

CRCPD *Newsbrief*

Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.

www.crcpd.org

A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

October 2026

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



MAKING SURE THE STATE VOICE IS HEARD

by Tanya Ridgle

One of the Board's most important responsibilities is ensuring that the experience of state and tribal radiation control programs is represented when national policies, regulations, and priorities are developed. The past several weeks have provided several good examples of why that role matters.

Comments to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission

In August, the CRCPD Board submitted comments to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on its proposed Radiation Protection Framework. **The proposal addresses several foundational radiation protection concepts and could have significant consequences for Agreement State programs, radiation producing machine programs, licensees, and the public.**

The Board supports thoughtful modernization, but modernization must be based on sound science and a clear understanding of how changes will be implemented.

PROPOSED RADIATION PROTECTION FRAMEWORK

"The Board supports thoughtful modernization, but modernization must be based on sound science and a clear understanding of how changes will be implemented."

Tanya Ridgle

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FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

(continued)

MAKING SURE THE STATE VOICE
IS HEARD

State programs often regulate both radioactive materials and radiation producing machines. **Our comments emphasized the need to retain appropriate state flexibility, preserve transparency, and carefully consider the consequences of changing established radiation protection principles.** This was not the work of one person. It required technical review, discussion, and input from people who understand how these requirements work in practice. I appreciate everyone who contributed to that effort.

Organization of Agreement States Annual Meeting

Several CRCPD Board members also participated in the Organization of Agreement States (OAS) Annual Meeting in Nashville. Maintaining a strong relationship with OAS helps both organizations better serve their members. **While the organizations vary in scope, together:**

- **we coordinate state perspective;**
- **we share expertise and resources; and**
- **we show up together when engaging with NRC and other federal partners.**

I was honored to provide an update on CRCPD activities at the meeting. I highlighted our proposed rule-making efforts and some of the important committee work underway that help our members connect with one another. **One project I'm especially excited about is the G-77 Radiation Control Program Attorney Coordination Committee.** Attorneys in our field often deal with **unusual enforcement questions or policy issues that don't come up in other areas of state government. G-77 will give them a place to connect nationally, share experiences, discuss concerns, and support one another.** The committee kickoff meeting is on October 21.

**CRCPD COMMENTS
ON NRC'S PROPOSAL**

"This was not the work of one person. It required technical review, discussion, and input from people who understand how these requirements work in practice. I appreciate everyone who contributed to that effort."

Tanya Ridgle

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

(continued)

**MAKING SURE THE STATE VOICE
IS HEARD**

Support for New CRCPD Members

The Board is also taking a close look at how we can better support members who are new to CRCPD. We would like to understand what's going well, where there's room for improvement, and what types of committees, projects, training, or resources would be most helpful.

The Board chose to focus this survey on new members and new director members. It went out last week, and responses are requested by Friday, October 9, 2026. If you received one, I hope you'll share your thoughts candidly. And to all our members, please reach out to a Board member or the Office of the Executive Director (OED) team whenever you have an idea for making CRCPD better. This is your organization, and we want to hear from you.

We need to hear not only what's working, but also where CRCPD can better support you and the broader membership. Member involvement is what gives CRCPD its credibility. **Every CRCPD committee and task force is stronger because of the variety of backgrounds, structures, and perspectives you all bring.**

I am sincerely grateful for the time, insight, and experience our members share. I encourage each of you to think about where your voice could make an impact. **CRCPD is at its best when our members are engaged and our voice is heard clearly and confidently.**

**CRCPD SURVEY OF
NEW MEMBERS**

**Deadline for response:
Friday, October 9, 2026**

"We would like to understand what's going well, where there's room for improvement, and what types of committees, projects, training, or resources would be most helpful."

