



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

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MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia R. Worthington".

PATRICIA R. WORTHINGTON, PhD
DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF HEALTH AND SAFETY
OFFICE OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND SECURITY

SUBJECT:

Radiological Control Technical Position Regarding Use of
Newer Dose Terms in the Occurrence Reporting and
Processing System

The Office of Health, Safety and Security's Office of Worker Safety and Health Policy issues Radiological Control Technical Positions in response to questions or concerns associated with Department of Energy (DOE) occupational radiation protection programs.

This technical position clarifies dose reporting in the Occurrence Reporting and Processing System (ORPS). In June 2007, title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, part 835, "Occupational Radiation Protection" (10 C.F.R. 835), was amended to adopt more current dosimetric models. Of primary concern are the committed effective dose equivalent replaced by committed effective dose, and total effective dose equivalent replaced by total effective dose. All DOE contractors are required to adopt the new system by July 2010, but in the interim, either the old or the new terms are acceptable.

The attached technical position does not represent new policy or direction to the field. Rather, it provides clarification regarding use of dose terms in ORPS.

Please assure further distribution of the attached document to the applicable radiation protection organizations at your facilities.

Attachment

cc w/attachment:
See attached list.



**Department of Energy
Office of Worker Safety and Health Policy
Radiological Control Technical Position
RCTP 2009-03**

Technical Position Clarifying Dose Reporting in the Occurrence Reporting and Processing System

Issue:

Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, part 835, "Occupational Radiation Protection" (10 C.F.R. 835), requires assessment and recording of radiation doses to individuals who are exposed to sources of radiation or contamination. In June 2007, 10 C.F.R. 835 was amended to adopt more current dose quantities and units (i.e., International Commission on Radiological Protection Publication 60 (ICRP 60)). The Department of Energy (DOE) and contractor sites have until July 2010 to comply.

DOE Order 231.1A, "Environment, Safety and Health Reporting," describes the Occurrence Reporting and Processing System (ORPS). ORPS currently uses the pre-2007 quantities and units in occurrence reporting.

Discussion:

DOE is in the process of updating DOE Manual 231.1-2, "Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information," which includes reporting radiation doses that are required by 10 C.F.R. 835, subpart C, "Occupational Radiation Protection."

A number of DOE sites have converted to the new dosimetric system and, therefore, prefer to use the new units in their reports. Questions arose regarding how to implement use of the new quantities and units in ORPS.

Technical Position:

For purposes of complying with ORPS, the quantity committed effective dose equivalent may be replaced with committed effective dose, and total effective dose equivalent may be replaced with total effective dose.