

Electronic Precipitation Methodology

(Last rev. 23/11/2015)

STRI measures rainfall using tipping buckets. Tipping buckets have a resolution changed to 0.254mm (0.01") with recording intervals of 15 minutes. Totals are given at the end of each 15-minute period.

When the meteorology station for the PNM crane was installed in 1996, the station was located mid-way up the tower to one side (see Fig. 1). The tipping bucket for this station was a Texas Electronics, Inc. TR-525M Rainfall Sensor (see Fig. 2).

In April of 2008, the tipping bucket was relocated to the top of the tower (see Figure 3) and was replaced with a Hydrological Services Model TB4 tipping bucket (see Figure 4).

Tipping buckets are calibrated at least yearly according to the manufacturer's specifications (see Figure 5).

Figure 1



PNM tower showing met. station approximately at the middle of the tower

Figure 2



Figure 3



Tipping bucket on top of the PNM crane.

Figure 4



Hydrological Services Model TB4 tipping bucket

Figure 5



Tipping Bucket Calibration