Tanya Ridgle

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE



TURNING CONNECTIONS INTO ACTION

by Lisa Bruedigan, Executive Director

The weeks since our August *Newsbrief* have brought many opportunities to represent CRCPD, strengthen relationships, and move several important projects forward. While these activities span many areas of radiation protection, they share a common purpose: ensuring state and tribal programs have a voice, access to useful information, and support when new issues arise.

Organization of Agreement States Annual Meeting

At the end of August, several members of the CRCPD Board and I attended the Organization of Agreement States (OAS) Annual Meeting in Nashville. These meetings provide an important opportunity to hear directly from Agreement State programs, receive updates from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and discuss issues that affect radiation control programs across the country. They also give us time to strengthen the working relationship between CRCPD and OAS.

Although the two organizations have different memberships and responsibilities, we share many of the same concerns. **CRCPD provides a connection to all state radiation control programs, including Agreement and non Agreement States, as well as tribal programs and our many federal and professional partners.**

A COMMON PURPOSE

"... ensuring state and tribal programs have a voice, access to useful information, and support when new issues arise."

Lisa Bruedigan

Working together helps us identify where our efforts overlap, where different perspectives need to be considered, and how we can better support programs nationwide.

NRC's Proposed Radiation Protection Framework

CRCPD also submitted comments on behalf of the Board of Directors regarding the NRC's proposed Radiation Protection Framework. The proposal addresses fundamental radiation protection concepts, including ALARA, dose optimization, regulatory compatibility, environmental monitoring, and state flexibility. Preparing the comments required careful technical review and thoughtful discussion among Board members and other CRCPD participants. The final letter reflects both CRCPD's support for appropriate modernization and our concern that changes to long standing radiation protection principles must be supported by a strong scientific *and implementation record*.

Emerging Technologies: Fusion

Emerging technologies also demand our attention. **Fusion is one area where states need information before a company announces plans to locate a facility within their borders.** CRCPD is exploring the possibility of developing a practical primer that programs can use to explain fusion to agency leadership, legislators, economic development officials, and other state partners. The primer will also help programs begin thinking about staffing, funding, training, registration, licensing, waste, and other responsibilities that may accompany a fusion facility.

We have also been communicating with the NRC about expanding access to its Fusion 101 training. **Our goal is for**

NRC'S PROPOSED FRAMEWORK CHANGES

"The proposal addresses fundamental radiation protection concepts, including ALARA, dose optimization, regulatory compatibility, environmental monitoring, and state flexibility."

Lisa Bruedigan

personnel from every state radiation control program to begin with a common base of information. CRCPD has offered to help with the logistics if that will make broader participation possible.

Heads of the European Radiological Protection Competent Authorities Discussions

In late September, I represented CRCPD in discussions with the Heads of the European Radiological Protection Competent Authorities, or HERCA. At their request, our exchange included an update on CRCPD's work on artificial intelligence in radiation protection and our ongoing project with the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to improve medical radiation exposure data collection. We also discussed potential future joint projects between the two organizations.

Australasian Radiation Protection Society's Annual Conference

During September, I travelled to Christchurch, New Zealand, to speak at the Australasian Radiation Protection Society's annual conference. My presentation discussed how radiation protection can continue to evolve while maintaining scientific credibility, public trust, and the practical protections that have served workers, patients, and communities well. It is also an opportunity to share the experience of state programs and learn how colleagues in Australia and New Zealand are responding to many of the same challenges we face.

AUSTRALIAN RADIATION PROTECTION SOCIETY'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE

"My presentation discussed how radiation protection can continue to evolve while maintaining scientific credibility, public trust, and the practical protections that have served workers, patients, and communities well."

Lisa Bruedigan

Radiological Emergency Preparedness

Closer to home, CRCPD continues working to strengthen radiological emergency preparedness. This includes expanding support for the Radiation Operations Support Specialist program, evaluating options for reliable field data collection and sharing, and assisting programs responding to challenging events. **When a state faces a prolonged response, CRCPD can help connect that program with expertise, training, field support, and other resources from across our membership.**

CRCPD's Effectiveness

The range of these activities says something important about CRCPD. **We are most effective when we connect people with experience with those who need it, translate national and international developments into practical information, and ensure state and tribal programs are included early in conversations that will affect them.**

Thank You

Thank you to our members, Board, committee leaders, Office of Executive Director staff, and partners who continue to make this work possible. Your expertise and willingness to participate are what allow CRCPD to turn conversations into action.

