

CRCPD *Newsbrief*

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

www.crcpd.org

August 2024

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



SETTLING BACK TO WORK WHILE MOVING AHEAD

Hi everyone! I'm sitting on a plane on the way to a meeting and taking some quiet time to write an update for the newsletter. I'm also wondering where the summer has gone. Most of you have taken summer vacations, and the kids and grandkids are back in school. This means it's also time to settle back into our regular work schedule, including participating in the various CRCPD committees and task forces you are on.

AAPM Meeting

July found me representing CRCPD at the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) Annual Meeting along with Joann Harthcock.

Joann Harthcock
(TX) at the American
Association of
Physicists in Medicine
(AAPM) Annual
Meeting.



AFTER THE SUMMER HAS GONE

"This means it's also time to settle back into our regular work schedule, including participating in the various CRCPD committees and task forces you are on."

Lisa Bruedigan

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FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

(continued)

**SETTLING BACK TO WORK
WHILE MOVING AHEAD**

OAS Meeting & Artificial Intelligence

The Annual OAS meeting was the week of August 19th, and I had the honor of representing CRCPD with an update on our current activities and I tried to participate on a panel (IYKYK) discussing artificial intelligence (AI), how it will impact the regulated community, our stakeholders, and our programs, especially the inspection process.

We know AI is already used to aid in image interpretation in radiology and mammography. Is it being used in other areas that we regulate, and we aren't aware of? **Do you see it applied during inspections? Are you asking about it?** Whether we are prepared or not, AI is already here. You don't have to be an expert, but you need a good understanding of how it impacts our programs and stakeholders. **We must invest in the movement, or it will leave us behind.**



AI-generated art by Lisa Bruedigan using the phrase
“Everyone’s talking about radiation.”

**ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE (AI) IS
ALREADY HERE**

“We know AI is already used to aid in image interpretation in radiology and mammography.

Is it being used in other areas that we regulate, and we aren’t aware of?”

Lisa Bruedigan

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

(continued)

**SETTLING BACK TO WORK
WHILE MOVING AHEAD**

New CRCPD Committees

We are excited to announce that a few new committees have been formed. **G-77 is a new group that intends to create a quarterly meeting for Radiation Control Program attorneys to get together.** This will be modeled after the H-7 and H-11 calls that have been such a success. We hope this group can form a network of resources nationwide to provide insight and possibly guidance on rulemaking, informal conferences, and State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) cases.

The board has also created a new working group to explore developing a program to train state members as evaluators for Federal Emergency Management Agency Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program (FEMA REP) exercises, similar to the NRC and state partnership on Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) inspections.

Time to Get Involved

Several committees and task groups took the summer off but will start their work again in September. If you aren't involved in a committee or working group, now is an excellent time to find a topic you are passionate about and get involved. **Our work products need your insight and input to shape them into well-rounded documents that benefit the country.**

Thanks for all you do! Until next time.

**FIND YOUR TOPIC
AND GET INVOLVED**

“Several committees and task groups took the summer off but will start their work again in September. If you aren't involved in a committee or working group, now is an excellent time to find a topic you are passionate about and get involved.”

Lisa Bruedigan

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE

OPPORTUNITIES TO BECOME INVOLVED

by Ruth McBurney, CHP



It's (hopefully) near the end of summer and a time to:

- Look forward to cooler weather;
- Take advantage of some new resources at CRCPD;
- Add items to our social media pages;
- Get involved in working groups;
- Provide input for planning next year's annual conference.

European Radiological Protection Cognizant Authorities (HERCA)

Recently, representatives from CRCPD and the European organization Heads of the European Radiological Protection Cognizant Authorities (HERCA) met as invited virtually to discuss mutual issues in the area of medical radiation. Since then, members of HERCA's Working Group on Medical Applications have invited a representative from CRCPD to participate in a hybrid workshop on Artificial Intelligence. They have also provided us with links to several of their previous inspector workshops and position statements on proton therapy, contact shielding of patients, clinical audits, hand-held equipment, and justification of new practices. We will be adding these links to our website soon as more resources for state programs. For more information about HERCA and some of the resources the organization has on its website, go to <https://www.herca.org/>

EUROPEAN RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION COGNIZANT AUTHORITIES

"Members of HERCA's Working Group on Medical Applications have invited a representative from CRCPD to participate in a hybrid workshop on Artificial Intelligence."

Ruth McBurney

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE** *(continued)*

**OPPORTUNITIES TO
BECOME INVOLVED**

New Content for Our Social Media Platforms

The G-73 Committee on Communication and Outreach has been busy with new ideas on communicating among the membership. They have asked for new content for our social media platforms—any new initiatives going on in the states, upcoming events, celebrating certain dates pertaining to radiation protection, and other items that would reflect CRCPD's mission and goals. See the entire article in this *Newsbrief* issue.

