

All,

I have been thinking of what we could do as we go forward with the information from our meeting. It seems to me that the players in the power positions seem to be the National Academy of Science, the ICRP and the NCRP. Perhaps we could have someone from our meeting address each of these organizations and try to have them form a committee to evaluate the three areas that I think would have the most direct impact on the regulations.

1. Change the dose to the public from 1 mSv/year to 5 mSv/year. Changing the dose to the public would be changing the dose to the average background dose in the United States of 6 mSv/year. Well within the range where no adverse outcomes have ever been detected.
2. Change the dose for evacuation from 20 mSv/year to 100 mSv/year. Changing the dose for evacuation from 20 mSv/year (2 rem/year) to 100 mSv/year (10 rem/year) is the dose that the DOE low dose program and many others consider to be a low dose. Below this dose many adaptive responses have been observed and the calculated damage is far below the damage caused by the evacuation.
3. Change ALARA to Optimization Changing ALARA to Optimization would save billions of dollars and would make it possible for the medical field to continue to use radiation in treatment and diagnosis of disease.

These actions would also decrease the fear of radiation since they come from these well recognized bodies and could result in a major change in the ability to use radiation in many peaceful and productive ways. My recommendations for the people to carry these actions forward would be: Dr. Roger McClellan for the National Academy of Science, Dr. Werner Ruhm and Dr. Christopher Clement to the ICRP and Dr. Gayle Woloschak for the NCRP. Of course, the problem will be to get them to agree with these three points and to be real advocates for them.

Our approach of forming another committee may work if that committee has direct connections with the three organizations listed above. Otherwise we will be viewed as outsiders trying to change their way of life which has not worked for SARI.

Tony