



Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.

# NEWSBRIEF

[www.crcpd.org](http://www.crcpd.org)

A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

August 2020

## Message from Chairperson Kim Steves

### Summer seems to have flown by!

With the pandemic still in full force, I know most of our members are still dealing with many challenges including supporting the response to COVID, keeping everyone safe and healthy, coordination and communication with staff remotely, determining a path forward to safely perform inspections and other regulatory activities, and addressing the potential for budget deficits and furloughs. We are no different at CRCPD. With the move to everything virtual, we have purchased a board management software package to increase our productivity. **Through this system we are now able to have a central location for communication and documentation of board meetings and votes and maintain a library of resources.**



**On July 20, the CRCPD submitted comments to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on the Transfer of Very Low-Level Waste to Exempt Persons for Disposal.** These comments were developed by our E-5 Committee on Radioactive Waste Management in coordination with the Organization of Agreement States (OAS) and can be viewed on [regulations.gov](http://regulations.gov).

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## Message from Chairperson *(continued)*

### Participation in FRPCC

*“I’m excited that CRCPD has been invited to once again participate in the quarterly meetings of the Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee (FRPCC), and that we will be represented by Angela Leek (IA) and Ken Evans (IL) at their September meeting.”*

Kim Steves

## Always a Lot Happening with CRCPD - *continued*

On July 31, **we met with representatives from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to discuss ongoing partnerships and projects.** This includes the train-the-trainer workshops for population monitoring, the work on developing guidance for respiratory protection for ancillary workers, development of the Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material/Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (TENORM) website information from the CDC-Sponsored NORM-IX workshop, and work with the National Alliance for Radiation Readiness (NARR).

On August 10, **we met with representatives from the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) to continue our discussions from our June meeting.** I’m excited that CRCPD has been invited to once again participate in the quarterly meetings of the Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee (FRPCC), and that we will be represented by Angela Leek (IA) and Ken Evans (IL) at their September meeting. Also discussed were emergency planning zones for small module reactors and our request for exemptions to biennial Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) exercises. Along those lines, our HS/ER-5 Committee on Emergency Response Planning sent a letter on July 24 to the NRC reiterating our request to grant Offsite Response Organizations a blanket exemption from biennial exercise requirements for calendar years 2020 and 2021. This was a follow-up letter to the one submitted by the Board to FEMA on April 20.

**On August 10, the CRCPD sent a letter to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) encouraging OSHA to consider revising its radiation regulations to ensure they are in line with the established harmonized system of federal, local, state, and tribal radiation protection regulations.** In the letter, CRCPD offered to coordinate with OSHA to help improve the application of radiation protection standards in the workplace or to help develop regulatory guidance to assist state and local regulatory in the application and enforcement of OSHA regulations.

Message from  
Chairperson *(continued)*

Always a Lot Happening with CRCPD - *continued*

White Paper:  
Proton Therapy

*“Kudos and appreciation to the H-42 Task Force on Proton Therapy for all the hard work that went into that excellent scientific paper.”*

Kim Steves

I'm excited that our white paper on proton therapy, **“Technical White Paper: Guidance for State Programs that Regulate Proton Therapy,”** was published August 12 on our website. Kudos and appreciation to the H-42 Task Force on Proton Therapy for all the hard work that went into that excellent scientific paper. I know that it will be a valuable tool for our states as more and more facilities add Proton Therapy capabilities. On the X-ray topic, don't forget that our H-7 Committee on Diagnostic X-ray continues to host monthly conference calls on X-ray Topics and Trends on the first Tuesday of every month.

**On August 24, I had the pleasure of meeting with the Board of Directors for the American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (AARST) during their virtual Board meeting.** AARST has been an excellent partner with the CRCPD on radon projects and issues, and I look forward to continuing to strengthen that partnership. Though our joint radon meeting was cancelled this year, the AARST Symposium has gone virtual and I look forward to attending it. Our E-25 Committee on Radon is planning radon webinars and Building Technical Capacity workshops in the upcoming months, so stay tuned for more information on that.

**And finally, members of our Board are looking forward to participating with the Organization of Agreement States (OAS) in the NRC Commissions Briefing in October.** This briefing will be virtual, and we are working closely with the OAS to prepare our messages. The briefing will be webcast on October 8, 2019. Further information can be found on the NRC website at <https://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/webcast-live.html>.

