IONIZING RADIATION: SOURCES AND BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS

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ANNEX C

Technologically modified exposures to natural radiation

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Introduction

1. There are circumstances where man finds himself in a natural radiation environment to which he would not be exposed if some kind of technology had not been developed. Examples are travelling by air, using natural gas for cooking or heating purposes, living in the neighbourhood of a coal-fired power plant. The resulting exposures have been labelled "technologically enhanced" natural radiation exposures by Gesell and Prichard [G1], who defined them as exposures to truly natural sources of radiation (that is, naturally-occurring radionuclides and cosmic radiation) which would not occur without (or which are increased by) some technological activity not expressly designed to produce radiation.

2. In some cases, technology helps to reduce the natural radiation exposure. For example, when drinking water supplies are drawn from surface waters, the use of water-purification processes brings about a decrease in the concentration of radium and other naturally-occurring radioactive elements. Another example is the burning of fossil fuel, which reduces the

specific activity of ¹⁴C in the biosphere and therefore lowers the doses from that radionuclide. This Annex deals with "technologically modified" exposures to natural radiation and presents some assessments of the doses arising from such exposures.

3. The Committee recognizes that the definition given in paragraph 1 is not rigorous and that, in reality, radiation is either natural or artificial in origin. It also realizes, however, that there has been scientific interest in recent years in radiation exposure from the variety of sources which will be discussed in this Annex. The Committee believes that consideration of these sources in a separate Annex is justified at least for this report.

4. Although they do not properly fall within the above definition, there are a number of other sources of exposure to radiation which are a direct consequence of man's technological activities, and which are included for convenience within this Annex. Examples of these are consumer products incorporating radionuclides, and electronic and electrical devices. Other man-made sources of exposure such as the explosion of nuclear devices and the operation of nuclear power plants are discussed in Annexes E and F, respectively.

I. RADIATION EXPOSURES DUE TO COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS

A. SOURCE TERMS

5. Coal, like most materials found in nature, contains trace quantities of the naturally-occurring primordial radionuclides. Therefore, the combustion of coal results in the release to the environment of some natural activity and in the re-distribution of that natural activity from deep in the earth to locations where it can modify ambient radiation fields and population radiation exposures.

6. The annual world production of coal (including brown coal and lignite) was about $3.7 \ 10^{12}$ kg in 1979 [U5], the main producers being China. the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the United States of America. Coal is used most commonly for industrial purposes, power generation, and space heating. In 1974, about 70% of the coal consumed in the United States was burnt in electric power stations, while only 2% was used for space heating in household and commercial markets [U3]. The situation may however be quite different in other countries. In Poland, for example, about 15% of the coal consumed in 1976 was burned as household fuel [G10].

7. In view of the importance of coal for generating electricity, this section will deal essentially with the radiation exposures arising from its use to produce electric power. Most documented exposures are those due to the atmospheric releases of gases and particulates from power stations. There is more particulate emission during combustion of coal than of any other fuel because of its high ash content; for example, the ash content of coal burned in the United States in power plants with a capacity of more than 25 MW(e) ranged from 4 to 25% in 1977 [W10]. The combustion of about 3 10^9 kg of coal is required to produce an electrical energy of 1 GW a [B1, E1, K1, K2].

8. The activities of natural radionuclides discharged in the atmosphere from a power plant per unit electrical energy produced depend on a number of factors such as the activity concentrations in coal, the ash content of the coal, the temperature of combustion, and the efficiency of the filtering system. Marked differences should therefore be expected between the measured activities discharged per unit energy produced from different power plants. The currently available information on the activity concentrations in coal and ash and on the atmospheric discharges will be briefly reviewed.

