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Findings

- COUPP-4
  - Achieved limits comparable to Picasso
  - Better understanding of backgrounds and calibration needed before publishing result.
  - Impressive efforts underway to reduce radioactive components, improve MC, and calibrate response.
  - Will be reinstalled in April for a final run.
- COUPP-60
  - Construction, testing and retrofits at Fermilab nearly complete
  - Darkening problem apparently solved (Na_2SO_3)
  - Appropriate attention to chemical and seismic issues, safety review upcoming in April
  - Installation at SNOLAB in May, for turnon in November.

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Comments

- We commend COUPP for initiating calibrations with pion beams, and emphasize that the calibration and understanding of detector response is critical.
- We are pleased by COUPP's characterization and mitigation of radiation backgrounds.
- The project benefits from strong management.

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Recommendations

- Complete the analysis and publish results from the 2011 run.
- Investigate beta-n decays as a possible background (e.g. 210Tl beta-n decay following 214Bi alpha decays in the 238U chain).
- Prepare a letter of intent for COUPP 500 in time for the next EAC meeting (summer 2012). The collaboration should also remain cognizant of similar plans by the PICASSO collaboration.