Get Involved in Working Groups

You may have seen several recent calls for volunteers to serve on working groups. Now would be a great time to get involved. There are opportunities in all councils for "fresh faces" to serve on committees and task forces. If you have an interest and expertise in any of the areas, whether it be healing arts, environmental issues, homeland security/ emergency response, suggested state regulations or general issues being addressed by CRCPD, we need you!

Planning Next Year's Annual Conference

Finally, it is not too early to start planning for next year's annual conference, scheduled for May 19-22, 2025, in Tucson, AZ. We are looking for good topics from state programs, so if you have topic that you would like to present, send us an abstract soon. The Program Planning Committee plans to meet in November to start putting together the program.

WE NEED YOU!

"Now would be a great time to get involved. There are opportunities in all councils for "fresh faces" to serve on committees and task forces."

Ruth McBurney

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE** *(continued)*

In addition, a recent call for nominations has gone out for the Villforth Lecturer, and we hope to get some great submissions for the 2025 National Conference on Radiation Control. If you would like to learn more about this lectureship award or nominate someone for the Villforth Lecturer you may find the following documents on our website:

- [Legacy of Leadership](#) - a biography of John C. Villforth
- [Fact Sheet](#) - explains the detailed selection criteria and nomination process
- [Nomination Form](#) - for submitting your nominations to CRCPD

Submissions should be sent via email to Mendy Cremeans at mcremeans@crcpd.org by **October 18, 2024**.

Best wishes for the coming fall season!

**OPPORTUNITIES TO
BECOME INVOLVED**

**NEXT YEAR'S
CONFERENCE**

*"It is not too early
to start planning for
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Ruth McBurney

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HEALTH PHYSICIST RECRUITMENT IN NEW JERSEY

by

Joseph Power, with Sarah Sanderlin and Jenny Goodman contributing

NJ Department of Environmental Protection

All health physicists know that radiation must be respected, not feared. Most HPs of the Atomic Age have now traded fallout on the sands of Bikini Atoll for piña coladas on sunny beaches where survey meters never tick above background (unless you are in certain parts of the world). Coinciding with this exodus has been a decline in the schools around the country that offer HP programs to students.

But one thing that certainly must be feared is the shortage of Health Physicists (HPs) the radiation protection community faces today.

Management and staff members of the Bureau of Environmental Radiation (BER) in the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) are keenly aware of this shortage. **There have been five retirements over the last decade or approximately 25% of the bureau's most experienced staff.**

One of the Bureau's priorities has been to establish health



HEALTH PHYSICIST RECRUITMENT IN NEW JERSEY

continued

physics outreach opportunities, aiming to ensure students are aware of career opportunities in health physics – and just how cool it is! By reaching out to colleges, universities, and high schools, the NJDEP hopes to find some young talent to complement the remaining staff.

Joe Power, Sarah Sanderlin, Chris Giaquinto, and Claire Drozd have all shared their knowledge and experience at outreach events around the state.

As part of BER's efforts, its youngest staff have repeatedly engaged students and teachers in NJ schools at outreach events that provided presentations and hands-on activities related to careers in health physics. These events include career fairs, science teacher conventions, STEM events with female middle school and high school students, university physics club meetings, and summer environmental programs. **Events have been met with appreciation and enthusiasm by both the students and faculty.**

A common theme throughout all the outreach efforts has been how surprised students are that health physics can be an exciting and rewarding career path. KJ Karausky was one such student. She was intrigued by the prospect of a health physics career after approaching BER's table at a college fair. A little over a year later, she applied for a position with the BER and, at the job interview, recounted how the enthusiasm for radiation protection she witnessed among BER staff was

apparent and contagious. KJ is now one of the newest members of BER, and a testament to the positive impact of these outreach events.



Joe Power, instructor

HEALTH PHYSICIST RECRUITMENT IN NEW JERSEY

continued

If you visit the links to health physics job notifications posted on the CRCPD web pages at <https://crcpd.org/?s=job>, you notice that most of them require health physics experience.

Without a sufficient pool of new HPs to fill the voids, the “switcharoo” game will continue.

As a result, many programs are losing experienced staff to other state programs, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or to private industry. CRCPD currently has a working group focused on Workforce Development (G-74) where issues such as the lack of subject matter expertise in HP have been identified. **One of the main goals for the working group is to find opportunities for state programs to share staff and or knowledge, when possible, to help fill the existing gaps.** That includes states that are in the process of attaining Agreement State status that may need assistance getting the program up to NRC standards.

