

Abstract Submitted  
for the DPP99 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

Sorting Category: 5.1.1.2 (Experimental)

**Long-term Reduction of Divertor Carbon Sources in DIII-D**<sup>1</sup> D.G. WHYTE, R. DOERNER, University of California, San Diego, W.P. WEST, R.L. LEE, N.H. BROOKS, General Atomics, R.C. ISLER, M.R. WADE, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, G.D. PORTER, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory — The long-term evolution of carbon sputtering from the DIII-D tokamaks graphite-covered lower divertor is studied using *in-situ* spectroscopy and *ex-situ* laboratory erosion yield measurements. The total effective yield and, hence, the impurity source amplitude has gradually decreased a factor  $> 4$  since installation of the tiles in 1992. This reduction is likely caused by the  $\sim 20$ -fold reduction in the chemical erosion yield of the graphite, the effect of  $> 30$  applied boronizations. Despite this great success in wall conditioning, there has been no concomitant decrease in the core plasma carbon contamination during the same period. Two explanations are being explored: (1) the nature of parallel impurity transport decouples the wall source and content, and (2) the first wall is the principal source of carbon in the core.

<sup>1</sup>Supported by U.S. DOE Grant DE-FG03-95ER-54294 and Contracts DE-AC03-99ER54463, DE-AC05-96OR22464, and W-7405-ENG-48.

Prefer Oral Session  
 Prefer Poster Session

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Special instructions: DIII-D Poster Session 2, immediately following RJ Colchin

Date printed: July 16, 1999

Electronic form version 1.4