

CRCPD *Newsbrief*

Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.
A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

www.crcpd.org

August 2023

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



ACTIVITIES AND NEWS!

By Rikki Waller

What a busy summer it has been! So many meetings and e-mails as several of our working groups began new tasks or finished the ones they were assigned.

One of the many tasks completed was the DOT-SP Guidance Document, which is now under final review by the

Board. The E-48 Task Force to Develop Best Practices for use of Department of Transportation (DOT) Special Permits worked hard to get this document completed in a timely manner. Many of our working groups have acquired new tasks over the past two months to address emerging issues. We always welcome the opportunity to support initiatives important to all our CRCPD council working groups.

2023 Organization of Agreement States Meeting

It was an honor to represent the CRCPD at the 2023 OAS Annual Meeting. I was able to give an update on the many CRCPD activities and partnerships. CRCPD was very well represented at the meeting with several members and four board members in attendance. The OAS team provided three and one-half days of interesting, engaging speakers and topics. They dedicated an

TASK COMPLETED

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The E-48 Task Force to Develop Best Practices for use of DOT Special Permits worked hard to get this document completed in a timely manner.”

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FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

(continued)

entire day to fusion energy that included a trip to Helion energy for a site tour. Thank you to the OAS board for a fantastic opportunity!



L to R: Hillary Haskins, OR, Board Member-at-Large; Becki Harisis, NE, Board Member-at-Large; Rikki Waller, ID, Chairperson; Lisa Bruedigan, TX, Chair-Elect

CRCPD Tri-chair Team

The CRCPD Tri-chair team continues to meet with Kevin Williams, NRC’s Director of the Division of Materials Safety, Security, State and Tribal Programs and other NRC staff on a biweekly basis. I feel this demonstrates the NRC’s ongoing commitment to the partnership with the CRCPD and state programs. The CRCPD Board sent a letter to NRC Commissioner Baran expressing our gratitude for his support, dedication, and advocacy for state radiation control programs and the interests of states as meaningful contributors to NRC regulations, policies, and procedures during his two terms on the Commission. CRCPD recognizes and appreciates his leadership and wishes him well as he awaits reconfirmation.

Final Rule for Emergency Preparedness for Small Modular Reactors and Other New Technologies

We also learned the NRC Commissioners Approved the Final Rule for Emergency Preparedness for Small Modular Reactors (SMR) and Other New Technologies. The rule will apply to SMR and technologies such as non-light-water reactors, new research and test reactors and medical radioisotope facilities. The final rule will be published in the *Federal Register* before the end of the year according to the NRC. However, the rule is available on the NRC web site in ADAMS.

ACTIVITIES AND NEWS!

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR SMALL MODULAR REACTORS AND OTHER NEW TECHNOLOGIES

“The rule will apply to SMR and technologies such as non-light-water reactors, new research and test reactors and medical radioisotope facilities.”

Rikki Waller

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

(continued)

ACTIVITIES AND NEWS!

IAEA Meeting on Radiation Safety in International Trade of Commodities

Lisa Bruedigan represented the CRCPD at the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) Technical Meeting on Radiation Safety in International Trade of Commodities, in Vienna, August 1 – 4, 2023. The meeting focused on radiation in non-food commodities. Lisa also provided an update on the coordinated activities between the CRCPD and the IAEA under the Practical Arrangement, which was renewed in 2022. See related article on page 9.

CBRN RadResponder

We received a little good news on CBRN RadResponder this month. FEMA has extended the Chainbridge contract for another year. The contract will be put out to bid again over the next year. We are all hoping for a smooth transition when the time comes.

Planning for the Annual Conference 2024

The CRCPD Board has a busy fall ahead with several meetings on the calendar. In the interest of fiscal responsibility, we have decided to hold our Fall board meeting virtually this year. It's also time for us to start planning our next annual conference scheduled for May 2024. I am looking forward to serving on the Annual Meeting Program Committee and planning an interesting, informative program for our conference in Jacksonville, FL. If you are interested in speaking or presenting a poster, please let a board member know. We are very interested in what you have to say.