The BER has found that hiring staff right out of college with no experience has worked very well. Although training is a bit more intense, it is well worth it in exchange for staff retention. It has been a very long time since a new hire left for greener pastures. After all, why would anyone want to leave New Jersey when they have such a satisfying and rewarding career?

While the NJDEP has had some successes, including a paid intern who presented a poster at the OAS Meeting in Philadelphia, there have been some roadblocks. For instance, staff have been trying to contact the high school guidance counselor’s association and have been unsuccessful to date. If other states would like to recruit at the college level, you can start with the Society of Physics Students (<https://www.spsnational.org/about/governance/chapters>), Chemistry or Biology Clubs. Invariably, the most common response from students has been that they never even knew that such a career existed. **So, get out there and spread the word!** Not only might you find excellent candidates, but it is also a lot of fun.

Starting in September 2024 a weblink within the Organization of Agreement States (OAS) website at <https://www.agreementstates.org/> will be available for all National Materials Program staff to reference. This weblink will list each Agreement State, the main program contact, contact information, a brief breakdown of what the program consists of, and any subject matter expertise they may have such as well logging or SSD&R.

CALL FOR SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT AUTHORS



SUBMIT SOME CONTENT!



All CRCPD members are invited and encouraged to contribute regular content to all CRCPD's applicable social media applications, that reflects the mission and goals of the CRCPD, and is pertinent to the radiation protection professional occupation.

The **G-73 Committee on Communication and Outreach** accepts these content submissions and forwards them to the board for approval and final posting on the CRCPD social media accounts.

HOW TO SUBMIT: Please forward fully written posts (1-3 short paragraphs; up to 15 MB, including attachments) to committee chair Ty Sollender at ty.sollender@dhw.idaho.gov. Examples of content could be radiological emergency response, radioactive materials, radon, industrial radiography, x-ray, radiation education, etc.

REQUIREMENTS: All content attached to these posts (articles, pictures, etc.) should be accessible to anyone, free of charge, and free of any needed login credentials, and all sources of non-original material must be cited. Please indicate a timeframe, if any, that posts need to be present on social media.

DEADLINE: Be aware that CRCPD will require at least two weeks for review.

SCATR ACTIVITIES 2024

By Mike Snee, CRCPD Technical Assistant

SCATR Activities 2024

	1 st Quarter 2024	2 nd Quarter 2024	Year to Date
Number of unwanted sources removed	4102	1043	5145
Activity of sources removed	60.244 Curies	18.388 Curies	78.632
Number of facilities assisted	47	60	107

Information on SCATR can be found at the CRCPD SCATR Program (lanl.gov) or contact Michael Snee at msnee@crcpd.org

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STATE PROGRAMS REGARDING DOT SPECIAL PERMITS

By Mike Snee, CRCPD Technical Assistant

Item 1

In DOT Special Permit 10656 (Rev 15) that was issued on September 20, 2023, paragraph 8.c. states:

Each State Radioactive Material Control Official approving shipments must have copy of this special permit and access to the current Hazardous Materials Regulations (Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 100-185). This official must also provide a copy of this special permit and their implementing instructions to all managers of scrap metal facilities within their state that have installed radiation monitoring systems.

Concerns were raised with the highlighted section requiring that a copy of the special permit be provided to scrap metal facilities. Many states may not have a list of scrap metal facilities to use in fulfilling this requirement.

A meeting was held with DOT officials to discuss this requirement, and it was agreed that since a list of scrap metal facilities that have installed radiation monitoring systems may not be easily obtained, states should perform a best faith effort to identify these facilities.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STATE PROGRAMS REGARDING DOT SPECIAL PERMITS

continued

Item 2

As the holder of the two DOT Special Permits the CRCPD is required provide to the DOT quarterly reports detailing the information captured on the permits. Earlier this year an easy-to-use feature was added to the CRCPD website to allow you to upload the permits. This feature allows for the capture of the information that needs to be supplied to the DOT.