STRENGTHENING RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

"This includes expanding support for the Radiation Operations Support Specialist program, evaluating options for reliable field data collection and sharing, and assisting programs responding to challenging events."

Lisa Bruedigan

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CRCPD MEMBERS RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

By Kristina Verderame (CT)

The Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) Board of Directors and its membership have devoted significant time and effort to reviewing the extensive series of proposed regulatory changes resulting from Executive Order 14300. The scope of these proposals is substantial in that it represents a fundamental change in concepts that have guided radiation protection throughout my entire time in the field. I've never known a world without As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA).

SCOPE OF PROPOSED CHANGES

"The scope of these proposals is substantial in that it represents a fundamental change in concepts that have guided radiation protection throughout my entire time in the field."

How the Nations' Radiation Protection Framework Might Evolve

This is not simply a matter of updating individual regulations one at a time; it has been an opportunity to consider how the nation's radiation protection framework might evolve while maintaining a strong commitment to the protection of workers and the public.

Pace and Volume of the Rulemaking

The pace and volume of the rulemaking have added considerably to the challenge. **Numerous proposals, including hundreds of pages of regulatory changes, have been issued within overlapping time frames including complex technical changes that warrant review by CRCPD membership.** Add to that, the comment period is significantly shorter than previous rulemaking from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) sitting at around 45 days for most rules. **For the Board, balancing these reviews with ongoing responsibilities in our home state has required an extraordinary commitment of time and resources.**

CRCPD MEMBERS RISE TO THE CHALLENGE - continued

Adapting to the Changing Landscape and Meeting the Challenge

The Board is incredibly proud of the dedication demonstrated by its membership throughout this process. As regulators, we often struggle to adapt to changing landscapes, especially at such a rapid pace. However, we have stepped up to this challenge and shown that our voice matters.

Representing the State Perspective

Our experts across the organization have invested countless hours reviewing changes, discussing potential impacts, and working to ensure that the state perspective is represented in public comments in a way that is constructive to real change. Most of our time is volunteer work and we recognize that dedication extends beyond office hours. I know I am not alone in working evenings to ensure dedicated the time to this rulemaking. **These efforts are intended not simply to preserve existing approaches, but to provide practical experience and technical perspective that can help inform the development of an effective and sustainable regulatory framework during the review and draft of the final regulations.**

Continuing to Engage Constructively

As a member of the Board of Directors, I appreciate the opportunity to participate in this important process that may come around only once in a career. I want to recognize the undertaking made by our membership and the NRC's efforts to respond to Executive Order 14300. **As the rulemaking continues, the Board remains committed to engaging constructively with the shared goal of ensuring that the nation's radiation protection framework remains technically sound, practical to implement, and appropriately protective.** The breadth and depth of the effort by CRCPD and its membership reflect the importance of our organization as a technical leader in radiation protection.

“DOSE DRIVES DECISIONS”

By Amy Hass (MN) and Lisa Bruedigan (CRCPD)

The Public Health Decision Makers Training team knows how to have a little fun while delivering an important message. The team recently had T-shirts made featuring the phrase **“Dose Drives Decisions,”** a statement they credit to Dr. Fisher from multiple course deliveries on the Dose Assessment and Dose Reconstruction modules.

