



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 6 June 2012

**Interinstitutional File:
2011/0254 (NLE)**

**10926/12
ADD 3**

**ATO 90
SOC 501
SAN 149**

COVER NOTE

from: Secretary-General of the European Commission,
signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director

date of receipt: 31 May 2012

to: Mr Uwe CORSEPIUS, Secretary-General of the Council of the European
Union

No Cion doc.: SWD(2012) 137 final VOLUME 3

Subject: Commission Staff Working Document
Impact Assessment
Accompanying the document
Council Directive laying down basic safety standards for protection against the
dangers arising from exposure to ionising radiation

Delegations will find attached Commission document SWD(2012) 137 final VOLUME 3.

Encl.: SWD(2012) 137 final VOLUME 3



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 30.5.2012
SWD(2012) 137 final

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COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

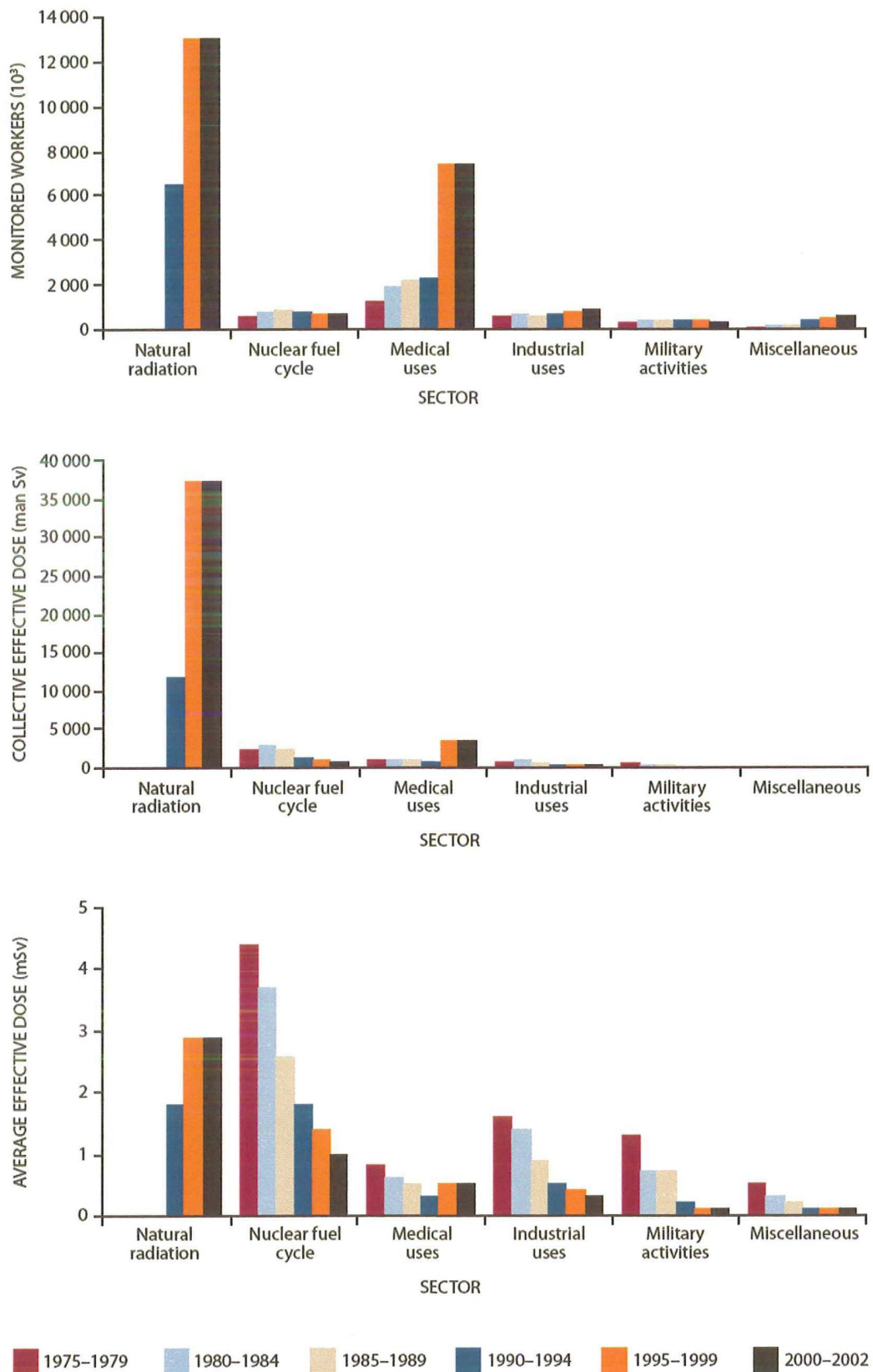
Accompanying the document

COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

**laying down basic safety standards for protection against the dangers arising from
exposure to ionising radiation**

{COM(2012) 242 final}
{SWD(2012) 138 final}

ANNEX VIII (D) WORLDWIDE TRENDS IN NUMBER OF MONITORED WORKERS AND IN COLLECTIVE EFFECTIVE DOSES AND EFFECTIVE DOSES TO MONITORED WORKERS (UNSCEAR Report 2008)



ANNEX VIII (E)

EXPOSURE TO IONISING RADIATION FOR WORKERS IN NORM INDUSTRIES (case study)

FRANCE, Bilan 2008 de la surveillance de travailleurs exposés aux rayonnements ionisants en France (Institute de Radioprotection et de Sûreté Nucléaire)