1. Activity concentrations in coal

9. Since the publication of the 1977 report of UNSCEAR [U2], a substantial number of publications have dealt with the measurement of activity concentrations of natural radionuclides in coal. Table 1 presents results of measurements of radionuclides in coal samples originating from mines or from power plants. The most significant study is that of Beck et al. [B2]. who listed the concentrations measured in almost 1000 samples obtained directly from mines providing most of the coal presently used in the United States. These authors found that the activity concentrations measured in the coal samples varied over two orders of magnitude (0.7 to 70 Bq kg⁻¹ for ⁴⁰K, less than 3 to 520 Bq kg-1 for ²³⁸U, and 3 to 320 Bq kg-1 for ²³²Th). Variations can be quite large even in the same area. Gluskoter et al. [G2] obtained concentrations ranging from 4 to 300 Bq kg-1 for 238U, 0.4 to 10 Bq kg-1 for ²³²Th and 3 to 100 Bq kg⁻¹ for ⁴⁰K in five different seams of coal mined in Illinois. In general, the concentrations of natural radionuclides in coal are less than those in the earth's crust. Occasionally, however, usually as a result of leaching from abnormally radioactive overburdens of volcanic origin, very high concentrations of some radionuclides, in particular uranium, can be found in various coal deposits. Those uraniferous coals are the exception and occur almost invariably in low grade coal deposits [A1, D1, V1, V2]. It will be assumed in this Annex that the average activity concentrations in coal are 50 Bq kg-1 of 40K and 20 Bq kg-1 each of ²³⁸U and ²³²Th and that all the decay products of ²³⁸U and of ²³²Th are in radioactive equilibrium with their precursors, although that might not be always the case for ²¹⁰Pb and ²¹⁰Po (see for example the results of Kaakinen et al. [K1] in Table 1). Enhanced activity concentrations of ²¹⁰Pb could conceivably occur if large quantities of ²²²Rn diffuse from adjacent high activity rocks into a lower activity coal seam with subsequent trapping of the decay products in the coal [B2].

2. Activity concentrations in ash

10. In the production of electric power, coal is burned in furnaces operating at temperatures of up to 1700° C. Most of the mineral matter in the coal is fused into a vitrified ash. A portion of the heavier ash, along with incompletely burned organic matter, drops to the bottom of the furnace as bottom ash or slag. The fly-ash, however, is carried through the boiler along with the hot flue gases and any volatilized mineral compounds to the stack where, depending on the efficiency of emission control devices, some fraction is collected while the rest (escaping fly-ash) is released to the atmosphere [B2].

11. The radionuclides included in the non-combustible mineral matter are thus partitioned between the bottom ash and fly-ash, except for the gases and volatilized minerals which will be incorporated directly into the flue gases. Table 2 presents a list of reported activity concentrations of natural radionuclides in bottom ash, collected fly-ash and escaping fly-ash. Owing mainly to the elimination of the organic component of the coal, there is very approximately an order of magnitude enhancement of the activity concentrations from coal to ash. Consequently, the natural radionuclide concentrations in ashes and slags from coal-fired power stations are significantly higher than the corresponding concentrations in the earth's crust [L4]. The arithmetic averages of the concentrations in escaping fly-ash from Table 2 are, in Bq kg⁻¹, 265 for 40 K, 200 for 238 U, 240 for 226 Ra, 930 for 210 Pb, 1700 for 210 Po, 70 for 232 Th, 110 for 228 Th and 130 for 228 Ra.

12. In the United States, a number of recent studies have aimed at understanding the mechanisms of aerosol formation in the coal-fired power plants [C1, K1, K2, K3, L1, N2, O1, R1]. It has been observed that certain trace elements partition unequally between bottom ash and fly-ash. They become concentrated on the smaller fly-ash particles which have larger surfaceto-volume ratios as the hot flue gases cool down on their way to the stack [K1, K2, L1, N2, R1]. This process results in the depletion of certain elements in bottom ash and their consequent enrichment in fly-ash, an effect which increases as the size of the fly-ash particles decreases [C1, L1, N2]. These smaller particles are less efficiently collected by emission control devices such as electrostatic precipitators and scrubbers, and thus preferentially escape from the plant.

13. The apparent enrichment of some radionuclides in escaping fly-ash particles can be characterized by the enrichment factor EF, defined as the ratio of the concentrations of the radionuclide (X) and of 40 K in the sample divided by the corresponding ratio in coal:

$$EF = \frac{(X) \operatorname{sample} / ({}^{40}K) \operatorname{sample}}{(X) \operatorname{coal} / ({}^{40}K) \operatorname{coal}}$$
(1)

Potassium-40 is used as a reference because its activity concentration remains more or less constant in all types of ash in a given plant and thus is assumed to be a tracer for the alumino-silicate dominated ash matrix [C1]. Figure I shows the variation of the enrichment factors of 238U, 226Ra, 228Ra, 210Pb and 228Th as a function of the size of the escaping fly-ash [C1]. The enrichment factors given in that figure are derived from measurements of samples obtained at a power plant equipped with Venturi scrubbers and electrostatic precipitators [C1]. The escaping fly-ash was collected by a large cyclone separator; the four fractions obtained had measured mass median diameters of 18.5, 6.0, 3.7, and 2.4 μ m and count median diameters of 2.7, 2.6, 1.1, and 0.9 μ m, respectively [F6]. Among the radionuclides measured by Coles et al. [C1], the most enriched was ²¹⁰Pb, followed by ²³⁸U, ²²⁶Ra, ²²⁸Ra and ²²⁸Th. It is likely that a large fraction of ²¹⁰Pb and ²¹⁰Po volatilizes during the combustion, then condenses somewhere down the flue line on the finer fly-ash particles, whereas ⁴⁰K and isotopes of thorium melt with the aluminosilicate minerals and drop out as bottom ash or coalesce and are carried through the flue line as fly-ash particles. According to Coles et al. [C1], the uranium isotopes could behave in either way according to their mineralogical or chemical form in the coal; the uranium that is associated with the clays, or which is mineralized as coffinite, would remain with the bottom ash whereas the uranium that is dispersed in the coal as uraninite could become volatile as UO3 and later condense on the



