

May 9, 2005

ALL AGREEMENT AND NON-AGREEMENT STATES

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ISCORS REPORTS RELATING TO RADIOACTIVITY IN SEWAGE SLUDGE AND ASH (STP- 05-035)

The Interagency Steering Committee on Radiation Standards (ISCORS) in a Federal Register Notice ([70 FRN 22729](#)) announced the availability of two of its final 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, issued in 2003, “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). See: [STP-03-086](#) (December 9, 2003). The second final 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. Responses to peer review comments, including those from Colorado, Pennsylvania and Washington, and others, including Illinois and New Jersey, are in Appendix F. All three reports are available on the ISCORS website: <http://www.iscors.org/library.htm>.

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.

POINT OF CONTACT: Stephen N. Salomon
TELEPHONE: (301) 415-2368

INTERNET: SNS@NRC.GOV
FAX: (301) 415-3502

/RA/

Dennis K. Rathbun, Deputy Director
Office of State and Tribal Programs

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