Certaines activités industrielles telles que la production de céramiques réfractaires, la combustion de charbon en centrales thermiques ou encore le traitement de minerais d'étain, d'aluminium, etc. mettent en œuvre des matières premières contenant naturellement des radionucléides (chaînes de l'uranium et du thorium). La manipulation et la transformation de ces matières qualifiées de « NORM²⁹ » ou « TENORM³⁰ » peuvent entraîner une augmentation notable de l'exposition des travailleurs.

Cette problématique dite des « expositions naturelles renforcées » a été prise en compte pour la première fois au plan réglementaire au travers de dispositions introduites dans le code du travail par le décret 2003-296 et définies plus précisément par l'arrêté du 25 mai 2005 relatif aux activités professionnelles mettant en œuvre des matières premières contenant naturellement des radionucléides non utilisés en raison de leurs propriétés radioactives. Cet arrêté précise la liste des activités ou des catégories d'activités professionnelles concernées et impose notamment aux chefs d'établissements concernés de réaliser une évaluation des doses reçues par les travailleurs.

4.1.1. BILANS DES ETUDES REÇUES

Fin 2008, le nombre de dossiers reçus dans le cadre de l'application de l'arrêté du 25 mai 2005 s'élevait à 79. La figure 28 en présente la répartition selon les catégories d'activités professionnelles visées par les dispositions de l'arrêté.

La figure 29 présente la distribution des doses efficaces individuelles rapportées dans ces dossiers³¹.

Environ 17 % des doses efficaces individuelles calculées pour les travailleurs sont supérieures à la limite de 1 mSv/an au-delà de laquelle les travailleurs doivent être considérés comme « professionnellement exposés » au sens du code du travail et faire l'objet d'une surveillance individuelle dosimétrique et médicale. Des postes de travail dans certaines catégories

professionnelles visées par l'arrêté du 25 mai 2005 présentent des doses efficaces individuelles pouvant même être supérieures à 20 mSv/an. Ces postes de travail font actuellement l'objet d'une analyse plus approfondie de la part de l'IRSN.