Figure I. Enrichment factors of ²¹⁰Pb, ²³⁸U, ²²⁶Ra, ²²⁸Ra and ²²⁸Th versus size (mass median diameter) in stack fly-ash collected downstream from an electrostatic precipitator [C1]

fly-ash particles [C1]. As a decay product of ²³⁸U, ²²⁶Ra would behave in an analogous manner; on the other hand, ²²⁸Ra, as a decay product of ²³²Th, would tend to be associated with the matrix of the fly-ash particles.

14. The mechanisms described above are supported by evidence from studies of fly-ash particles which show that they consist of an insoluble matrix composed mainly of iron and aluminium silicates coated with a layer of soluble compounds [K3, L1, P3]. However, other physical-chemical processes such as segregation (diffusive transport to the surface of the particle) and gas-surface reactions may also contribute to the surface enrichment of the ash particles [S11]. Table 3 presents published enrichment factors, which may or may not use ⁴⁰K as a reference, while Figure II, extracted from a study made in the Federal Republic of Germany, illustrates the increase in specific activity as one proceeds from one stage of particle retention to the next [C5, J7]. As expected, the enrichment factors are higher for ²¹⁰Pb and ²¹⁰Po (range of 1 to 11) than for uranium, radium or thorium (range of 1 to 2). As a general rule, the values of the enrichment factors increase with the temperature of combustion and decrease with the particle size, at least for sizes above 1 µm.

15. Measurements of the size distribution of escaping fly-ash particles are very few. In the Federal Republic of Germany, a nearly log-normal size distribution has been found with an activity median aerodynamic diameter of $3-5 \mu m$ for uranium, thorium and radium, and of about 1 μm for ²¹⁰Pb and ²¹⁰Po [J7]. In the United States, the size distribution of particles collected in a plant down-stream from an electrostatic precipitator has been found to be bimodal, the two modes being at 0.06 and 0.5 μm [O1]. A similar size distribution, with two modes at 0.04 and 0.25 μm , has been observed in the plume of a coal-fired power plant [P3]. The mass activity concentration of enriched radionuc-



In the fly-ash deposited in the electrostatic filter stages and in the escaping fly-ash [C5]

lides, such as ²¹⁰Pb and ²¹⁰Po, may be much higher in those small particles than suggested by the values given in Table 3 and Figure I [N2, O1]. However, an analysis of the submicron particles with respect to the concentrations of elements volatilized during combustion has shown these concentrations to be independent of particle size, in contrast to the larger particle sizes where an inverse relationship with particle size applies [S12]. These results would be consistent with a mechanism for formation of submicron particles involving "bursting" of larger particles due to gas release during rapid heating, followed by coagulation and condensation of volatilized elements to form particles in the 0.1–1.0 μ m size range [S12].

3. Atmospheric discharges

16. The atmospheric discharges of natural radionuclides are obtained as the products of the mass of fly-ash released per unit of energy produced by the activity concentrations in escaping fly-ash. The mass of fly-ash released per unit of energy produced depends heavily on the efficiency of the particulate control. In the United States, the average atmospheric releases in 1972 from 696 major steam plants amounted to about 8% of the total ash in the coal burned [M3, F5]. However, all plants in the United States must eventually meet the clean air standards of the Environmental Protection Agency which are set at 1.4 10⁶ kg of ash per GW a of electricity generated [M3], which corresponds to a release of about 1% of the total ash. The average releases in that country are thus likely to lie at present between those two values. In the Federal Republic of Germany, the emission of dust is limited by the legal authorities at 0.15 g per m³ of flue gas, which corresponds to a release of about 1% of the total ash [S1]. In Italy, typical coal-fired power plants are equipped with electrostatic precipitators allowing an ash retention of 95%, and thus a release of 5% [M1]. In Poland, the fraction of ash released is estimated at 20% [J4], while in India it has been assumed to be 10% [M12]. With regard to the USSR, it has been reported that the modern coalfired power stations are equipped with electrofilters allowing an ash retention of 98.5-99%. However, there are other power stations for which the efficiency of retention of the fly-ash particles is about 90%, corresponding to an atmospheric discharge of about 10% of the ash produced. So the power plants which have the same power as the Zaporozhje station (1.2 GW(e)) and an ash retention efficiency of 90%, burning 3.4 106 tonnes of coal with a high ash content (35-40%), discharge about 1.3 10⁵ tonnes of ash to the atmosphere annually [K11, 11, 15].

