



National Radiological Emergency Preparedness Conference, Inc.

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Session 3: Workshop: EPA Protective Action Guides Manual: A Refresher and the Revision

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Manual of Protective Action Guides and Protective Actions for Nuclear Incidents, referred to as the PAG Manual, is a key radiological incident planning and response tool for emergency management officials at the Federal, state, tribal, and local levels. This four-hour workshop will provide a refresher on how the PAG Manual is used and how incident-specific numeric values can be found in the Manual or calculated independently.

Additionally, the workshop will provide in-depth information on the draft revision of the PAG Manual, which will provide several key updates and additions to the existing guidance. The draft revision clarifies the use of the existing 1992 protective action guides and protective actions for incidents other than nuclear power plant accidents. It lowers the projected thyroid dose for administration of stable iodine based on data from the Chernobyl accident. It provides new guidance concerning consumption of drinking water during or after a radiological emergency. It also updates the dosimetry basis from ICRP 26 to ICRP 60 for all tables of derived levels. Finally, the draft revision includes new guidance for dealing with long-term site restoration following a major radiological release, based on new Department of Homeland Security guidance on implementing PAGs after a radiological dispersal device (RDD) or improvised nuclear device (IND), which was developed by a multi-agency working group that included EPA. The guidance acknowledges that for the broad range of potential impacts from radiation incidents, no single numeric cleanup level can be recommended. Instead, it provides a framework to follow to ensure key stakeholders are involved in a cleanup decision-making process that carefully weighs all relevant factors.

This workshop is designed for users and implementers of the PAG Manual. Attendees will receive a copy of the draft revision for review and comment.

DATE OFFERED: Monday, April 30, 2007

TIME: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.