- PDF fillable versions of the permits, information on the process, along with the upload link can be found at [Transportation - CRCPD](#)
- To upload the permits, you must log-in to the CRCPD website. Any questions or assistance with the log-in can be directed to Bruce Hirschler at bhirschler@crcpd.org
- The permits can be uploaded in batches and do not need to be uploaded each time one is issued.
- **Permits that are faxed to the CRCPD require extensive work on the part of the CRCPD staff to capture the information needed for the DOT reports.**

If you have any questions, please contact Michael Snee at msnee@crcpd.org

PARTNERS: THE INTEGRATED CONSORTIUM OF LABORATORY NETWORKS (ICLN) LAUNCHES THE RAD LAB HUB

By Andrew L. Scott, PhD, CHP, ICLN Program Manager, Department of Homeland Security

In 2023, the ICLN Rad Lab Subgroup (RLH) launched a new website (www.icln.org/radlabhub) to serve the radiochemistry community as an information and resource repository. The Rad Lab Subgroup recognized a gap in any type of compendium of laboratory related radiological information. They also recognized the loss of many long-time laboratorians to retirements. To help fill this knowledge gap they created a radiological laboratory hub of information and resources. This subgroup promotes consistency of analytical performance to ensure quality data supporting homeland security decisions and assessing and filling gaps in radioanalytical laboratory testing.

The Rad Lab Hub provides a first-of-its-kind, centralized collection of analytical methods, operational guides, and technical information focused specifically on laboratorians, researchers, scientists, incident commanders, and field response personnel in the radiological field.

Available Information

Information available on the website covers topics related to the analysis of food, clinical, plant and environmental samples that may be taken for analysis during and following a major radiological or nuclear incident. The Rad Lab Hub currently includes 150+ different information and technical resources that will greatly benefit the radiological laboratory community.

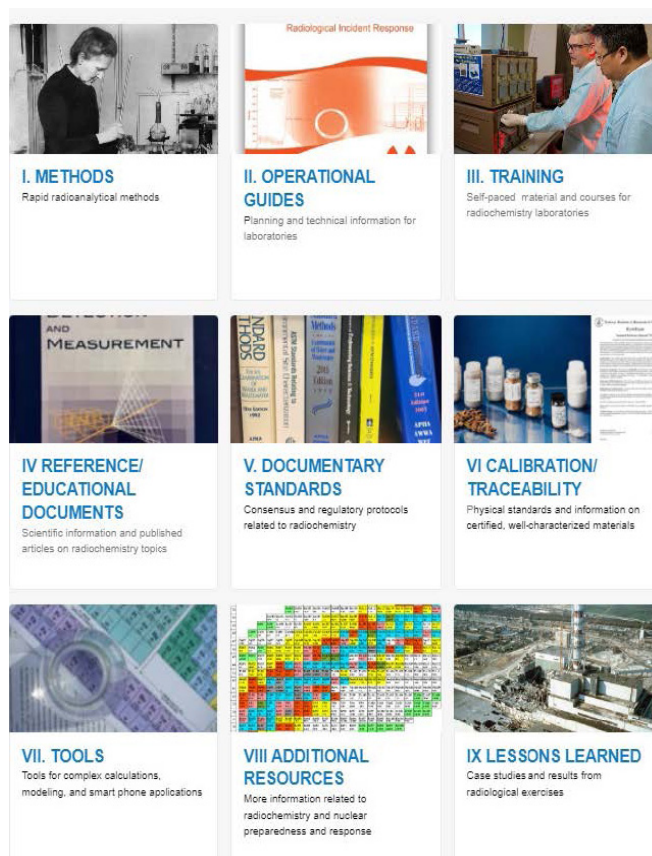


PARTNERS: THE INTEGRATED CONSORTIUM OF LABORATORY NETWORKS (ICLN) LAUNCHES THE RAD LAB HUB *-continued*

Searchable Resources

The searchable resources are collected under the following categories:

- Analytical methods - radioanalytical methods for selected radionuclides applicable to all phases of a nuclear or radiological incident requiring integrated laboratory response
- Operational guides - provide planning and technical information for laboratories to effectively
 - Convert from normal to emergency response operations
 - Establish emergency response methods (i.e., perform method validation)
 - Ensure contamination control
 - Conduct screening techniques on sample receipt
 - Prioritize analysis of samples
 - Ship radioactive samples
 - Segregate laboratory radioactive waste
- Training, reference, and educational documents - self-paced training modules and information to other valuable resources
- Documentary standards - list of applicable consensus standards (e.g., ASTM, ANSI, CLIA, ISO, and TNI)
- Calibration, traceability, and physical standards - physical standards and information on certified, well-characterized materials
- Tools - automated measurement-modeling and calculation tools to provide information such as estimating the count times
- Additional resources - information on radiochemistry and nuclear preparedness and response
- Lessons learned - case studies and results from radiological exercises



PARTNERS: THE INTEGRATED CONSORTIUM OF LABORATORY NETWORKS (ICLN) LAUNCHES THE RAD LAB HUB - *continued*

Invitation to Contribute

In addition to making the community aware of the RLH, we would like to encourage and invite interested colleagues to make radioanalytical laboratory related submission(s) to broaden and deepen the accessible resources available to the community.