17. It thus seems that by and large there are two types of coal-fired power plants throughout the world, namely those which release about 10% of the total ash produced and those, equipped with sophisticated retention devices, which release only about 1% of the ash. Although it would probably be more realistic to estimate the radiation impact resulting from the releases of the two types of plants, it has been decided in this Annex to derive only one set of activities discharged per unit of energy produced.

18. Table 4 presents the estimates of atmospheric discharges adopted in Annex B of the 1977 report of UNSCEAR [U2] and other estimates which originate mainly from highly industrialized countries and were published after the preparation of the 1977 report. On this basis, "average" discharges have been estimated for the purpose of assessing the doses arising from coal combustion in power plants. Those "average" atmospheric discharges per unit energy generated are also presented in Table 4; in terms of MBq (GW a)-1, they amount to 4000 for ⁴⁰K, 1500 for ²³⁸U through ²²⁶Ra. 5000 for ²¹⁰Pb and ²¹⁰Po, and 1500 for the radionuclides of the ²³²Th decay series, from ²³²Th to ²²⁴Ra. These normalized discharges are taken to be representative of the current situation on the world-wide scale. For the purpose of comparison with the values given in the previous paragraphs, it can be calculated that they correspond, for example, to a plant burning coal with a 10% ash content and equipped with a filtering system allowing an ash retention of 97.5%, the enrichment factors would be 1 for ⁴⁰K, the isotopes of radium, uranium and thorium, and 3 for ²¹⁰Pb and ²¹⁰Po.

19. Releases of 222 Rn and of 220 Rn have to be estimated separately as radon is not collected by the particulate control devices. The activities of 222 Rn and 220 Rn released per GW a have been assessed at 60 GBq on the basis of the following assumptions: 222 Rn and 220 Rn are in radioactive equilibrium with 238 U and 232 Th, respectively, in coal and are discharged in their entirety when coal is burned; the average activity concentration of 238 U or 232 Th in coal is 20 Bq kg⁻¹; and the combustion of 3 10⁹ kg of coal is required to produce 1 GW a of electrical energy.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL LEVELS AND DOSES

20. Measurements in surface air, carried out about ten years ago, had clearly shown the presence of enhanced concentrations of the natural radionuclides precursors of the radon isotopes. Bedrosian et al. [B3] measured downwind of a coal power plant in Alabama, concentrations of up to 50 μ Bq m⁻³ of ²²⁶Ra, 10 μ Bq m⁻³ of ²³²Th and 100 μ Bq m⁻³ of ²³⁸U, compared with the "normal" concentrations of about 1 μ Bq m⁻³ for each of the three radionuclides. However, recent measurements [F2, S2, T3] have failed to reveal a significant increase in the surface air concentrations around the plant. This is probably due to the fact that the activities discharged are smaller now than what they used to be; another reason is the taller stacks which result in a much greater atmospheric dilution [B2].

21. Snow, which can be expected to have a low background concentration of the natural radionuclides considered, was sampled by Jaworowski et al. [J5] around coal-fired power plants. The measured 226 Ra concentrations ranged up to 60 mBq kg⁻¹ and were related to the distance from the power plants. In addition, studies of a glacier 150 km away from a Polish industrial centre have revealed a 50-fold increase in 226 Ra concentration over the preceding 80 years [J5].

22. Since the concentrations in fly-ash are on average a few times higher than the corresponding concentrations in soil, and since the activity deposited remains for a relatively long period of time in a thin superficial layer of soil, measurements in soil have been conducted by several investigators. In Poland, the concentrations of uranium, thorium, and 226Ra were found to be higher in the upper 5 cm layer than in the 5-10 cm layer of soils of industrial areas, while this effect was not observed in rural soils [J2]. In the United States, Beck et al. [B2] attempted to detect increases in natural radionuclide concentrations in surface layers of soil in the environs of three large coal-fired power plants, but only obtained positive results for the oldest and most poorly controlled of the three plants. Other recent studies [F2, S2] have also been unsuccessful. The annual enhancement in the concentrations of ²³⁸Th, ²²⁶Ra and ⁴⁰K in the upper 30 cm layer of soil within 20 km of coal-fired power stations has been theoretically estimated in a study of the USSR to represent, on average, only 0.08%, 0.12%, and 0.03% of the corresponding typical natural concentrations in soil [L4].