The shirts may bring a smile, but the message behind them is serious. During a radiation emergency, public officials may need to make difficult decisions quickly, often while information is still developing. **Reliable dose information helps leaders evaluate risk, determine appropriate protective actions for both the public and emergency workers, identify those individuals exposed or contaminated enough to need medical treatment, and communicate clearly with the public.**

Through the Public Health Decision Makers Training, the team helps public health officials better understand radiological information before an emergency occurs. Their goal is to give those who advise the decision makers the knowledge, tools, and confidence to provide the best outcomes for the public and emergency workers when the stakes are high.

THE TEAM’S NEW SHIRTS
ARE A MEMORABLE
REMINDER OF THE
PRINCIPLE AT THE HEART
OF THE TRAINING:
***GOOD INFORMATION
SUPPORTS GOOD
DECISIONS.***



CRCPD members and Radiological Operations Support Specialists (ROSS) left to right: Juan Garcia (CA), Harl'O Fisher (GA), Adela Salame-Alfie (GA), Amy Hass (MN), Nancy Stanley (NJ), and Bill Irwin (VT).

IAEA: REGULATORY FORUM FOR SAFETY OF URANIUM PRODUCTION AND NORM (REGSUN)

By Clifford McWilliams (TN)

IAEA – REGSUN 2026 – Vienna, Austria

I had the honor of attending the IAEA's technical meeting on the Regulatory Forum for Safety of Uranium Production and NORM (REGSUN) on behalf of the CRCPD just this past August at the IAEA Headquarters in Vienna, Austria. It was only my second time out of the country and first time by myself, so the trip was full of firsts.

Working for the Tennessee Division of Radiological Health's Technical Services section has provided me with the unique opportunity over the last 10 years to be involved with many different areas in the world of radiation protection. One of which is dealing with Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) and TENORM (technologically enhanced) from a licensed and unlicensed material aspect. That being said, I consider myself a "Jack of All Trades – Master of None," so I relied heavily on Gary Forsee (IL), who has participated in these meetings in the past, to help get me up to speed on what the larger goals of REGSUN really are and supplying me with a plethora of reading material.

GOALS

NORM and TENORM are found and created in numerous industries and processes and one of the goals of REGSUN is to provide recommendations of rules, regulatory frameworks, and guidance documents (like IAEA SSG-60) to help Member States establish NORM/TENORM specific programs and provide guidance and best practices for this material management. Another goal of REGSUN is the ongoing creation of a NORM registry tool that will allow Member States to use a standardized template to create a national inventory of NORM industries and give them a tool to help identify the industries most in need of regulatory oversight, among other things.



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IAEA: REGULATORY FORUM FOR SAFETY OF URANIUM PRODUCTION AND NORM (REGSUN) - continued

REGSUN MEETING

The REGSUN 2026 meeting was held at the Vienna International Center (VIC). The first day was mostly taken up by Country introductions and an update on the progress of the three working groups within REGUN and their work accomplished at the last meeting. The working groups focused on Uranium Production, NORM regulation, and NORM learning materials.

TASKS

As a member of the NORM regulation working group, our duties the other two days I was in attendance were focused on a couple of different tasks.

Our first task was to identify areas of NORM-based inspections that would benefit from a new IAEA publication.

- We first determined that it would be a waste to duplicate efforts put in by technical meetings and working groups before us and began reviewing IAEA publications and guidance documents already published to gauge the overlap between RAM inspection guidance in place and NORM inspection guidance.
- We ultimately determined that due to the existing guidance, a new complete IAEA publication was not needed, but existing materials could be supplemented with NORM specific addendums and checklists and began drafting of those materials with an inspection focus.

The second main task was to help with the development of the NORM Registry software that is being developed.