Dynamic And Continuously Growing

The Rad Lab Hub is intended to be dynamic and continuously growing as new information and resources are identified. A “**Suggest Resource**” button on all the Rad Lab Hub pages enables access to a form with fields that may be filled in to submit a reference. Simply click on the “**Submit Link**” button on the bottom of the form to submit the suggested resource to be considered for inclusion. All content is reviewed by the Rad Lab Subgroup to determine relevance and categorization before posting to the site.

Contacts



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THE RADIOLOGICAL OPERATIONS SUPPORT SPECIALIST (ROSS) TRAINING

Contributed by William Irwin, Sc.D., CHP, Vermont Department of Health

ROSS Training --

is coming to Waltham, Massachusetts on September 23 to 26, 2024. Several seats remain open.

Where to apply -

Radiological Operation Support Specialist (ROSS) ([google.com](https://www.google.com)) and contact the ROSS making local arrangements, Rusty Lorenzen, at william.lorenzen@childrens.harvard.edu.

The class is **free** and you will learn the latest science-based guidance on responding to nuclear power plant releases, radiological dispersal devices, and nuclear detonations. All you have to do is apply for the class, take a few prerequisite online trainings, and get there for the week. The class is near historic Boston and convenient to every mode of transportation.

NORM GLOBAL - SCIENTIFIC & PRACTICAL INSIGHTS INTO NORM MANAGEMENT

*CRCPD will be presenting at the conference
and a 20% registration discount is available!*

Update on CRCPD Activities and IAEA Interactions on NORM

by Gary Forsee, CRCPD

During the past several years, the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) has been working with state radiation control programs, federal agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, to address the management and control of NORM in various industries. CRCPD incorporated international concepts of a graded approach to the regulation of NORM and developed a white paper on the topic, from which model state regulations are being developed. In addition to taking a different approach to rulemaking for NORM, CRCPD has been involved in several NORM-related activities with IAEA. These include serving on a working group to develop revised guidance on radiation protection and waste management in the oil and gas industry; involvement in several workshops on radiation protection and safety in the management of existing exposure situations and providing input on radiation safety in international trade of commodities, including NORM as well as man-made radioactive materials that are incorporated in commodities. This talk will cover all the recent updates on CRCPD activities.

**WORKSHOP:
OCTOBER 2024**

**MAIN
CONFERENCE:
OCTOBER 2024**

**SITE VISIT:
OCTOBER 2024**

**SHERATON DENVER
TECH CENTER, CO, USA**

**IN PERSON & ON-
DEMAND**

Opening Keynote: Regulatory Updates on NORM/TENORM in United States of America

by Philip Egidi, EPA (retired)

The session outlines the anticipated future direction of NORM/TENORM regulations in the US. A discussion of ongoing research and potential regulatory advancements to ensure continued protection of public health and the environment while fostering responsible industrial practices.

<https://informaconnect.com/norm-natural-radiation-management-global/>

IN MEMORIAM

We will
miss his
presence,
leadership,
and
insight at
CRCPD.

WILLIAM P. "BILL" DUNDULIS, JR.

It is with deep sadness that we report the loss of one of our long-time and active members, Bill Dundulis of Rhode Island, who passed away on August 23, 2024. Bill had a long and distinguished career with the State of Rhode Island and was a member of their Radiation Control Program for over forty-five years, still working until the time of his death.

Bill was recently awarded the James W. Miller Award for his contributions to radiation protection and to the support of CRCPD. As stated in the citation on the award:

“His long-term leadership of the Suggested State Regulations Part X Committee on Medical Therapy and service as a resource to other therapy-related committees will leave its mark on the Suggested State Regulations for Control of Radiation for many years to come.”

His obituary can be found at the following link:

https://www.currentobituary.com/obit/287092#google_vignette

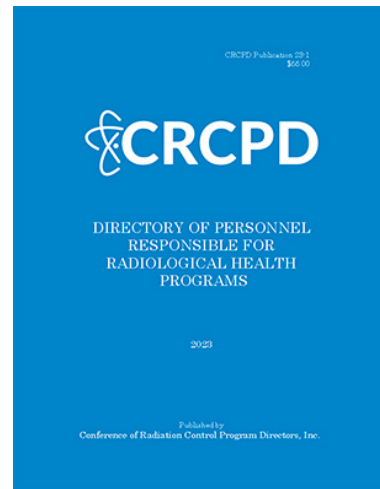
**CRCPD WELCOMES
NEW MEMBERS**

**TO APPLY FOR
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.

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