**GOOD NEWS ON CBRN
RADRESPONDER**

*“FEMA has extended
the Chainbridge
contract for another
year.”*

Rikki Waller

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE**



SUMMER—IT'S COOKING AT CRCPD!

by Ruth McBurney, CHP

It's turning into a long hot summer for most of us in the United States this year. That's certainly not keeping some of our committees and other CRCPD volunteers from carrying out important work and coming up with great ideas for future activities. Some of the goals for which the groups and individual volunteers are working on are:

- Attracting new members through a brochure on the benefits of being a member of CRCPD
- Attracting new working group members—there's lots of benefits to doing this as well!
- Attracting college students to the profession of health physics, in particular, to regulatory health physics in a federal or state program. We have a working group that is working with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and other federal agencies on workforce development. In addition to this group, others have suggested inviting students in health physics programs to our national conference and even setting up a travel assistance fund (with tax-deductible donations) to bring a few students to the upcoming National Conference on Radiation Control.
- Providing a coordinator for emergency response training who will, among other duties, facilitate CRCPD participation in emergency preparedness and response pilot trainings developed by federal agencies as requested and ensure proper written feedback of any training content is sent to federal agency; and work with requesting federal agencies and CRCPD board members to determine CRCPD member participation in emergency preparedness and response workshops and pilot trainings.

GREAT IDEAS FOR THE FUTURE

- *Attracting new members*
- *Attracting new working group members*
- *Attracting college students to the profession of health physics*
- *Providing a coordinator for emergency response training*

Ruth McBurney

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

(continued)

SUMMER—

IT'S COOKING AT CRCPD!

If you have any thoughts or ideas to add to any of these or would like to be involved in implementing any of the new ideas, let us hear from you!

Groups and Liaisons

Several other groups to which we provide liaisons have been meeting this summer—specifically, the American Association of Physicists in Medicine, the Health Physics Society, the American Academy of Health Physics, the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, the Organization of Agreement States, and the National Radon Action Plan (NRAP) Leadership Council. Our liaisons to those groups engaged with their counterparts at those meetings and brought back lots of good information and new ideas for working together. In addition, Lisa Bruedigan represented CRCPD at a Technical Meeting on Radiation Safety in International Trade Commodities at IAEA. You will find articles on the NRAP Meeting and the IAEA Technical Meeting elsewhere in this edition.

Considering New Working Groups, Membership and Leadership

As the Board goes into planning mode this fall, they will be considering new working groups, membership and leadership for new and existing working groups, and ideas for presentations and training at the next annual conference. A call for abstracts has recently gone out, and we encourage you to consider presenting or suggesting topics about which you would like to hear more or receive more training. We really appreciate getting feedback.

Enjoy the end of summer and the coming cooler weather!

**CRCPD
LIAISONS WITH
PROFESSIONAL
GROUPS**

Liaisons provided to:

- *American Association of Physicists in Medicine*
- *Health Physics Society*
- *American Academy of Health Physics*
- *Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, Organization of Agreement States*
- *National Radon Action Plan (NRAP) Leadership Council*

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Kim Steves

CRCPD

ksteves@crcpd.org

Lisa Bruedigan (TX)

Director, Radiation Safety

Lisa.Bruedigan@dshs.texas.gov

David J. Allard, CHP

CRCPD G-50 Liaison

Ruth E. McBurney, CHP

CRCPD

Margaret Henderson

Editor

The Newsbrief is published in February, April, June, August, October, and December by the Office of Executive Director, Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc., 201 Brighton Park Boulevard, Suite 1, Frankfort, KY 40601. Telephone: 502/227-4543, fax: 502/227-7862; Website: <www.crcpd.org>.

