

International Conference on the Management of Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials (NORM) in Industry



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Identification of NORM-related industries in Portugal: a graded approach

The Decree-Law 108/2018 of 3 December 2018 establishes the legal regime for radiation protection, transposing Directive 2013/59/Euratom to the Portuguese Law. The Portuguese radiation protection policy is based on UE Directives, on international conventions and on recommendations of appropriate international bodies like the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The above mentioned Decree-Law assigns the Portuguese Environment Agency (APA) as the competent authority for Radiological Protection and Nuclear Safety.

Exposure to ionizing radiation resulting from industrial practices that use materials containing naturally occurring radioactive elements (NORM) are regulated by the cited decree-law. To ensure a more effective control system the industrial sectors were clearly identified based on available scientific information. An inventory of the industrial sectors in Portugal involving NORM is underway, by the identification of the industrial sectors, and this includes an overview of the types of practices possibly leading to the exposure of workers or members of the public, which cannot be disregarded from a radiation-protection point of view.

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