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Linear No-Threshold Model and Standards for Protection Against Radiation

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Linear No-Threshold Model and Standards for Protection Against Radiation; Notice of Docketing and Request for Comment

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General Comment

We have several contributions on acclimation, sometimes referred as hormesis. The unambiguous fact is that living organisms react to very low level doses, even several order of magnitude bellow the so called NOEC value (no adverse effect concentration). It could result in an enhanced resistance, but not always. It could result in adverse effects? Not only irradiation but nanomateriales like asbestos can produce cancer many years after exposure (let say 20 years). I have no capability to evaluate the risk involved in the proposal to change from linear no threshold to a hormesis criteria but it is clear the economical difference for clean up, disposal, accident planning, etc. We act locally but we have to think globally and at this point we have to evaluate our priorities for the limited resources available. In this context, the hormesis criteria could be practical and realistic but I will never recommend irradiation of living organisms based on hormesis as benefit..