

Radiological Control Coordination Committee (RCCC)
Meeting Minutes
October 28 - 29, 1998
Germantown, Maryland

The meeting convened about 8:30 am.

NEED FOR A DEPUTY CHAIR (Rabovsky/Henderson)

There was general discussion about the need for a deputy chair to arrange meetings in the chairman's absence. The consensus was that Joel Rabovsky would chair this meeting, with Barry Parks taking notes. Barry Parks stated that the procedure for taking and finalizing notes is broken. The present RCCC charter calls for minutes to be finalized by the chairman. The consensus was that we will have a chairman and deputy chair, for one year terms, with program and field reps taking turns as chair/deputy. The chair will do the agenda, deputy will take minutes. There was also consensus that we will circulate draft notes via email for approval by the group, and that minutes will be summary and not verbatim. Final minutes will be posted on the RCCC web site.

CHANGING THE ROLE/NAME OF THE RCCC (Henderson)

During this discussion, it was noted that the role of EH and RCCC has changed, EH is always using the RCCC to review new material, the RCCC was not set up to be answerable to EH and that the RCCC was Rule Implementation Working Group for 835. The consensus was that the RCCC needs to continue. Joel Rabovsky noted that RCCC has name recognition within DOE and recommended we should keep the name. Mike Henderson and Ken Whitham will draft a new RCCC charter for comment, and Barry will circulate the draft charter via email. We agreed that the RCCC will meet twice yearly; at the Annual HPS meeting and once again, in either D.C. or Las Vegas. Joel suggested we try to have supplemental phone/televideo meetings

BACKGROUND AND STATUS OF EXTERNAL REGULATION

John Connolly gave a presentation on the pilots at LBNL, ORNL, and outstanding issues/challenges. The RCCC role will be to keep tabs on this issue.

STATUS OF AMENDMENT TO 10 CFR 835 (Rabovsky)

The amendment approved and will be published shortly. A side-by-side comparison of new requirements will be posted on the web. Issue: when will a new RadCon Standard be prepared?

APPROVAL PROCESS AND APPROVAL AUTHORIZATION FOR 10 CFR 835 AMENDMENT (Wheeler)

Blanket delegation policies/memos were discussed by Barry Parks, ER, and Maria

Gavrilas-Guinn, EM. Program approval only if money or exemption required, or if a degradation of safety, and a program representative is needed on the review group. NE has not done any delegation. The level of detail required in an RPP is still an issue. Joel noted that he thinks that in some cases, current RPPs focus more on limiting PAAA liability than on defining a radiation protection program.

RCCC INTERACTION WITH EH ENFORCEMENT GROUP (Henderson)

Mike discussed significant' bone dose. Joel will invite EH-10 representative to RCCC. Barry Parks will put Howard Wilchins (EH-10) on RCCC email list.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN 10CFR835 AND DOE ORDER 5400.5 (Henderson)

This is a fixed contamination issue for free release of buildings/re-industrialization. The issue will be pursued with Andy Wallo.

REVIEW OF BIOASSAY WORKSHOP AND RESULTING ISSUES (Rabovsky)

Bob Loesch discussed the issues and gave a handout. There is now a Bioassay Internal Dosimetry Users Group (BIDUG) web page.

BASELINING ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF BIOASSAY PROGRAMS AT EM SITES (Gavrilas-Guinn)

Maria distributed handouts on her presentation about this issue at the Bioassay workshop. RCCC will identify issues for follow-up.

RAD WORKER AND GERT TRAINING REQUIREMENTS (Njoku)

The group discussed the definition of general employee' and adequate training.

The meeting recessed about 4:30 pm.

Friday October 29

WESTINGHOUSE SAVANNAH RIVER: 100,000 DPM/100CM2 TRITIUM RELEASE LIMIT (Terrell)

This is an exemption issue for release to controlled areas. There is a precedent of a 30,000 dpm exemption for Be-7 at TJNAF. Mike noted that he feels strongly that contamination limits should mean something. There was a question about the impact on bioassays. The group discussed the issue of public perceptions, and the draft ANSI limit is 600,000 dpm (120,000 removable), and EPA/NRC/DOE issues with 834. There was no consensus.

USING CEDE FOR DETERMINISTIC LIMITS (Henderson)

Mike distributed some NUREG material for discussion. There was sharp disagreement about the role of RCCC in challenging this issue, where cumulative effects are equated to deterministic limits. There was no resolution.

REQUEST FOR PAST DOSE HISTORIES (Henderson)

Some companies are making blanket requests for dose histories, straining resources. During the discussion, it was noted that employees must sign releases for requests. Mike will put in a request for a technical clarification.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON WORKERS UNDERSTANDING OF CEDE VS AEDE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF LIFETIME CONTROL LIMITS (Rabovsky)

This was a follow-up and reminder to a April 1998 email on Makhijani Action'. The RCCC will review and provide input to Bob Loesch.

DISCUSSION OF DRAFT TECHNICAL POSITIONS (O'Connell)

The group discussed draft positions on training and security. There was disagreement about what utilizing DOE facilities' means. Barry Parks (ER) said the ER position was that DOE employees taking the same tours as the public should be treated the same as the public, and not be required to have any training. Pete O'Connell noted that the Secretary was trained prior to touring Hanford, and was supportive of the program. He also noted that the 835 amendments will drop the examination requirement for training.

LOCATION AND DATE FOR NEXT MEETING; AND ADDITIONAL ISSUES

We will meet next at Annual HPS meeting in Philadelphia in July, 1999. The group agreed that Gene Runkle will arrange and chair the meeting, and that Joel Rabovsky will be the deputy.

ATTENDEES

Diane Larsen, DP-45
David Wheeler, NV
Vicki Bohanan, FM
Dave Abbott, DP
Mike Henderson, ORO
Ed Branagan, NE-40
Ken Whitham, ID
Maria Gavrilas-Guinn, EM-4
Brenda Pangborn, RL
Edwin Njoku, OAK
Barry Parks, ER (now Science)
Joel Rabovsky, EH-52 Clyde Terrell, SR
Brad Eichorst, ABQ (by phone)
Gene Runkle, ABQ (by phone)
Margaret Lachman, Ohio (by phone)

Handouts:

- 1) Email 4/17/1998 From Bob Loesch re: Makhijani action
- 2) Overheads: Baselineing Essential Elements of Bioassay Programs at EM Sites
- 3) Table of Significance Rankings; Radiological, Chemical and Physical
- 4) Dose Assessment, wound site
- 5) Draft Assessment, Use of Potassium Iodide as a Public Protective Action...
- 6) Summary of Bioassay / Internal Dosimetry Workshop
- 7) Pilot Program on External Regulation of DOE Nuclear Facilities, by J. Fitzgerald
- 8) Letter of Nov. 21, 1997, To Secretary, DOE from S. Jackson, NRC
- 9) Background Papers on Regulatory Oversight of DOE
- 10) October 12, 1998 Inside Energy article on DOE Oversight
- 11) 2 Draft Technical Positions, RCTP 98-01 and 98-02