

SUPPLEMENTAL BACKGROUND  
INFORMATION FROM IAEA

## Explanatory Note

### ***Predisposal Management of Radioactive Waste from the Use of Radioactive Materials in Medicine, Industry, Agriculture, Research and Education (DS454)***

The draft text for review, entitled ***Predisposal Management of Radioactive Waste from the Use of Radioactive Materials in Medicine, Industry, Agriculture, Research and Education***, was prepared as a draft Safety Guide for publication in the IAEA Safety Standards Series and has already been reviewed through consultants' meetings, as well as by the Waste Safety Standards Committee (WASSC) and the Radiation Safety Standards Committee (RASSC).

The objective of this draft text, as accepted by the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS), is to provide guidance on how to meet requirements on the safe management of radioactive waste arising from the use of radioactive materials in medicine, industry, agriculture, research and education. The guidance is intended for organizations generating and managing radioactive waste, organizations handling such waste on a centralized basis and regulatory bodies responsible for regulating such activities. The document focuses on moderate sized facilities, such as those encountered in medicine, industry and research, but can also be applied to facilities with small inventories using a graded approach. This Safety Guide is applicable to all activities involving radioactive waste associated with the use of radioactive materials, including disused sealed radioactive sources. The Safety Guide covers the managerial, administrative and technical issues associated with the safe management of radioactive waste, from generation to release from further regulatory control or its acceptance at a disposal facility or a storage facility awaiting the availability of a suitable disposal option.

Comments are requested in relation to:

- Relevance and usefulness — Are the stated objectives appropriate, and are they met by the draft text?
- Scope and completeness — Is the stated scope appropriate, and is it adequately covered by the draft text?
- Quality and clarity — Do the requirements/guidance in the draft text represent the current consensus among specialists in the field, and are they expressed clearly and coherently?

Comments of an editorial nature will be considered; however, it should be noted that the draft text will be comprehensively edited by the IAEA Secretariat.

Any comments should be made in English, should refer to the relevant paragraph number in the draft text being reviewed, and should propose alternative text where appropriate. Please use the attached Form for Comments to record all comments.

The responsible IAEA officer is Mr Kai Moeller of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, who may be contacted for further information in connection with this subject by telephone at: +43 1 2600 22676 or via email at: [K.Moeller@iaea.org](mailto:K.Moeller@iaea.org).

Any comments should be sent through the established official channels to the responsible IAEA officer by **5 December 2014**.

**Form for Comments**  
***Predisposal Management of Radioactive Waste from the Use of Radioactive Materials in  
Medicine, Industry, Agriculture, Research and Education (DS454)***

COMMENTS BY REVIEWER				RESOLUTION			
Reviewer: Country/Organization:		Page.... of.... Date:					
Comment No.	Para/Line No.	Proposed new text	Reason	Accepted	Accepted, but modified as follows	Rejected	Reason for modification/rejection

## **Statement by the Commission on Safety Standards**

Publications in the IAEA Safety Standards Series are prepared and reviewed in accordance with a uniform process. To this end, the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS) and four committees with harmonized terms of reference — the Nuclear Safety Standards Committee (NUSSC), the Radiation Safety Standards Committee (RASSC), the Waste Safety Standards Committee (WASSC) and the Transport Safety Standards Committee (TRANSSC) — were established in 1996. The CSS has a special overview role with regard to the IAEA's safety standards and provides advice to the Director General on the IAEA's overall programme with regard to regulatory aspects of safety.

The uniform preparation and review process involves organizing expert group meetings; arranging at different stages of preparation for the internal review of draft texts; submitting the texts to the relevant Committee(s) for review; submitting draft texts to the IAEA's Member States for comment; and submitting the approved final draft of the safety standard<sup>1</sup> for endorsement by the CSS before publication.

The CSS stresses the importance of Member States' comments to the preparation and review process for safety standards. Publications in the IAEA Safety Standards Series not only should be of the requisite quality but also should represent the consensus view of the Member States and should address the issues of importance to the Member States. While the CSS, the Committees and the Secretariat strive to provide safety standards that satisfy these criteria, the review of draft standards by experts in the Member States is an essential stage in obtaining the broadest possible technical consensus and the highest possible quality and relevance.

Member States are also encouraged to provide the IAEA with feedback on their use of the safety standards. The status of safety standards extant and in preparation can be seen on the IAEA's website, where there are also links to electronic files for existing publications, including those in other official languages.<sup>2</sup> The responsible IAEA officer is Mr Dominique Delattre, Head of the Safety and Security Publications Unit of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security. He may be contacted for further information in connection with this subject by telephone at: + 43 1 2600 22696 or via email at: [D.Delattre@iaea.org](mailto:D.Delattre@iaea.org).

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<sup>1</sup> Safety Guides are published under the authority of the Director General. Safety Fundamentals and Safety Requirements publications require the approval of the Board of Governors, after endorsement by the CSS.

<sup>2</sup> See <http://www-ns.iaea.org/committees/files/CSS/205/status.pdf>.