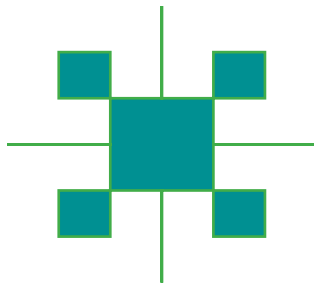
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Kim Steves (CRCPD)

NATIONAL RADON ACTION PLAN

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL FOR THE NATIONAL RADON ACTION PLAN

CRCPD is a founding member and has participated in the formation and ongoing evolution of the NRAP since it was originally formed as the Federal Radon Action Plan in 2011.



The Leadership Council for the National Radon Action Plan (NRAP) met in Washington DC in June for a strategic planning session. Ruth McBurney and Kim Steves from CRCPD Office of Executive Director attended this meeting, along with multiple members of the E-25 Committee on Radon.

The CRCPD is a founding member and has participated in the formation and ongoing evolution of the NRAP since it was originally formed as the Federal Radon Action Plan in 2011.

The 2021-2025 National Radon Action Plan reflects an ongoing partnership between radon leaders in the government and private sectors working together on strategies to save lives from radon-induced lung cancer by fixing buildings, constructing new buildings with radon resistant features, and preparing a certified, professional radon workforce. The strategies in the NRAP also focus on addressing radon as a health equity challenge and reducing radon risk in underserved communities.

NATIONAL RADON ACTION PLAN - continued

The full plan can be viewed at: <https://www.epa.gov/radon/national-radon-action-plan-strategy-saving-lives>

GOAL AREAS IN NRAP

- (1) Build in Radon Risk Reduction
- (2) Support Radon Risk Reduction
- (3) Build Capacity to Test and Mitigate Using Professional Radon Services
- (4) Increase Awareness of Radon Risk and Control Strategies

During the meeting in June, the working groups assigned to each goal area met in break-out sessions to review their strategies and revise their action plans for the upcoming year.

CRCPD has staff or members serving on each NRAP goal's working group to ensure the state radon programs are well represented.

As part of our support for the NRAP, the CRCPD has been working closely with the U.S. EPA to establish a Google workspace for sharing of radon information between states. This project was discussed during the

NRAP meeting, and the Radon Google Drive was demonstrated. This is a project that falls under Goal 4. **The Radon Leaders Saving Lives website still exists also as an information sharing space and can be viewed at www.radonleaders.org.** The google drive should go live later this fall.

During the meeting there was also a discussion with partners from the CDC Environmental Public Health Tracking Program to finalize radon testing data collection to CDC from the radon laboratories for multi-family housing. This activity tracks with Goal 3, and also will support the evaluation of the new Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) Radon Policy for multi-family buildings.

The NRAP leadership council discussed successes which have occurred and on which they wish to continue to build. **This includes an increase in states which require radon credentials or are considering moving toward that requirement, an increase in states adopting the ANSI/AARST standards for radon, radon being elevated from an add-on option to a requirement in top green and healthy homes standards and programs, and radon risk reduction being considered a primary cancer prevention strategy.**

To learn more about NRAP or if you are interested in volunteering to participate, please contact Joshua Kerber, who is the Chair of the E-25 Committee on Radon. Joshua can be reached at joshua.kerber@state.mn.us.





Lisa Bruedigan (TX)

IAEA TECHNICAL MEETING ON RADIATION SAFETY IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF COMMODITIES

Lisa Bruedigan attended the Technical Meeting on Radiation Safety in International Trade of Commodities, hosted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in early August in Vienna, Austria. **The meeting attendees represented 32 member states from around the world, all brought together to provide input to develop a Safety Report on international trade of commodities to complement the draft Safety Guide provisionally entitled Application of the Concept of Exemption.** Kevin Williams and Kathy Modes with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission also attended, along with Dave Allard.

Lisa's presentation focused on the renewed Practical Agreement between CRCPD and the IAEA with an update on work that has been done in the areas of naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM), radon and the radiation protection of patients and highlighted future endeavors.