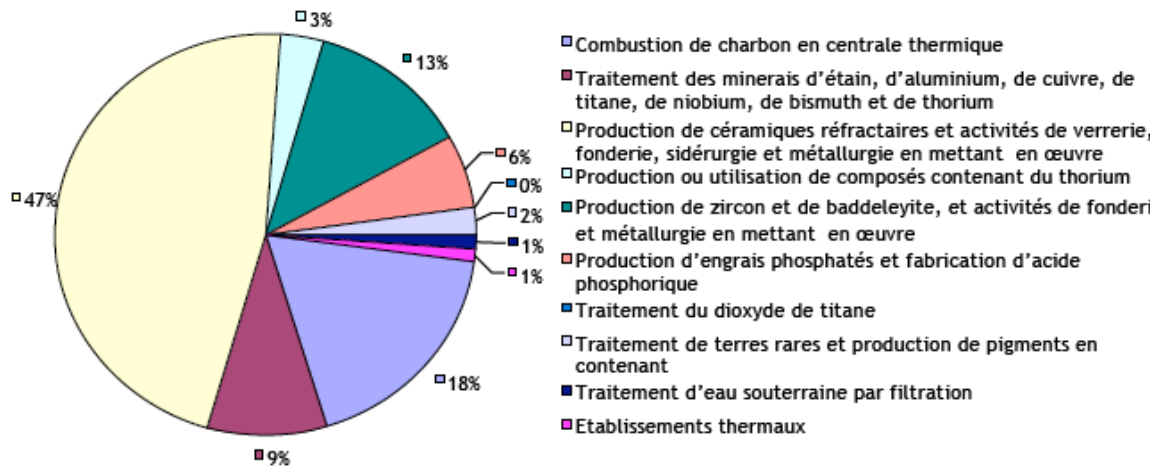


Figure 28 : Répartition des dossiers reçus selon les catégories d'activités professionnelles visées par les dispositions de l'arrêté du 25 mai 2005