We received a walkthrough of the process and provided (maybe too many?) suggestions for changes, additional pertinent information, and updates to the user interface. **Ultimately the goal of the registry is to allow Member States to categorize and inventory NORM/TENORM industries and help them in allocating their resources for regulatory oversight.** NORM and TENORM activities are so varied

in their accumulation of radionuclides that attempting to regulate all industries that produce the material would be impossible even for the most robust programs. The amount of time, staff, and money that would need to go into a program would be unsustainable and would most likely be a waste. **Focusing on the industries in your area that create NORM residues that pose the most risk to human and environmental health should be the first priority and the NORM registry is meant to help steer Member States towards those targeted industries.**

IAEA: REGULATORY FORUM FOR SAFETY OF URANIUM PRODUCTION AND NORM (REGSUN) - continued

OPPORTUNITIES

There were a lot of opportunities during this meeting for me to offer my own insight, but even more opportunities to learn. Not all the key takeaways from the meeting necessarily even have to do with NORM and TENORM itself. I **really had a renewed appreciation for just how good we have it in the United States. With our long history of regulation and numerous organizations that share knowledge and guidance, like the CRCPD, we are very well off here.** It was really interesting to see the Member State's programs and where they are in the progression of regulation, inspection, and the state of some of the facilities that are now, or hopefully will be, under their regulatory authority.

PERSPECTIVE

The opportunity to see Vienna for the first time and travel around Austria on my own time really **gave me perspective about how we as Agreement States fit into the CRCPD which can fit into global programs like the IAEA, and the need for subject matter experts in rooms like those that can relay information and support initiatives and make those cross-continent connections that can have real impact.**

I truly appreciate the opportunity from the CRCPD to represent them at the REGSUN 2026 technical meeting and a special thanks to Lisa Bruedigan for helping me get there every step of the way.



CRCPD JOINS TRANSPORTATION SECURITY PARTNERS IN BOSTON

By Lisa Bruedigan (CRCPD)

CRCPD Chairperson Tanya Ridgle and Executive Director Lisa Bruedigan attended the Transportation Security UNIFIED Stakeholders Group (TSUSG) Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, September 9 - 11, 2026.

TSUSG brings together the many groups involved in safely and securely transporting radioactive material, including federal and state regulators, law enforcement agencies, radioactive material manufacturers, shippers, carriers, and professional organizations. The meeting offered a valuable

opportunity to hear different perspectives from those who manufacture, package, transport, receive, regulate, and secure radioactive material in transit.

These conversations are important because transporting radioactive material often involves several organizations and multiple levels of government. Depending on the shipment, responsibilities may be shared among federal agencies, state and tribal radiation control programs, transportation agencies, state police, emergency management agencies, carriers, and local responders. Strong relationships and clear communication are essential before a shipment begins, especially when the material requires advance notification, special routing, inspections, security planning, or law enforcement coordination.

CRCPD and TSUSG bring different but complementary perspectives to this work. TSUSG focuses largely on transportation security and the operational needs of the organizations directly involved in moving radioactive material. CRCPD represents the broader interests and experience of state and tribal radiation control programs, including regulation, radiation safety, emergency preparedness, and response.



CRCPD Chairperson Tanya Ridgle and Executive Director Lisa Bruedigan

CRCPD JOINS TRANSPORTATION SECURITY PARTNERS IN BOSTON - continued

DISCUSSION ON DEVELOPING A NATIONWIDE RESOURCE IDENTIFYING STATE REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSPORTING RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

One discussion that particularly interested us involved developing a nationwide resource identifying state requirements for transporting radioactive material. States may have different requirements for advance notification, permits, routing, inspections, emergency contacts, law enforcement coordination, or escorts. However, a useful resource will require more than a simple list of states and yes-or-no answers.

Requirements can vary considerably based on the type and quantity of material being transported. A routine Class 7 shipment, a Category 1 or Category 2 radioactive source, a highway route controlled quantity, low level radioactive waste, spent nuclear fuel, transuranic waste, and NORM or TENORM may each be subject to different federal and state requirements.