23. The main pathways through which the populations living around coal-fired power plants are exposed to enhanced levels of natural radionuclides are inhalation during the passage of the cloud, and external irradiation, inhalation and ingestion resulting from the activity deposited on the ground.

24. The collective dose commitments due to inhalation during the passage of the cloud have been roughly estimated as follows. Assuming that there is no decay during the atmospheric transport, all the activity released A_o (Bq) will eventually be deposited on a surface S (m²). The average activity density is A_o/S (Bq m⁻²) and corresponds to an integrated atmospheric concentration at ground level of A_o/S v_d (Bq s m⁻³), where v_d is the deposition velocity. The collective dose commitment M^c_q in organ or tissue q is given by:

$$M_{q}^{c} = \frac{A_{o}}{v_{d}S} S\delta_{N} B \frac{D_{q}}{I_{ih}}$$
(2)

where $v_d = 10^{-2}$ m s⁻¹, value which takes into account both dry and wet deposition; $S\delta_N$ is the population affected, which is the product of the area of the deposition region S and of the population density δ_N , assumed to be uniform and equal to 10-4 m-2 around the plant. The areal dependence is removed by the product of the quantities A_0/v_dS and $S\delta_N$; B is the individual adult breathing rate, taken to be equal to 2.3 10-4 m³ s⁻¹; D_{a}/I_{ih} is the committed absorbed dose in organ or tissue q per unit activity inhaled (Gy Bq⁻¹). In this assessment, the values adopted have been derived from those calculated by Jacobi [J7] using a quality factor of 20 for α particles (Table 5). These figures were estimated assuming that the radionuclide content of the particles was 80% insoluble and 20% soluble and using ICRP dosimetry [I6]. No account is taken of the possible reduction of the atmospheric concentration indoors.

25. This method was used to calculate the collective dose commitments during the passage of the cloud for most of the natural radionuclides, one notable exception being ²²²Rn and its short-lived decay products. In that case, the activity A_o of radon distributed over a surface S of land was compared to the quotient of the atmospheric concentration and of the natural emanation rate for ²²²Rn. One obtains

$$M_{q}^{c} = \frac{A_{o}}{S} \frac{1.8 (Bq m^{-3})}{2 10^{-2} (Bq m^{-2} s^{-1})} S\delta_{N} B \frac{D_{q}}{I_{ih}}$$
(3)

where A_0 is the activity of ²²²Rn daughters associated with the release of ²²²Rn (the equilibrium factor

between ²²²Rn and its daughters is taken to be 0.6); 1.8 Bq m⁻³ is the average outdoor equilibrium equivalent concentration of ²²²Rn over land and 2 10⁻² Bq m² s⁻¹ is the average emanation rate of ²²²Rn (see Annex D); as in the previous paragraph, the values of δ_N and B are taken to be equal to 10⁻⁴ m⁻² and 2.3 10⁻⁴ m³ s⁻¹, respectively; the values of D_q/I_{ih} are derived from Annex D and presented in Table 5.

26. The collective dose commitments due to inhalation during the passage of the cloud, as estimated by the methods described above, are presented in Table 6 for the most important radionuclides discharged into the atmosphere as a consequence of the production of 1 GW a of electrical energy by coal-fired power plants. The corresponding effective dose equivalent commitments are also included in Table 6. The doses due to inhalation of ²²⁰Rn and its decay products, estimated in a similar way, are found to be about 1000 times smaller than those from ²²²Rn and its decay products; they have been neglected here. Finally, the doses from ⁴⁰K were not calculated because of the homeostatic control by potassium in the body.

27. The collective dose commitments incurred after deposition can be very crudely evaluated by comparison with the natural soil activity concentrations and the corresponding annual absorbed doses in tissues given in Annex B. Assuming that the deposited activity becomes unavailable to the vegetation with a mean life of 100 years for all the natural long-lived radionuclides, and that only the upper 30 cm of soil are involved in the uptake of radionuclides by vegetation, the collective dose commitments per unit energy generated, M_q^c , due to deposition can be assessed as

$$M_{q}^{c} = \frac{A_{o} \dot{D}_{q} \delta_{N} \tau}{h C}$$
(4)

where A_o is the activity associated with the release of a given radionuclide: \dot{D}_q is the natural dose rate in organ or tissue q due to the radionuclide under consideration; δ_N is the population density; τ is the mean life of the long-lived natural radionuclides in soil taken to be 100 years; h is the thickness of soil involved, expressed as mass per unit area (assumed to be 500 kg m⁻²); and C is the natural concentration of the nuclide in the soil. In the case of the short-lived radionuclides, especially the isotopes of radon and their daughters, the major contribution to the source term $A_o\tau$ arises from the decay of their long-lived precursors in soil.