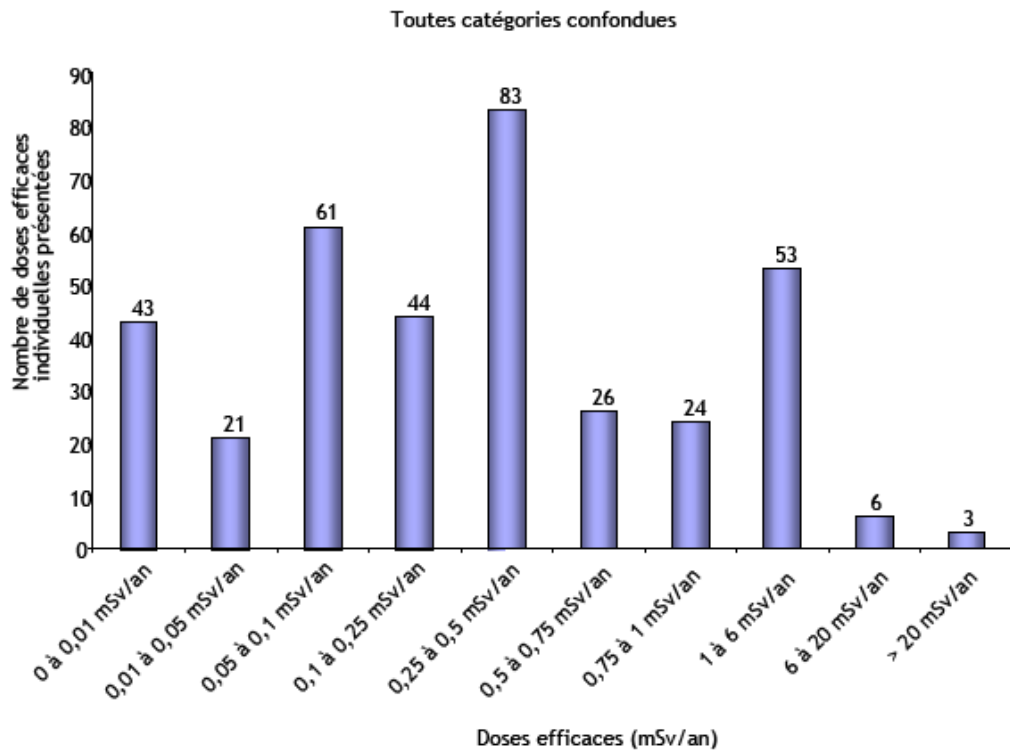
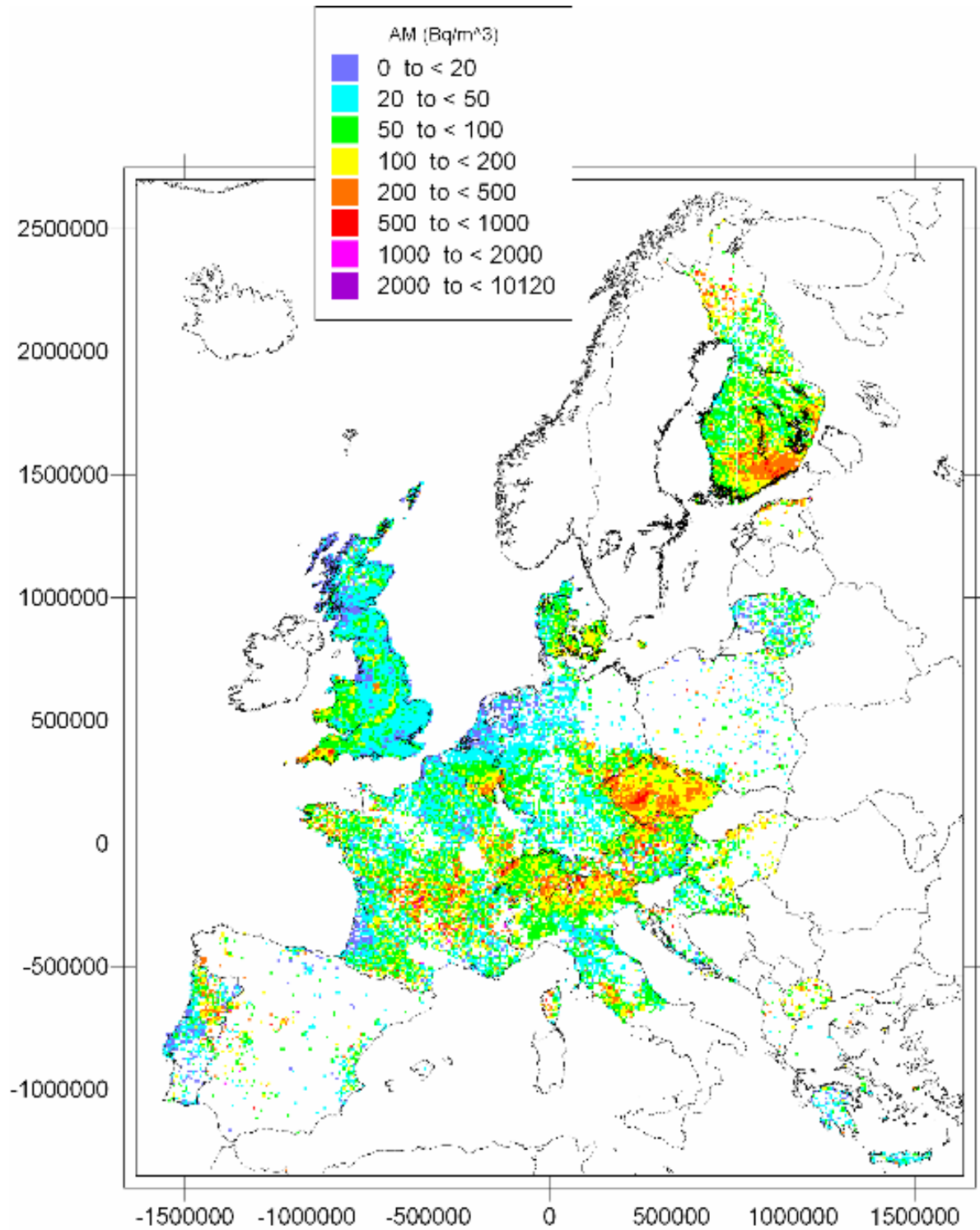


