

7) The uncertainty about fetal sensitivity to ionising radiation justifies an immediate reduction in the recommended public dose limit to 200 uSv per year (20 mRem).

8) Excess cases of childhood leukaemia have been reported around the only two reprocessing facilities within the United Kingdom, Sellafield and Dounreay. Both discharge significant quantities of long-lived alpha emitters, such as Plutonium and Americium. It is quite possible that the current risk models underestimate the biological effect of these actinides in leukaemogenesis, particularly during fetal life, as the target tissue for leukaemia induction in the fetus is not known. Consequently particular attention should be paid to protecting the public from such actinides. Radioactive discharges and hence public doses, should be limited by the principle of ALATA (As Low As Technically Achievable), rather than by ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable).

9) ALARA has not been effective in reducing the exposures of some higher exposed radiation workers. ALARA should

be replaced by a system which gives higher priority to radiological protection, and protecting those most at risk.

10) The international Commission on Radiological Protection have frequently been criticised as being unrepresentative of the public and workers it claims to be protecting. If value judgements are to be made by the International Commission on Radiological Protection, then at the very least there should be worker and public representatives on the Commission.

Signed on behalf of Friends of the Earth (UK) Ltd.

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Announcements

Ruzicka-Prize 1987

Every year, a prize from the Ruzicka-Prize-Fund is awarded to a young research worker for an outstanding work in the field of general chemistry that has already been published and achieved in Switzerland or by a Swiss national abroad.

Proposals for candidates may be submitted before March 31st, 1988 at the latest to the President of the Board of the Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology, ETH-Zentrum, CH-8092 Zürich.