***Whew! Even in these challenging times, there is always a lot happening with the CRCPD!***

***Stay safe!***



## Greetings from Your Executive Director



Ruth E. McBurney, CHP

### Adjustments

*“... we are making adjustments in arranging for and holding virtual Board and committee meetings through a new online platform that allows for agenda formation, document sharing, voting, and recordkeeping.”*

Ruth E. McBurney

## Meeting in the Virtual World, Partnering in the Real World

As the pandemic lingers on, CRCPD, like all our members, partnering agencies, and related organizations, have had to adjust in how we carry out our respective missions and activities. **I have been amazed at the creativity that has come from the necessity of the moment.** Over the last couple of months especially, members and staff have been very active in assuring that the work of CRCPD is still going strong.

Within CRCPD's Office of the Executive Director (OED), we are making adjustments in arranging for and holding virtual Board and committee meetings through a new online platform that allows for agenda formation, document sharing, voting, and recordkeeping. We plan to offer this option to active committees to facilitate their work on important projects.

**We have also made adjustments in grant budgets to provide more on-line opportunities in lieu of travel for face-to-face meetings.**

We have been able to provide more support to states and tribes in their radon risk reduction efforts and more on-line training opportunities, as well as to collaborate with other organizations to address radiation protection issues.

Here are just a few of the other activities and opportunities:

- This summer, state radiation control personnel were given the opportunity to attend the virtual meeting of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM), **Over 170 radiation control staff from all over the country took advantage of this great offer from AAPM.** CRCPD also exhibited at the virtual event, where we showcased our ongoing work with AAPM, the Source Collection and Threat Reduction Program (SCATR) program for disused sources, and the medical physicist registry.
- **Mini-grant opportunities are being offered through our radon grant with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to partnering local organizations working with the state and tribal radon programs.** The application forms were sent to the state radon contacts, who in turn sent them out to organizations in their jurisdictions who are qualified to apply. Over the next few

→

## Executive Director

Greetings *(continued)*

## Meeting in the Virtual World,

Partnering in the Real World - *continued*Adjustments &  
Opportunities

*“CRCPD has been able to adjust and create some new opportunities, while we must socially distance.”*

Ruth E. McBurney

weeks, the applications will be evaluated and the mini-grants issued.

- In lieu of the National Radon Training Conference scheduled for November, which was cancelled due to large gathering and travel restrictions, **CRCPD’s E-25 Committee on Radon will be coordinating with the American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists in preparation for their virtual radon conference later this year.** We will send out notices of the events and sessions when they are available.
- The Building Technical Capacity training usually provided at a face-to-face session has been replaced by an on-line on-demand course for the state radon staff. We have begun sending out more information about registering for this course.
- CRCPD is exhibiting and participating in the virtual Public Health Preparedness this week. **Our primary focus in exhibiting at this meeting is to provide outreach about the upcoming second Population Monitoring Train-the-Trainer Workshop and funding opportunities to qualified trainers to attend.** The Workshop, which is being organized by the HS/ER-13 Working Group is tentatively scheduled for November in Orlando, Florida. An announcement of the workshop is found elsewhere in this issue of the *Newsbrief*.

During the Public Health Preparedness Summit this week at the one session I have been able to attend, the speaker was presenting on managing stress during a crisis. Certainly, the pandemic has caused some degree of stress and challenges to all of us. **One of the points made during the presentation was the recommendation to overcome all the negatives of this time by practicing gratitude and identifying the positives that have been created or identified.** As you can see, CRCPD has been able to adjust and create some new opportunities, while we must socially distance.

*Best regards to all—stay safe!*



## Source Collection and Threat Reduction Program (SCATR) Update

by Russ Meyer, CRCPD

Since the NRC's adoption of the *2015 Branch Technical Position on Concentration Averaging and Encapsulation*, the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) has conducted two pilot disposals of Class C quantities of  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  in order to establish the feasibility of disposing larger Class C quantities of  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  at the Northwest Compact (US Ecology) and at the Texas-Vermont Compact (Waste Control Specialists (WCS)) sites.

The disposal at the Northwest Compact site occurred in September 2017 and the disposal at the Texas-Vermont site in December 2019. Both disposals were very expensive. CRCPD attributed the high cost for the US Ecology disposal to the rental of the Type B package. CRCPD attributed the higher cost of the disposal at the WCS site to two factors:

- the rental cost for the Type B package, and
- the license condition that requires a charge of \$0.40 per millicurie of waste being disposed up to \$220,000.00 per shipment.

Both disposals were successful.

After these disposals, CRCPD and National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) assessed the need for further disposals of larger activity, Class C sources. CRCPD placed emphasis on disposals of smaller sources that are transportable in Type A packages. These sources are prevalent and provide an ample number of facilities that CRCPD can assist with available funding. For example, the A1 value for  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  is 54 Ci. When a  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  source attains that activity, it will ship in a Type A package as long as it is currently certified as special form.

