

# NATIONAL DOSE ASSESSMENT WORKING GROUP

## PAPER 8-09: NDAWG REVIEW

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### 1 TERMS OF REFERENCE

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The current terms of reference are:

1. To facilitate the exchange of data and views between all parties on assessment methodologies.
2. To advance the understanding between groups who are likely to have differing objectives and views on dose assessment methods.
3. To meet on a regular basis (every 6 months) to discuss matters of mutual concern, and developments arising out of research, case histories (e.g., recent consultations) or changes in government policy.
4. To identify, discuss and evaluate research which will progress dose assessment methods.
5. To initiate debate beyond the group on key issues, as necessary (for example via the Society for Radiological Protection).
6. To keep abreast of international developments on dose assessment methodologies, and to provide feedback to the appropriate UK authorities for input into EU bodies.
7. To facilitate the development of coherent transparent methods for the assessment of radiation dose to the public from all pathways which arise as a result of the operations at nuclear and non-nuclear sites.

These were agreed at the 1<sup>st</sup> NDAWG meeting (April 2002) and revised at the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> NDAWG meetings.

### 2 FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

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The updated work programme is as follows:

**Meeting 8** Review of progress on CEDA - are all issues being addressed? Critique of EA, FSA and industry prospective assessment for typical nuclear (and non-nuclear?) site.

**Meeting 9** Short term releases, update on effects of radiation on biota

**Meeting 10** Open meeting to review NDAWG. This would consist of a coherent set of presentations on what has been achieved so far and the planned future work programme. There would be time for a detailed discussion of whether NDAWG is meeting its objectives, what more needed to be done and indeed whether NDAWG is still required.

**Meeting 11** The use and calculation of collective dose

Remaining topics are as follows:

- Environmental monitoring in relation to retrospective dose assessment
- The impact of radioactive particles.
- Modelling developments and studies relating to the transfer of radionuclides in the marine environment.
- Modelling the dispersion of radionuclides in the atmosphere, particularly experiences in using ADMS
- The need to consider the transfer of radionuclides to breast-fed infants – if ICRP report issued
- Compatibility of dose coefficients for ingestion and inhalation and related habit data

**Commentary:** The Steering group modified the programme at its meeting in January to include the open meeting and it was decided at the April 2005 NDAWG meeting that this should be the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting in the Autumn of 2006. The future work plan is flexible and can be changed if necessary. It will therefore be reviewed at each meeting of NDAWG.

### **3 COLLATING ONGOING RESEARCH**

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A database of on-going research; future planned research; possible future projects is now available on the NDAWG website. We have several entries on the database but would welcome further contributions from members. This includes relevant research from member's organisations, and third parties.

### **4 NDAWG MEMBERSHIP**

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Current NDAWG membership/representation is as follows:

#### **4.1 Chair**

John Cooper HPA

#### **4.2 Regulators/agencies**

Rob Allott, John Titley, EA

Stuart Conney, Darren Cutts, David Webbe-Wood FSA

Patrick Stephen, NII

Chris Wilson, DEFRA

George Hunter, SEPA

Robert Larmour, Dept Environment (NI)

Ken Ledgerwood, Dept Environment (NI)

Havard Prosser, National Assembly for Wales

Will Munro, FSA Scotland

Ian Hall, Scottish Executive

#### **4.3 Industry**

Tim Parker, BNFL

Laurence Austin, British Energy

Michael Gaunt, Rolls-Royce

David Tattam, GE healthcare

Lucy Bailey, Nirex

Simon Morgan, Nirex

Andrew Craze, Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

#### **4.4 Specialists/NGOs**

Steve Jones, Westlakes Scientific Consulting

Barrie Lambert, NGO

John Hunt, CEFAS

Mike Thorne, Consultant

Philip Day, Consultant

Pete Roche, Consultant (representing Greenpeace)

#### **4.5 Secretariat**

Jane Simmonds, HPA

Ray Kowe, HPA

## **5 COMMUNICATIONS SUB-GROUP**

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It was agreed at the seventh NDAWG meeting that a Communications sub-group should be established once the uncertainty and variability group has completed its work. The suggested Terms of Reference for the group are as follows:

The remit of the Communications sub-group is to consider the presentation of information on radiation doses to the public. In particular it will address:

- Who is the audience for such information, e.g. people being consulted on an proposed authorisation, local residents around a nuclear site, pressure groups.
- What kind of information people want
- How such information should be presented

Consideration should be given to retrospective and prospective dose assessments as well as to single dose estimates and probabilistic results. The group will need to review the research carried out for FSA and will need to develop their work programme with frequent reviews by the full NDAWG.

Members of NDAWG are asked for their views on the proposed terms of reference and for suggestions for possible members of the group.