

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

CESIUM/RUBIDIUM

A. Commodity Summary

The properties of cesium and its compounds are similar to those of rubidium and its compounds. As a result, cesium and rubidium compounds are often used interchangeably. Although neither cesium nor rubidium is recovered domestically from mined ores, according to the U.S. Bureau of Mines each is manufactured by primarily one company domestically (Cabot Corp. - Revere, PA). Cesium products are manufactured from imported pollucite ore and used commercially in electronics, photoelectric, and medical applications. Rubidium products are manufactured from imported lepidolite ore and also used commercially in the electronic and medical industries. Both cesium and rubidium were used in the form of chemical compounds in research and development endeavors.¹ Exhibit 1 presents the names and locations of the facilities once involved in the production of cesium/rubidium.

EXHIBIT 1

SUMMARY OF CESIUM/RUBIDIUM FACILITIES

Facility Name	Location	Type of Operations
Cabot Corp	Revere, PA	Recovery of both cesium and rubidium
Callery Chem	Pittsburgh, PA	Uncertain
Carus Corp	La Salle, IL	Acid Digestion
Corning Glass	Corning, NY	Uncertain

¹ Robert G. Reese, Jr., "Cesium" and "Rubidium," from Mineral Commodity Summaries, 1995, pp. 40-41 and pp. 138-139.