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RADON IN BUILDINGS:

ROUND TABLE PROCEEDINGS

The proceedings of a round table discussion of radon in buildings have been published by the National Bureau of Standards (NBS).

Held at NBS June 15, 1979, the meeting brought together four dozen participants with diverse interests in radiation protection, radiation measurements, and building technology.

During the past few years, potential health hazards of radiation exposure due to radon in buildings have received increasing attention. Many studies have indicated that indoor concentrations of radon and its radioactive-daughter products are frequently higher than outdoor concentrations. At the same time, there is an increasing interest in energy conservation in buildings, including strategies such as reducing air exchange rates which may result in elevated radiation levels. The round table was held as a forum for the exchange of information on the subject and to draw attention to some of the problems and research needs.

Sponsored by the NBS Center for Radiation Research and the Center for Building Technology, the round table covered sources and pathways of

radon in buildings, diffusion and interaction properties and the distribution of daughter products on aerosols, biological and health effects, measurement methods, and strategies to minimize indoor levels of radon--such as increased ventilation and selection and treatment of building materials.

The proceedings, Radon in Buildings (SP 581), contains five review papers, summaries of 20 brief reports from participants on their current research activities and interests, and an edited summary of the round table discussion. Copies of the 77-page report are available for \$3.75 from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Order by stock no. 003-003-02196-2.

NOTE TO EDITORS AND CORRESPONDENTS: Single review copies of the reports are available to the news media by contacting the NBS Media Liaison Office, National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C. 20234 or 301/921-3181.

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