CRCPD & IAEA – Future Plans



-  Information sharing related to mutual activities related to regulatory control of radionuclides in non-food commodities
-  Participation of USA experts in IAEA activities or events where the management of non-food commodities is discussed.
-  Development of a pamphlet to facilitate and enhance radiation safety and regulate the presence of radioactivity in non-food commodities (including NORM and TENORM).
-  Explore and initiate the development of a dynamic international database related to the management of commodities, consumer products, and goods. The design of the database should be user-friendly with search and filter options understandable for both radiation professionals and the public.

IAEA TECHNICAL MEETING ON RADIATION SAFETY IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF COMMODITIES


For this meeting, work started in November, 2022 when we partnered with the NRC to develop a database which lists non-food commodities containing radiation. The database is still in its infancy but is geared to be a useful tool for state radiation control programs, IAEA member states, manufacturers and consumers. It currently lists the product, source of origin, where it was encountered, end outcomes, which states or countries were involved and provides contact information for those states. **The goal is for the database to reside with the IAEA and members states will be allowed to submit updates as they have new information.**

CRCPD & IAEA – Two New Areas of Collaboration

Food and Non-Food Commodities

-  Work collaboratively in the area of **radioactive contaminated materials (including NORM and TENORM) containing non-food consumer goods or commodities.**
-  Work collaboratively in the area of preparation of guidance and other relevant materials (outreach materials, online courses, etc.) addressing **exposures from radionuclides in food in non-emergency situations."**

A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection



Each participating member state provided an update on activities in their country, which highlighted additional products that need to be added to the database. **The group also heard from the World Customs Organization and the World Trade Organization, which provided insight from the shipping world and highlighted some of the issues they struggle with related to this topic.**

NCRP ANNUAL MEETING & UPDATE

by David J. Allard, CHP (G-50 Liaison to National Council on Radiation Protection)

KEYNOTE: “What Do Risk Modelers Want? What Can Biologists Provide?”

The meeting was opened by NCRP President Kathy Held, and she introduced the keynote speaker **Michael Weil**, whose talk was “What Do Risk Modelers Want? What Can Biologists Provide?”

From this talk and others, it is clear that cancer induction in humans is complicated with radiation as one of many agents that can cause gene mutations, with repair mechanisms and individual sensitivity in play, and the difficulty in measuring dose response at very low-levels of exposure.

However, as was presented by various speakers through the meeting, **many new and advanced biological research methods are being employed to examine low dose radiation effects at the molecular, cell, tissue, organ, individual, and population level.**

For example, from recent epidemiological (epi) studies of radiation therapy patients, it is clear there is the potential for secondary radiation induced cardiovascular disease. Some of these related findings are of concern to NASA and their ongoing and future space missions involving astronauts. This is not the low dose occupational or environmental levels that regulators are concerned with... but those concerns are being researched.

MEETING THEME: Integration of Physics, Biology and Epidemiology in Radiation Risk Assessment

As the G-50 Liaison to NCRP it was my pleasure to attend the annual meeting of the NCRP on March 27-28, 2023. The meeting theme was Integration of Physics, Biology and Epidemiology in Radiation Risk Assessment, and an outstanding program was pulled together by Eric Grant [Chair] and Emily Caffrey [Vice Chair].

David J. Allard, CHP

RESOURCES: NCRP Links

NCRP has the full program with abstracts online. See <https://ncrponline.org/news-events/>

For Reports, Commentaries and Statements, see <https://ncrponline.org/> and select “Publications”

NCRP ANNUAL MEETING & UPDATE - continued

In addition to the NCRP's "Million Person (Epi) Study," the vast majority of presenters at this annual meeting illustrated their talks with some cutting-edge in vitro laboratory methods, such as tissue construction and real-time cell imaging during challenges by physical and chemical agents.

