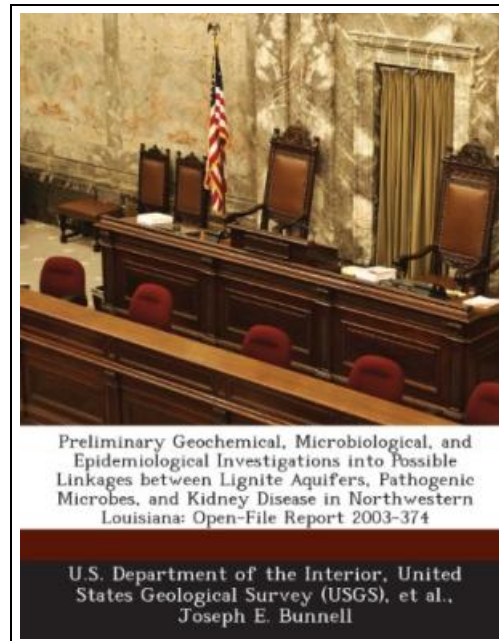


Preliminary Geochemical, Microbiological, and Epidemiological Investigations Into Possible Linkages Between Lignite Aquifers, Pathogenic Microbes, and Kidney Disease in Northwestern Louisiana: Open-File Report 2003-374



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PRELIMINARY GEOCHEMICAL, MICROBIOLOGICAL, AND EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS INTO POSSIBLE LINKAGES BETWEEN LIGNITE AQUIFERS, PATHOGENIC MICROBES, AND KIDNEY DISEASE IN NORTHWESTERN LOUISIANA: OPEN-FILE REPORT 2003-374



Bibliogov, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.In May 2002, 15 wells and four surface water sites were sampled, and in September 2002, those same wells and sites plus four additional surface sites were sampled in five parishes of northwestern Louisiana. A geographic information system (GIS) was used to select residential water wells for sampling. Well water samples were analyzed for pH, conductivity, organic compounds, and nutrient and anion concentrations. All samples were further tested for presence of fungi (maintained for up to 28 days and colonies counted and identified microscopically), and metal and trace element concentration by inductively-coupled plasma mass spectrometry and atomic emission spectrometry. Surface water samples were tested for dissolved oxygen and evidence of leptospiral bacterial presence. A polymerase chain reaction protocol was optimized for detection of pathogenic leptospires, and the sensitivity of the assay was determined. The Spearman correlation method was used to assess the association between the endpoints for these field/laboratory analyses and the incidence of cancer of the renal pelvis obtained from the Louisiana Tumor Registry. Significant associations were revealed between the cancer rate and the overall number of organic compounds, the fungi Zygomycetes, the nutrients PO₄ and NH₃, and thirteen chemical elements (As, B, Br, Cl, Cr, F, Li, Na, P, Rb, Se, Sr, W) from the well water as compared to the controls. Among the species of fungi from the total of 136 isolates were 12 *Penicillium* spp., at least two *Aspergillus* spp., a number of other genera (*Alternaria* sp., *Eupenicillium lapidosum*, *Cladosporium* sp., *Epicoccum* sp., *Trichoderma* sp., *Paecilomyces* sp., *Chrysosporium* sp., *Chloridium* sp.), and Zygomycetes, and Coelmycetes -- some of which are known mycotoxin producers. The two control wells yielded a mean of 6.5 (SD =...



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