CRCPD will continue to dispose of larger

sources, but at a lower frequency. DOE has another program that provides disposal of these higher activity sources. The Cesium Irradiator replacement Program (CIRP) will dispose of a cesium irradiator for a licensee at no charge and assist them with the purchase of an x-ray irradiator to replace it.

For some time the CRCPD has been monitoring for the old CD-V 794's and CD-V 793's. A few of these have already decayed to an activity that would allow their shipment as Type A quantities, reducing disposal cost significantly. A group of 14 of the  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  sources in CD-V's will attain the A1 activity in October of this year. The SCATR program will incentivize their disposal with cost/share. Most of the sources in these CD-V 794's are currently certified as special form until August 31, 2021.

CRCPD continues to offer the standard cost/share program for those sealed sources previously acceptable to the SCATR program. The first shipment of the new fiscal year (2020-21) was significantly smaller than previous shipments. The services of the CRCPD's broker are essential, but all of us are being more cautious about activities we would not have given second thought to prior to Covid-19 guidelines.

The SCATR program is capable of working within each facility's guidelines and collecting sources, at least, at the same level as previously. We do encourage licensees to continue to participate at previous levels and take advantage of our new capabilities. CRCPD also requests that the states continue to encourage those licensees they identify as in need of disposal services to contact Russ Meyer at [rmeyer@crcpd.org](mailto:rmeyer@crcpd.org) or call him at 512-761-3822 for information about SCATR.



*Invitation to the IAEA*

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
RADIATION SAFETY**

**Dear Colleagues.**

**On behalf of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) staff, Sigurður Magnús Magnússon, Chairman, and myself, Member, of the RP2020 Program Committee for the International Conference on Radiation Safety, please find an update on this conference in this edition of the *CRCPD Newsbrief*.**

**As you will note, this conference was to be face-to-face for a week, but now due to the COVID-19 pandemic, will be completely virtual over the course of two weeks in November.**

**There is no registration fee, however, the IAEA does require a registration form to be submitted for formal participation. Alternately, one can just listen in.**

**Lastly, we would like to point out a special program for students and young professionals to allow for professional development and virtual networking.**

**If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Allison Gruber, Sig or me. (Allison Gruber at [A.Gruber@iaea.org](mailto:A.Gruber@iaea.org), Sigurður Magnús Magnússon at [smm@gr.is](mailto:smm@gr.is) or David J. Allard at [allradcon@comcast.net](mailto:allradcon@comcast.net).)**

**Thank you for your anticipated help in getting the word out on this very exciting IAEA conference!**

**Regards,**

**Dave Allard**



# International Conference on Radiation Safety

For information visit

<https://www.iaea.org/events/international-conference-on-radiation-safety-2020>

## Coming Up: Fully Virtual IAEA Radiation Safety Conference



Radiation safety experts worldwide are invited to take part in sharing practical experience of implementing the IAEA safety standards to protect workers, patients, the public and the environment from natural and artificial radiation sources, at a fully virtual IAEA conference from 9 to 20 November. The virtual conference has been extended from a one week period to two weeks.

More than 600 participants have been designated through their national authority to participate, many of which will be delivering oral presentations and displaying posters based on their research online at the event.

Although the deadline to apply to present has passed, anyone interested in joining the discussions and listening to the presentations can fill in the [participation form](#) on the [conference webpage](#) without the need to have national designation. For those who would like to just listen to the conference, view-only livestream access will be available on the conference website.

A special programme for students and professionals aged 35 years and younger is being organized as part of the conference. The IAEA is organizing professional development events for young people, including virtual networking opportunities and a speaker series in which experts from the various fields in radiation safety will offer career insight. If you wish to participate, please complete this [form](#).

More information on the recently announced virtual format can be found [here](#). For more information about the [International Conference on Radiation Safety](#), contact the [Conference Secretariat](#) or follow #RaSa2020 on social media.