Many speakers mentioned and discussed the ongoing concerns related to very low-level exposure and the need for appropriate risk assessment as related to dose, delivered dose rate, the linear energy transfer [LET] of the radiation, epi study cohort participant confounders, and the ongoing open question - **Does response in humans for various cancers follow a linear non-threshold [LNT] or threshold response model?** As noted in the meeting, this has a great impact on national and international radiation protection policy and regulation.

During a second day panel discussion it was stressed that science can be subject to misinformation, but the best we can do is let it speak for itself – and involve the public.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Dr. Held also conducted the annual business meeting at the end of the scientific sessions, reviewing the fiscal and ongoing scientific work of NCRP.

There are many scientific committee projects publishing their results, and many in the works. For example, CRCPD helped fund, and Lisa Bruedigan helped write a *Commentary on Radiation Safety Training for Fluoroscopy* (see the related article in this Newsbrief).

In closing, I would highly recommend all CRCPD members to review the hundreds of Reports, Commentaries, Proceedings, and Statements available from the NCRP. The titles published over the past few years should be of interest and are listed on the following page.

Lastly, do keep an eye on the NCRP's website for new publications, and information on the 2024 Annual Meeting planned for next March.

2024 Annual Meeting

Advanced Power Reactor Technology

March 25–26, 2024
Bethesda, Maryland

It will no doubt be another great meeting, and once again in-person!

NCRP ANNUAL MEETING & UPDATE *- continued*

NCRP TITLES PUBLISHED OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS OF INTEREST TO CRCPD MEMBERS - AVAILABLE AT [HTTPS://NCRPONLINE.ORG/](https://ncrponline.org/)

REPORTS

Report No. 179 – Guidance for Emergency Response Dosimetry (2017)

Report No. 180 – Management of Exposure to Ionizing Radiation: Radiation Protection Guidance for the United States (2018)

Report No. 181 – Evaluation of the Relative Effectiveness of Low-Energy Photons and Electrons in Inducing Cancer in Humans (2018)

Report No. 182 – Radiation Safety of Sealed Radioactive Sources (2019)

Report No. 184 – Medical Radiation Exposure of Patients in the United States (2019)

Report No. 185 – Evaluating and Communicating Radiation Risks for Studies Involving Human Subjects: Guidance for Researchers and Institutional Review Boards (2020)

Report No. 186 – Approaches for Integrating Information from Radiation Biology and Epidemiology to Enhance Low-Dose Health Risk Assessment (2020)

Report No. 187 – Operational Radiation Safety Program (2022)

COMMENTARIES

Commentary No. 26 – Guidance on Radiation Dose Limits for the Lens of the Eye (2016)

Commentary No. 28 – Implementation Guidance for Emergency Response Dosimetry (2019)

Commentary No. 29 – Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) and Technologically Enhanced NORM (TENORM) from the Oil and Gas Industry (2020)

Commentary No. 33 – Recommendations for Stratification of Equipment Use and Radiation Safety Training for Fluoroscopy (2023)

STATEMENTS

Statement No. 12 – Where Are The Radiation Professionals (WARP)? (2015)

Statement No. 13 – NCRP Recommendations For Ending Routine Gonadal Shielding During Abdominal And Pelvic Radiography (2021)

Statement No. 14 – Instrument Response Verification And Calibration For Use In Radiation Emergencies (2022)

Statement No. 15 – Respiratory Protection Recommendations For Workers And Volunteers Responding To A Nuclear Incident Outside The Affected Area (2022)

Statement No. 16 – Recommendations For Assessment Of Safety, Quality And Reliability In A Radiation Therapy Practice (2023)

PARTNERS

NCRP PUBLISHES COMMENTARY ON TRAINING FOR FLUOROSCOPY

by Lisa Bruedigan (TX) and Ruth E. McBurney, CHP (CRCPD)

The National Council on Radiation Protection recently published ***NCRP Commentary No. 33, Recommendations for Stratification of Equipment Use and Radiation Safety Training for Fluoroscopy***, which was funded partly by CRCPD. This Commentary will be made available on the NCRP website, and the announcement of its publication will be made very soon, possibly this week. Once made available on the NCRP website, it can be found at <https://ncrponline.org/product-category/commentaries/>.

