

December 9, 2003

ALL AGREEMENT AND NON-AGREEMENT STATES

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON ISCORS REPORTS RELATING TO RADIOACTIVITY IN SEWAGE SLUDGE AND ASH (STP- 03- 086)

The Interagency Steering Committee on Radiation Standards (ISCORS) in a Federal Register Notice ([68 FRN 66503](#)) requests comments* by February 6, 2004, on two of its reports.

“Recommendations on Management of Radioactive Materials in Sewage Sludge and Ash at Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs)” (Recommendations Report) that is posted on the ISCORS website <http://www.iscors.org/library.htm> has three major purposes: (1) to alert POTW operators to the possibility of radioactive materials concentrating in sewage sludge and incinerator ash; (2) to inform POTW operators how to determine if, indeed, there are elevated levels of radioactivity in their sludge and ash; and (3) to assist POTW operators in identifying actions for reducing potential radiation exposure from sludge and ash. State Radiation Control Programs are a principal consultation point of contact for the POTWs.

The Recommendations report is the last report of three that have been prepared to address this issue. The first report, “ISCORS Assessment of Radioactivity in Sewage Sludge: Radiological Survey Results and Analysis” (Survey Report), summarizes the information on radioactivity found in samples of sewage sludge and ash from 313 publicly owned treatment works (POTWs). This report is being issued as a final document, since it only presents data that has already been collected. The second report, “ISCORS Assessment of Radioactivity in Sewage Sludge: Modeling to Assess Radiation Doses” (Dose Modeling Report) assesses the potential levels of radiation doses to people by modeling the transport of radioactivity from sludge into the local environment. The report also provides a complete description and justification of the dose assessment methodology. Comments on either the Recommendations Report or the Dose Modeling Report should be sent to Robert Bastian, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - 4204, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20460, phone: 202-564-0653, e-mail: bastian.robert@epa.gov.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact me on (301) 415-2325 or the individual named below.

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/RA/

Josephine M. Piccone, Deputy Director
Office of State and Tribal Programs

*This information request has been approved by OMB 3150-0029, expiration 06/30/04 and OMB 3150-0200, expiration 05/31/06. The estimated burden per response to comply with this voluntary collection is approximately 8 hours. Forward any comments regarding the burden estimate to the Information and Records Branch (T-6F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and to the Paperwork Reduction Project (3150-0029 and 3150-0200), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. If a document does not display a currently valid OMB control number, the NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information.

STP-03-086

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