

NATIONAL DOSE ASSESSMENT WORKING GROUP

PAPER 9-10: NDAWG REVIEW

1 TERMS OF REFERENCE

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 1st NDAWG meeting (April 2002) and revised at the 2nd and 3rd NDAWG meetings.

2 FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

The Steering Group considered the work programme at their meeting in January and proposes the following programme. They suggest that the remit of NDAWG is extended to cover contaminated land but not the solid waste or accidental releases. The updated work programme is as follows:

Meeting 10 Open meeting to review NDAWG. The draft programme for this is as follows:

Wednesday 15 November 2006

- 11:00 Registration and coffee
- 11:30 Welcome and Introduction from Chairman (Bryn Bridges)
- 11:40 Introductory remarks from Chair of NDAWG (John Cooper)
- How NDAWG works, Terms of reference, Membership, What we want to do at this meeting
- 12:00 Overview of the NDAWG work programme (Jane Simmonds)
- Topics covered, Reports issued, The Website – content plus statistics
- 12:30 Lunch
- 13:30 Topic 1 (Rob Allot)
- Principles for prospective and retrospective dose assessment
- 14:15 Topic 2 (Bill Camplin).
- Collection and use of habit data, including the assessment of total dose.
- 15:00 Tea and poster discussions
- 15:45 Topic 3 (Rob Allott)
- Guidance on simple dose assessment tools
- 16:30 Topic 4 (David Webbe-Wood)
- Uncertainty and variability in dose assessments
- 17:15 Depart (Buses will leave at 17:30 to go to Abingdon)
- 19:00 For 19:30 Meeting dinner at Cosener's House, Abingdon

Thursday 16 November 2006

- 09:15 Topic 5 (Barrie Lambert/David Collier)
- Presenting information to the public
- 10:00 Topic 6 (David Coplestone)
- Protection of biota

10:45 Coffee and poster discussions

11:30 Review of progress on CEDA (David Webbe-Wood)

- The CEDA exercise and findings, what NDAWG has done to meet the CEDA recommendations, What else has been done by FSA and others

12:30 Lunch

13:30 Discussion on how well NDAWG has carried out its role. Feedback from poster session discussions.

- How well has NDAWG met its objectives?
- Has it followed the CEDA recommendations?

14:00 The future of NDAWG

- Is NDAWG still required? Should it change its membership, way of working etc? Should it broaden its remit to include contaminated land, accidental releases, or solid waste disposal? What should be the priorities for the future work programme? Does NDAWG need to do more to inform people about its work? How well has NDAWG met its objectives?

14:30 Summary of discussions and conclusions from the meeting and agreed outcomes

14:50 Closing remarks from Chairman

15:00 Tea and depart (Buses to Didcot station at 15:30)

Note: There will be poster displays for the six topics considered and the opportunity to discuss the particular issues associated with these topics during the coffee, lunch and tea breaks.

Are members happy with this outline programme?

Meeting 11 The use and calculation of collective dose and environmental monitoring in relation to retrospective dose assessment

Meeting 12 The impact of radioactive particles in dose assessments and the outcome of the research into phosphorus in the freshwater environment.

Meeting 13 Atmospheric dispersion and contaminated land issues.

Remaining topics are as follows:

- Modelling developments and studies relating to the transfer of radionuclides in the marine environment.
- Validation of sewer dose assessment methodologies.

- Response to any changes in the EC Basic Safety Standards
- 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

(The future work programme is subject to change depending on the outcome of the open meeting)

3 COLLATING ONGOING RESEARCH

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 WEBSITE

Total of 3906 visits between Dec 2005-Mar 2006, with 1670 files downloaded.

5 NDAWG MEMBERSHIP

Current NDAWG membership/representation is as follows:

5.1 Chair

John Cooper HPA

5.2 Regulators/agencies

Rob Allott, John Titley, EA

Stuart Conney, Paul Kennedy, David Webbe-Wood FSA

Patrick Stephen, NII

Chris Wilson, DEFRA

Paul Dale, 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

5.3 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

5.4 Specialists/NGOs

Steve Jones, Westlakes Scientific Consulting
Barrie Lambert, NGO
Amanda Moreton, NHS – Small users
John Hunt, CEFAS
Mike Thorne, Consultant
Philip Day, Consultant
Pete Roche, Consultant (representing Greenpeace)

5.5 Secretariat

Jane Simmonds, HPA
Ray Kowe, HPA