The collective dose commitments per unit energy 28. generated obtained in this way are presented in Table 7 for external and internal irradiation. It should be noted that the values chosen for \dot{D}_q correspond to the assumption that the contaminated soils and rocks will not be used as components of the building materials. With respect to internal irradiation, the fly-ash particles have been assumed to behave physically and chemically in the same manner as the soil particles, even though the fly-ash particles, being in a vitrified form, are highly insoluble. On the other hand, the doses resulting from direct deposition on vegetation and foodcrops have not been taken into account. The collective effective dose equivalent commitments corresponding to the collective dose commitments presented in Table 7 have also been calculated; they are included in Table 7.

29. The conversion of the collective dose commitments into collective effective dose equivalent commitments allows a better evaluation of the impact of the various radionuclides and of the various pathways. Table 8 summarizes the collective effective dose equivalent commitments arising from the atmospheric discharges of coal-fired power plants. The production of one gigawatt year of electrical energy is estimated to lead to a total collective effective dose equivalent commitment of 2 man Sv. Inhalation during the cloud passage and internal irradiation due to the activity deposited are found to contribute significantly to the total collective effective dose equivalent commitment. The predominant radionuclides are the isotopes of thorium with regard to inhalation during the cloud passage and ²¹⁰Pb and the isotopes of radon with respect to internal irradiation due to the activity deposited. Assuming that 70% of the coal produced is used by the power utilities and that the combustion of 3 109 kg of coal is necessary to generate 1 GW a, the collective effective dose equivalent commitment resulting from the use of coal in 1979 is estimated to be about 2000 man Sv, on the basis of a world coal production of 3.7 1012 kg [U5].

30. The specific activity of ¹⁴C in the atmosphere will decrease as a result of the airborne release from coalfired power plants, thus leading to "negative" collective dose commitments. The Committee has not calculated a numerical value to this effect.

31. Annual individual effective dose equivalents resulting from inhalation during the cloud passage have been estimated. Assuming an effective stack height of 100 m and a uniform wind rose, the annual average of the ground level air concentration per unit release rate experiences a maximum of about 4 10-8 Bq m-3 per Bq s⁻¹ at approximately 1 km from the stack [C6]. On the basis of the activity discharged per unit energy produced given in Table 4 and of the effective dose equivalents per unit activity inhaled presented in Table 5, the annual effective dose equivalent resulting from inhalation during the cloud passage would be about $5\,\mu\text{Sv}$ for an individual of the critical group living around a coal-fired power plant producing one GW of electrical power. The annual effective dose equivalents due to ingestion and external irradiation could be of about the same importance [J7].

C. OTHER SOURCES OF RADIATION EXPO-SURE RESULTING FROM THE USE OF COAL

32. In the coal fuel cycle, radiation exposures above the natural background are expected to occur mainly when coal has been converted into ash. The production of ash was reported to be 107 tons in 1973 in at least four countries: German Democratic Republic, Federal Republic of Germany, Poland and the United States [G11]. Most fly-ash is pumped as a water slurry to settling ponds but some of it, amounting to more than 35% of the production in Belgium, Finland, France and the Federal Republic of Germany [G11], is used in a variety of applications, the largest of which is the manufacture of cement and concrete. Some concretes contain 80% of fly-ash [T2]. Other major uses are as road stabilizers, light-weight aggregates, road fill, and in asphalt mix [M6]. Fly-ash is also used to some extent in agriculture to improve soils [F7, J4]. All those utilizations of ash might lead to increased radiation exposures but very little has been published in this field.

33. Outside of the coal fuel cycle, the combustion of coal for various purposes results in airborne discharges

that have received very little attention. The use of coal for cooking and heating in private homes may lead to high collective dose commitments as the chimneys are low and not equipped with ash removal systems, and as the population densities around the sources of emission are high. Assuming that 5% of the coal produced and that 50% of the resulting ash escapes to the atmosphere means that domestic heating contributes about equally with power production, where 70% of the coal produced releases 2.5% of the ash. The further assumption that the population density around the houses is 10⁴ km⁻² leads to a collective effective dose equivalent commitment due to the world-wide use of coal in 1979 that is very roughly estimated to be of the order of 10⁵ man Sv.

