

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF WASTE, AIR AND RADIATION MANAGEMENT
BUREAU OF RADIATION PROTECTION
HARRISBURG, PA 17101

May 18, 2011

BRP INFORMATION NOTICE 2011-03

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THE FEASIBILITY
AND IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH POTENTIAL CHANGES TO
OCCUPATIONAL DOSE LIMITS

ADDRESSEES

All medical facilities performing high-dose diagnostic and/or therapeutic procedures and all radioactive material specific licensees within Pennsylvania and regulated by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Bureau of Radiation Protection (BRP).

PURPOSE

This Information Notice (IN) is to request feedback regarding the potential impacts associated with changes to radiation protection standards currently defined in 10 CFR Part 20 and incorporated by reference in *Pa. Code* Title 25 Section 219.5.

BACKGROUND

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) establishes occupational dose limits and is considering lowering the limits to those recommended by the International Conference of Radiation Protection (ICRP) Publication 103. The current dose limit for an occupational radiation worker is 50 mSv/yr (5 rem/yr) and the fetal dose to a declared pregnant worker is 5 mSv (0.5 rem). ICRP is recommending 20 mSv/yr (2 rem/yr) and 1 mSv (0.1 rem), respectively.

DISCUSSION

The NRC has awarded a contract to SC&A, Inc. to perform a national survey and tabulate potential impacts to licensees and registrants. The preferred method for responding is via the following link: <https://acrobat.com/?d=vraWYERZAnw-gyZIJQewzQ>. As an alternative, attached is a hardcopy questionnaire for your input and response.

The Bureau requests that each recipient of this IN respond to the questionnaire regardless of impact to your organization. We respectfully request questionnaires completed within 15 days of receipt of this IN. Response should be made directly to SC&A.

CONTACT

This IN requires no specific action or written response to the Bureau of Radiation Protection. Instead, please reply directly to SC&A, and if you have any questions about this matter, call the technical contact listed below.

Issued By:
David J. Allard, CHP, Director
Bureau of Radiation Protection

Technical Contact:
U. Hans Behling, SC&A, Inc.
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Tel: 252-482-2777 Email: hbehling@scainc.com

Attachment: Questionnaire Regarding Potential Impacts of Reduced Dose Limits