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Title

Implications of Revised Skin Contamination Dose Coefficients for High Energy Alphas

Abstract

Regulatory attention on high energy alpha emitters (HEAs) has led to the adoption of revised skin dose coefficients that exceed those for beta emitters by multiple orders of magnitude. These dose coefficients could substantially alter the assessment and control of alpha skin contamination in Canada, and have substantially impacted Canadian Nuclear Laboratories' activities. This presentation addresses the scope and scale of the problem, discusses unique operational challenges at Chalk River Labs as a result, and identifies the need for scientific research to validate tissue effects and obtain alignment on an interim approach to high energy alpha skin contamination dose assessments.