II. RADIATION EXPOSURES DUE TO GEOTHERMAL ENERGY PRODUCTION

34. Geothermal energy is produced in Iceland, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, the USSR and the United States. At the present time, it accounts for only 0.1% of the world's energy production [U5] but its relative importance may grow in the future as the potential resources of geothermal energy are believed to be very large. In geothermal energy extraction, use is made of hot steam or water derived from high-temperature rocks deep inside the earth. The geothermal fluids carry natural radionuclides and especially 222Rn, which is discharged into the atmosphere. From measurements of ²²²Rn activity concentrations in the hot stream used in three Italian power plants, the ²²²Rn annual releases have been estimated to be 110 TBq from the 400 MW Larderello plant, 7.0 TBq from the 15 MW plant at Piancastagnaio, and 1.5 TBq from the 3 MW plant at Bagnore [M13]. These figures point to an average ²²²Rn atmospheric discharge per unit energy generated of about 400 TBq per GW a. The corresponding collective effective dose equivalent commitment per unit energy generated is estimated to be about 6 man Sv per GW a if the assumptions used for the discharges from coalfired power plants are applied. It is recalled that these assumptions are: equilibrium factor of 0.6 between ²²²Rn and its short-lived decay products; population density of 100 km⁻² around the plant; effective dose equivalent per unit activity inhaled of 1.3 10-8 Sv Bq-1; indoor concentrations equal to the outdoor concentrations.

35. Annual individual effective dose equivalents resulting from inhalation of short-lived decay products of 222 Rn have also been estimated. Assuming, as in the case of discharges from coal-fired power plants. an effective stack height of 100 m and an annual average of the ground level air concentration per unit release rate of 4 10⁻⁸ Bq m⁻³ per Bq s⁻¹ at 1 km from the stack, the annual effective dose equivalent resulting from atmospheric 222 Rn discharges would be about 3 10⁻⁵ Sv for an individual of the critical group living around a geothermal plant of 1 GW of electrical power. It is to be noted that the existing geothermal plants have a lower power, resulting in correspondingly lower estimates of annual effective dose equivalents.

III. RADIATION EXPOSURES DUE TO THE EXPLOITATION OF PHOSPHATE ROCK

36. Rock phosphate is used extensively, mainly as a source of phosphorus for fertilizers. The world

production of phosphate rock was about 1.3 10^{11} kg in 1977, the main producers being Morocco, the Soviet Union and the United States [U1]. Table 9 presents average activity concentrations of natural radionuclides in phosphate rock from all major phosphate-producing areas of the world. Sedimentary phosphate ores, such as those found in Florida and Morocco, tend to have high concentrations of uranium, whereas magmatic ores, such as apatite from Kola, do not. Typical activity concentrations of 238 U are 1500 Bq kg⁻¹ in sedimentary phosphate deposits and 70 Bq kg⁻¹ in apatite. Uranium-238 is generally found in radioactive equilibrium with its decay products. The activity concentrations of 232 Th and of 40 K in sedimentary phosphate rock are much lower than those of 238 U, and comparable to those observed normally in soil.

37. Mining and processing phosphate ores redistribute ²³⁸U and its decay products among the various products', by-products and wastes of the phosphate industry. Effluent discharges into the environment as well as the use of phosphate fertilizers in agriculture and of by-products in the building industry are possible sources of exposure to the public. This section deals mainly with the phosphates of sedimentary origin, as they are the most commonly found and the most likely to lead to enhanced radiation exposures.

A. DOSES ARISING FROM EFFLUENT DISCHARGES

38. Effluent discharges into the environment have been reported for a phosphate rock processing plant and two phosphoric acid production plants [P4], as well as for one uranium recovery plant [D2].

1. Effluents from phosphate rock processing operations

39. The preparation of phosphate rock generally involves strip mining to obtain ore, beneficiation to remove impurities, drying to remove moisture, and grinding to improve reactivity. The major airborne emissions occur in the form of fine rock dust from drying and grinding operations [P4]. The 1976 atmospheric discharges from an ore drying facility in Florida [P4] were about 250 MBq of ²³⁸U, in radioactive equilibrium with its decay products down to ²²⁶Ra (Table 10). Since that facility processed about 2.7 109 kg of wet phosphate rock in the same year, the atmospheric discharges of ²³⁸U correspond to approximately 90 Bq per tonne of processed phosphate rock. The atmospheric releases of 222Rn have not been reported; assuming a ²²⁶Ra activity concentration in phosphate ore of 1500 Bq kg⁻¹ and, conservatively, a 100% release of ²²²Rn, they would amount to 1.5 106 Bq per tonne of processed phosphate rock.