CRCPD is well positioned to help identify and validate this information through its network of state and tribal radiation control program directors and staff. TSUSG can bring the experience of manufacturers, carriers, shippers, law enforcement agencies, and security professionals. Together, the organizations could help develop a practical resource that improves transportation planning while recognizing that certain information, such as detailed escort practices and safe haven locations, may need to remain protected.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BRINGING ALL PERSPECTIVES TOGETHER

The Boston meeting reinforced the value of bringing all of these perspectives together. Safe and secure transportation depends on more than regulations alone. It also depends on communication, coordination, and trusted working relationships among the people responsible for each part of the process.

CRCPD looks forward to continuing its work with TSUSG and exploring how our organizations can support state and tribal radiation control programs and the many partners involved in transporting radioactive material across the country.

AAPM ANNUAL MEETING PARTICIPATION

By Joann Harthcock, BSRS, RT(R) (TX)

In July, Lisa Bruedigan and I attended the American Association of Physicist in Medicine (AAPM) Annual Meeting held in Vancouver, British Columbia, as a booth exhibitor. This is my third year attending the meeting and, in my opinion, the best one yet. The area was beautiful, with the conference center right off the bay and mountains on the other side.

Being a Texas girl, I was amused that the locals thought it was so hot when the high was 80 degrees. That same week, Central Texas, where I live, was under a heat advisory with temperatures over 100 degrees, and I was happy to be away from that heat.

Visiting with Medical Physicists

The CRCPD booth drew a lot of traffic this year. We visited with many new physicists and several in their graduate programs about the benefits of CRCPD membership. We discussed the different healing arts committees CRCPD currently has and the importance of having medical physicists involved in them. Their knowledge, background, and experience often differ from those of a state regulator, and having their perspective in the various activities of our healing arts committees is invaluable. We also had several CRCPD members stop by to say hi or visit with us about a concern they had. **I discussed Texas therapy regulations with one, ongoing work on the H-59 committee on Enhanced Radiation Protection Devices with another, and concerns about how MRI might make its way into legislation and, therefore, regulatory programs with a third.**

Several of our AAPM counterparts stopped by for a visit, including our AAPM liaison Robert Staton, Lauren DePutter, and Emily Townley.

AAPM ANNUAL MEETING PARTICIPATION - continued

Government Relations and Accountability Council Meeting

As the CRCPD liaison to the AAPM, I also attended the Government Relations and Accountability Council Meeting (GRAC). At this meeting:

- I provided an update on the CRCPD Healing Arts Council, Suggested State Regulation Council, and General Council activities that affect the AAPM.
- I highlighted the work of G-80 Task Force to Address NRC Rulemaking, SR-F Suggested Regulations:
 - Medical Diagnostic, Interventional and Imaging Systems;
 - H-7 Healing Arts Committee;
 - H-11 Mammography Committee; and
 - H-59 Task Force on Enhanced Radiation Protection Devices.

AAPM Council Chairs and Initiatives

- Each AAPM council chair provided updates on their subcommittees, including their latest effort to promote Medical Physics Practice Guidelines (MPPGs) in regulations and their responses to NRC EO14300 rulemaking efforts.
- One thing AAPM always wants to highlight and promote is its State Champs. This is their way of connecting all state regulators with an AAPM physicist in their area who can assist with medical physics-related questions or concerns.

Representing CRCPD at meetings is always a great opportunity to network with my counterparts from other organizations and state agencies. I'm happy that I was able to do so again this year, and I look forward to next year's meeting in Columbus, Ohio.

Joann Harthcock, BSRS, RT(R), Director Radiation Section

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**CRCPD WELCOMES
NEW MEMBERS**

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Heather Giczewski (KS)

Kelly Smith (KY)

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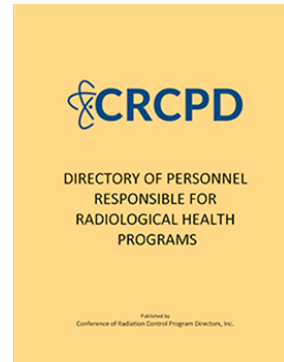
Vincent Hart (LA)

**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 Lisa Bruedigan (lbruedigan@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 prior to publication.

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