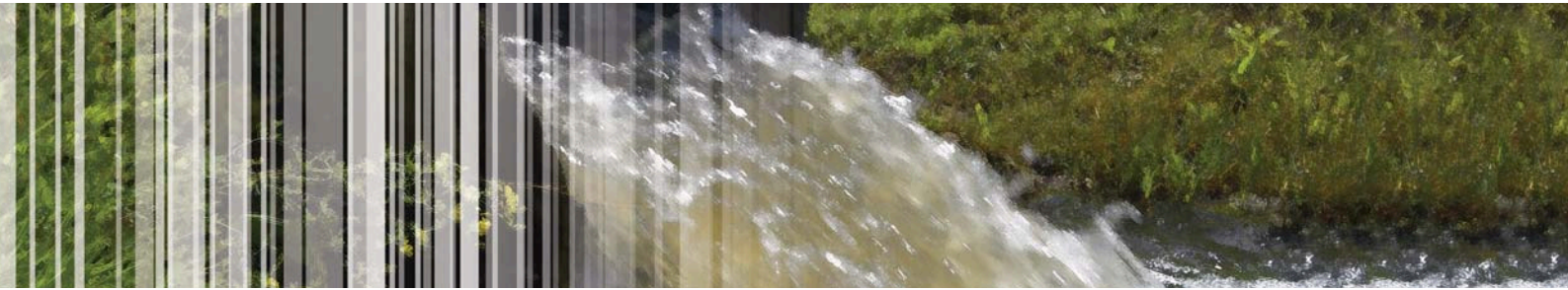
NCIMB offers specialist analytical services such as total dust measurement and heavy metals on filters, inorganic acids on silica and organics on charcoal.

## Land Contamination Analysis

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NCIMB offers both chemical and ecotoxicological test services for contaminated land samples.

We have recently developed a new rapid microbial test system, known as MARA, that acts as a “biosensor” of various environmental toxic contaminants.



## Drill Cuttings Testing Service

Environmental issues are a major driving force for many companies, especially for those committed to ISO14001. However, when drill cuttings are discharged overboard from an oil rig, the local environmental impact can be significant.

To help determine the extent of contamination due to drilling mud and the spatial extent of drilling mud deposition, NCIMB undertakes the testing of seabed and drill cuttings samples, including total barium content radiochemical analysis. The environmental impact of the operation can then be determined from these test results.

## Effluent Monitoring

Disposal of waste effluent is a major issue for many companies – not only for those in the energy sector but also, for example, in the paper industry. Improved environmental performance may be required to satisfy ISO14001, to meet stricter consent limits and to limit rising disposal costs.

NCIMB offers specialist test services to analyse various parameters of effluent discharge, such as chemical oxygen demand, suspended solids and heavy metals.

### How to contact us

Please contact our Environmental Services team on 00 44 (0) 1224 711131 to discuss how we can help you

### NCIMB Ltd