Figure 29 : Distribution des doses efficaces calculées pour les travailleurs

ANNEX IX RADON

(A) Annual Averaged Indoor Radon Concentration



ANNEX IX (B)**Radon in Dwellings**

	Finland¹	Sweden²	United Kingdom³
Housing stock	1 700 000	4 500 000	27 000 000
Average radon concentrations	96	108	20
Estimated number of dwellings at or above 200 Bq/m ³	200 000	450 000	100 000
Percentage of dwellings at or above 200 Bq/m ³	12	10	< 1

¹ [Recommendations for radon in dwellings in the Nordic countries, 2009](#), see Nordic radiation protection authorities' websites, e.g. www.ssm.se

² Recommendations for radon in dwellings in the Nordic countries, 2009

³ [Radon and Public Health](#), Report prepared by the Subgroup on Radon Epidemiology of the independent Advisory Group on Ionising Radiation. Advisory Group to Health and Protection Agency, UK, 2009

ANNEX X

(A) Graded Approach to Regulatory Control

The concept of a graded approach to regulatory control was developed some ten years ago by NEA's Committee on Radiation Protection and Public Health (CRPPH). CRPPH advocated that, in addition to the concept of optimisation of radiation protection, the efficiency of regulatory control could benefit from a similar approach. Hence regulatory authorities would concentrate their supervision on those situations which represent a higher risk of exposure and on those where regulatory intervention is instrumental in reducing overall exposures. The BSS Directive from 1996 already gives indication that as an exception to the rule MS may specify that practices shall not require authorisation in cases where "a limited risk of exposure does not necessitate the examination of individual cases and the practice is undertaken in accordance with conditions laid down in national legislation". This opportunity given by the Directive has been used to little extend, because the requirement is very vague. Given that proper implementation of the graded approach would reduce the administrative burden to the businesses, it is important to clarify and enforce the use of this concept.

In this respect it is necessary to improve the requirements on regulatory control, on the one hand by making the list of practices submitted to authorisation more precise, and on the other hand introducing list of practices that can be submitted to lighter regimes like registration (a two-tier approach replacing the current concept of "prior authorisation" (Article 4 of the BSS). Article 3 of the BSS Directive 96/29 requires all practices to report the conduct of a practice involving ionising radiation or radioactive substances. Practices may be exempted from the requirement to report if certain values, called *exemption levels*, are not exceeded. There are exemption values for the total activity as well as for activity concentrations. These exemption values are laid down in the Directive (on the basis of a European study published in our radiation protection series: RP65) and uniformly transposed in national legislation. The Euratom values were also incorporated in the International Basic Safety Standards of 1996. Later, IAEA adopted a Safety Guide (RS-G-1.7) laying down a different set of radionuclide-specific values (in general lower than those in RP65). As part of the graded approach it is envisaged to make explicit provision for exemption of specific practices, for specific radionuclides, as long as the exemption criteria laid down in the Directive are complied with (essentially that doses should be lower than 1% of the dose limit). The current Directive, again, does not rule out this possibility but it is very vague ("MS's may exempt further practices ...").

A second important aspect of the "graded approach" relates to the release of materials arising from within a regulated practice. In the absence of any criteria all such materials should be regarded as radioactive waste. Taking into account the huge volume of materials arising from the

dismantling of decommissioned nuclear power plants, this would be at a tremendous cost and there would be a shortage of disposal sites. Most of this material has in fact no or very little radioactivity, so it could be cleared from regulatory control. The concept of "clearance", for materials with no or very little contamination, for instance steel or building rubble, is very important in this context. In the current BSS Directive the application of the concept of clearance was left to national authorities, being merely required to take Community guidance into account (as was later published in the Radiation Protection Series). Harmonisation of *clearance levels* for materials resulting from dismantling has therefore become a crucial issue, both within the EU as internationally. In the international guidance (IAEA RS-G_1.7) and draft new standards it is envisaged to use the same set of values both for clearance and exemption (with the lower numbers taken from RS-G_1.7). This approach could be incorporated in the Euratom BSS as well.