## Special Permits

### Certification Signature on the Special Permits

By Russ Meyer

For some time, I have received inquiries regarding the necessity of an actual signature on the Special Permits. I contacted Laura Dresen, the new U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) contact person for questions regarding transportation of radioactive materials. Ms. Dresen's response was as follows:

*If referring to the shipper certification, "Except as provided in the HMR, each person who offers a hazardous material for transportation shall certify the shipment is offered in accordance with the HMR." Several options for certification statements are listed in § 172.204. Specific statements are required for air shipments.*

*The following is an example of one certification statement:*

*"This is to certify that the abovenamed materials are properly classified, described, packaged, marked and labeled, and are in proper condition for transportation according to the applicable regulations of the Department of Transportation."*

*These certifications must be signed by a principal, officer, partner, or employee of the shipper or his agent. They may be signed manually, by typewriter, or by other mechanical means.*



## Population Monitoring Train-the-Trainer Workshop Opportunity

### **Population Monitoring Train-the-Trainer Workshop November 9-10, 2020 Bureau of Radiation Control 2100 All Childrens Way Orlando, FL 32818**

**Through a grant with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), CRCPD will conduct “Population Monitoring Train-the-Trainer Workshop.” The workshop is being presented for an audience of state and local health departments, Medical Reserve Corps units, and other volunteer organizations who are involved in training local staff and volunteers on emergency preparedness, and in particular, population monitoring and community reception center operations.**

#### Workshop Description



This workshop will provide training materials that have been developed by CRCPD and the CDC and will include both presentations and hands-on demonstrations and activities.

The first day will be dedicated to the course material itself, focusing on the elements a trainer would need to know to train others in population monitoring.

The next half-day will include interactive discussion on the content of a training program and any gaps or new or modified modules that might be needed to make the training better.

**Funding is available for travel to the workshop and there is no registration fee. If you or any of your staff are involved in training people in population monitoring or plan to be, and are interested in attending, contact Tanya Ridgle [Tanya.Ridgle@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Tanya.Ridgle@cdph.ca.gov) or Ruth McBurney [rmcburney@crcpd.org](mailto:rmcburney@crcpd.org). Also see <https://www.crcpd.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1413307&hhSearchTerms=%22train+and+trainer%22>**



## CRCPD Welcomes New Members

New Members  
August 2020

### Affiliate Member

Remo George (AL)

### Emeritus Member

Jerry Hensley (KY)

### Call for News

*Would you like to share some information about your work, or some project or issue that you're involved in?*

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](mailto: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.

We welcome your news and photographs, too, if you'd like to share.



## CRCPD Board of Directors

<i>Board position</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Work Phone</i>	<i>E-mail address</i>
Chairperson.....	Kimberly Steves.....	Kansas.....	785/296-4359.....	kim.steves@ks.gov
Past Chairperson.....	Jeffrey D. Semancik.....	Connecticut.....	860/424-4190.....	jeffrey.semancik@ct.gov
Chairperson-Elect .....	Angela Leek.....	Iowa.....	515/281-3478.....	angela.leek@idph.iowa.gov
Treasurer.....	Mary Ann Spohrer.....	Illinois.....	217/524-3504.....	maryann.spohrer@illinois.gov
Treasurer-Elect.....	Lisa Bruedigan.....	Texas.....	512-834-6629.....	lisa.bruedigan@dshs.texas.gov
Member-at-Large.....	Karen Farris.....	Massachusetts.....	617/242-3035.....	karen.farris@state.ma.us
Member-at-Large.....	Karen Tuccillo.....	New Jersey .....	609/984-7443.....	karen.tuccillo@dep.nj.gov
Member-at-Large .....	Michael Snee .....	Ohio.....	614-644-2732.....	michael.snee@odh.ohio.gov

## CRCPD Councils

<b>Environmental Nuclear Council</b>	<b>Karen Tuccillo (NJ) 609/984-7443</b> <b>karen.tuccillo@dep.nj.gov</b>
<b>General Council and Liaisons</b>	<b>Karen Farris (MA) 617/242-3035</b> <b>karen.farris@state.ma.us</b>
<b>Healing Arts Council</b>	<b>Mary Ann Spohrer (IL) 217/524-3504</b> <b>maryann.spohrer@illinois.gov</b>
<b>Homeland Security/Emergency Response Council</b>	<b>Michael Snee (OH) 614-644-2732</b> <b>michael.snee@odh.ohio.gov</b>
<b>Suggested State Regulations Council</b>	<b>Angela Leek (IA) 515/281-3478</b> <b>angela.leek@idph.iowa.gov</b>

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*The Newsbrief is written to address the needs of all radiation control program personnel. Readers are encouraged to contribute newsworthy or informative items for the Newsbrief, with neither charges nor stipends for the items that are selected. News of state radiation control programs is especially sought.*

*Articles should be sent to CRCPD, Attn: Mendi Cremeans, 112 East Main Street, Suite 1, Frankfort, KY 40601 (fax: 502/227-7862; email: mcremeans@crcpd.org. The deadline for contributions is the 15th of the month before an issue is to be published.*

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