The document presents updated guidelines for the initial and annual renewal of fluoroscopy training. The purpose of the Commentary is to “define an evidence-based, radiation-related classification for fluoroscopically guided procedures (FGP) based on patient radiation risk; to provide radiation-related recommendations for the types of fluoroscopes suitable for each class of procedure; and to indicate the extent and content of training that ought to be provided to different categories of facility staff who might enter a room where fluoroscopy is or may be performed.”*

It was developed with input from several disciplines and organizations, including the American College of Radiology, the American Association of Physicists in Medicine, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and CRCPD, to name a few. Lisa Bruedigan represented state radiation control programs and CRCPD on the committee that developed the Commentary.

****NCRP Commentary No. 33, Recommendations for Stratification of Equipment Use and Radiation Safety Training for Fluoroscopy, Preface. 2023.***

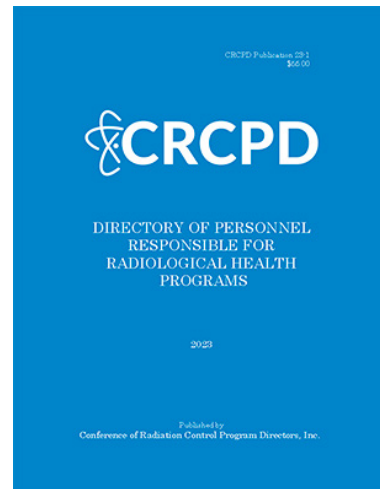
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NEW MEMBERS

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MEMBERSHIP
IN CRCPD,
SEE THE
ONLINE
APPLICATION!**

[Apply Here.](#)

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The Directory of Personnel Responsible for Radiological Health Programs is available online for members and our federal partners and is updated regularly. Visit [CRCPD](#).



CALL FOR NEWS

CRCPD is interested in what you are doing and would like to share your knowledge and experiences with other CRCPD members through a feature article in the *Newsbrief*.

If you would like to submit an article, please contact Ruth McBurney (rmcburney@crcpd.org) suggesting a topic you'd like to present.

The *Newsbrief* is published six times a year, in even numbered months. Deadline for submission is the 15th of the month of publication.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COUNCILS

CHAIRPERSON

Rikki Waller (ID)
208/334-0549
Rikki.waller@dhw.idaho.gov

PAST CHAIRPERSON

Patrick Mulligan (NJ)
609/984-7701
patrick.mulligan@dep.nj.gov

CHAIRPERSON-ELECT

Lisa Bruedigan (TX)
737/218-7162
lisa.bruedigan@dshs.texas.gov

TREASURER

Cynthia A. Costello, MS, MPH, CHP
518/402-7556
cynthia.costello@health.ny.gov

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Hillary Haskins
503/891-0541
hillary.k.haskins@oha.oregon.gov

Becki Harisis (NE)
402/471-0385
becki.harisis@nebraska.gov

Tanya Ridgle (LA County, CA)
213/351-7385
tanya.ridgle@cdph.ca.gov

ENVIRONMENTAL NUCLEAR COUNCIL

Hillary Haskins
503/891-0541
hillary.k.haskins@oha.oregon.gov

GENERAL COUNCIL AND LIAISONS

Cynthia A. Costello, MS, MPH, CHP
518/402-7556
cynthia.costello@health.ny.gov

HEALING ARTS COUNCIL

Lisa Bruedigan (TX)
737/218-7162
lisa.bruedigan@dshs.texas.gov

HOMELAND SECURITY/EMERGENCY RESPONSE COUNCIL

Tanya Ridgle (LA County, CA)
213/351-7385
tanya.ridgle@cdph.ca.gov

SUGGESTED STATE REGULATIONS COUNCIL

Becki Harisis (NE)
402/471-0385
becki.harisis@nebraska.gov