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## EVALUATION OF NATURAL RADIONUCLIDES FOR MICA AND QUARTZ IN EASTERN DESERT OF EGYPT, USING GAMMA-RAY SPECTROMETRY

By applying high–resolution  $\gamma$ -ray spectroscopic system, the various radionuclides of mica and quartz samples have been identified quantitatively. The specific activity of  $^{226}$ Ra,  $^{232}$ Th and  $^{40}$ K in 25 mica samples collected from 5 locations and 15 quartz samples from 3 locations of geographical areas located in G. Kadabora in Central Eastern Desert of Egypt, were determined by gamma ray spectrometry with a high-purity germanium (HPGe) detector. This subject is important in environmental radiological protection, since mica and quartz are widely used as raw materials in different industries. The results of analysis for  $^{238}$ U,  $^{232}$ Th and  $^{40}$ K specific activities were found to be higher than the permissible level for all mica and quartz samples. The radium equivalent activities in Bq/kg, dose rate in nGy/hr, external and internal hazards in nGy/yr and also ( $^{232}$ Th/ $^{238}$ U) ratios Clark's value s are calculated. From this study, it is clear that G. Kadabora, Central Eastern Desert, Egypt can be considered unsafe to use as raw materials.

Keywords: natural radioactivity, mica and quartz, external hazard index.