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Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques
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English - Or. English

**NUCLEAR ENERGY AGENCY
COMMITTEE ON RADIATION PROTECTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

Information System on Occupational Exposure

**ISOE EXPERT GROUP ON RADIATION PROTECTION ASPECTS OF DECOMMISSIONING
(ISOE-EGD).**

Terms of Reference

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Background

ISOE provides a forum for radiation protection professionals from nuclear electricity utilities and national regulatory authorities worldwide to share dose management information and operational experience to improve the optimisation of worker radiological protection at nuclear power plants. The ISOE programme, with its participating utilities and regulatory authorities, is a key organisation in developing safe, sustainable and societally acceptable strategies for emerging issues in the field of occupational radiation protection (RP).

At its meeting in November 2010, ISOE Management Board discussed a new proposal, suggested by the ISOE Chair-elect and supported by the ISOE Bureau, to address during the coming two years. Referring to the previous decommissioning related activities, possible occupational exposure control measures and relevant dose trends are always of interest to the ISOE programme. It was proposed to establish an expert group to discuss the RP aspects of decommissioning that continue to present, or that may present questions that could be addressed through the exchange of experience.

The focus of discussions was addressed to the operational aspects of RP during decommissioning. During the discussions, other NEA activities in this area were recalled, in particular the Radioactive Waste Management Committee (RWMC) - Working Party on Decommissioning and Dismantling (WPDD) which has been addressing decommissioning policy, strategy and regulatory issues for some time. The work of the WPDD includes the management of materials, release of buildings and sites from regulatory control and associated cost estimation and funding. Beyond policy and strategy considerations, it was also indicated that the WPDD reviews practical considerations for implementation such as techniques for characterisation of materials, for decontamination and for dismantling. It was advised to collaborate with the WPDD in defining the objectives of the expert group.

ISOE Management Board welcomed the proposal and decided that the WGDA should take a leading role in managing the work of this group. The Management Board also agreed that the ISOE Technical Centres should participate actively in the Group's work. It was noted this activity would benefit from broad ISOE participation to ensure that the final product would be cohesive and valuable, and so requested that a call for nominations be sent by the Secretariat to the full Management Board. Following this direction, a call for nominations to the newly established ad-hoc Expert Group on RP aspects of decommissioning was sent to the ISOE membership in January 2011.

Terms of Reference

The objective of the ad-hoc Expert Group on Radiation Protection Aspects of Decommissioning (EGD) is to develop a report on radiation protection aspects of decommissioning, in order to reflect the current state of knowledge, technology and experience on radiation protection issues directly related to decommissioning of reactors, which is an emerging issue.

Under the Working Group on Data Analysis (WGDA), the EGD will undertake a review and analysis of current knowledge, technology and experience, and produce a summary report. The outcome of the work will be a new ISOE publication on RP aspects of decommissioning that will find broad use within the NPP radiation protection community. The EGD will undertake its work by;

- collecting information and practical experience available in the nuclear industry on addressing operational aspects of radiation protection during decommissioning of nuclear reactors with special emphasis on procedures to manage occupational exposures,
- identifying factors and aspects which play key roles in achieving good practices in decommissioning (knowledge, experience, technology, regulatory requirements and guidance, worker involvement, information exchange and networking, etc) and analysing and quantifying, as possible, their impact on worker doses and operational costs,
- reviewing the implications for radiation protection considerations for decommissioning in new nuclear build, and
- submitting a report, including possible recommendations for further work, to the ISOE Management Board for approval, and to the CRPPH for information.

Related NEA developed reports will serve as the starting point in the group's work. It is expected that the group will need 3 to 4 meetings to accomplish its tasks.

Products and Timeline

- June 2011: First meeting of the EGD to identify topics of interest, and develop methodologies for completing its work.
- November 2011: Presentation of a draft report for ISOE Management Board and WGDA comment
- May 2012: Progress report to WGDA
- November 2012: Approval of final report by ISOE Management Board