40. During the beneficiation process, marketable rock is separated from sand tailings and clay slimes. These materials are produced in a 1:1:1 ratio. Clay slimes have about the same activity content as marketable rock whereas sand tailings are much less active. Mined-out areas are used in Florida for the disposal of sand tailings and slimes [M4]. Several Florida slime ponds have discharges to the environment. Although no chemical process is used to treat the discharges from the slime ponds, the measured activity concentrations of ²²⁶Ra in liquid effluents were all found to be less than 100 Bq m⁻³. The reduction of total ²²⁶Ra from the raw slime to the effluent, primarily due to the removal of suspended solids by settling, ranged from 92% to greater than 99.9% [M4]. Table 10 presents the ranges in ²²⁶Ra activity concentration measured in the dissolved and in the undissolved fraction of the slime and of the effluent in seven mines and beneficiation plants in Florida [G4]. No information appears to be available to the Committee on the actual volume of liquid discharges from those plants.

2. Effluents from phosphoric acid plants

41. Phosphoric acid is produced by two principal methods, the wet process and the thermal process. In the wet process method, usually employed for the production of fertilizers, sulphuric acid is mixed with ground phosphate rock; the subsequent reaction results in the production of phosphoric acid and gypsum: $10 \text{ H}_2 \text{ SO}_4 + \text{Ca}_{10} \text{ F}_2 (\text{PO}_4)_6 + 20 \text{ H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 10 \text{ Ca SO}_4$. $2 \text{ H}_2\text{O} + 2 \text{ HF} + 6 \text{ H}_3 \text{ PO}_4$. In the reaction, radium is coprecipitated with the gypsum, while uranium and thorium follow the phosphorus into the acid, which is then used to manufacture various fertilizer products. Table 11 presents the estimated distribution of some natural radionuclides among various products of the phosphate industry, in the United States, along with the quantities involved [G5].

42. Apart from gaseous fluorides, which are not radioactive, the airborne effluents of wet phosphoric acid plants consist of dust resulting from the transferring of phosphate rock within the plant. Estimates of the airborne discharges from two wet process phosphoric acid plants located in Florida are given in Table 10 [P4]. The estimated releases, which are based on the measurement of the total particulate emissions and of the total activity concentrations of natural radionuclides in the raw products, are about 100 times higher in plant B than in plant A. However, a stack sampling survey, conducted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency to measure the actual emissions from selected stacks at each facility, showed that the releases from plant B were probably overestimated [P4]. On the basis of information contained in reference [P4] and on the chemical reaction given above, the throughput of marketable ore in plant A and in plant B has been assessed to be about 1.2 109 kg. The atmospheric releases of ²²²Rn have not been reported; assuming a ²²⁶Ra activity concentration in phosphate ore of 1500 Bq kg-1 and, very conservatively, a 100% ²²²Rn release, they would amount to 1.5 106 Bq per tonne of phosphate ore.

43. Each wet process phosphoric acid plant in Florida incorporates a large cooling pond (about 2 km²) of contaminated water for recycle in the facility. During periods of excess rainfall, it becomes necessary to discharge water from these ponds to nearby streams [M4]. Raw process water has a pH of 1.5–2.0 and contains 74 000 Bq m⁻³ of ²³⁸U [G4, M4]. The United States Environmental Protection Agency permits for phosphoric acid plants usually stipulate an acceptable pH range of 6–9 for treated effluent. To accomplish this, slaked lime is normally added. This chemical treatment is highly effective in removing natural radionuclides from the raw process water, as shown in Table 10. No quantitative information on the actual discharges appears to be available to the Committee.

44. In the thermal process normally used for highgrade acid and phosphates, coke and silica are added to phosphate rock in an electric furnace. The chemical reaction at high temperature produces elemental phosphorus, which is relatively free of radioactivity, and several by-products among which calcium silicate slag, which carries the bulk of the activity initially contained in the phosphate rock, and ferrophosphorus are the most important [B4, G4, M14]. The smelting of the ore results in ²¹⁰Po and other volatile radioactive material releases [B4]. Actual airborne discharges are not available.

3. Effluents from uranium recovery operations

45. Various processes have been suggested for recovering uranium from phosphate rock [R2, R3]. The plants already existing or being designed for construction in central Florida employ solvent extraction of uranium from phosphoric acid produced at a new process phosphoric acid plant [D2].

46. Annual airborné discharges (Table 10) from a commercial uranium recovery plant in Florida have been estimated to be about 400 MBq of 238 U on the basis of limited measurements [D2]. The major contribution to atmospheric radioactive releases was found to occur in the drumming building; the material released was uranium with natural isotopic composition. The production rate of the plant was about 50 tonnes of uranium per year, corresponding to approximately 4 10⁵ tonnes of marketable phosphate rock.

4. Environmental concentrations and doses

47. As the heights of atmospheric releases are in general less than 50 m above ground level, surface air measurements in the vicinity of the plants usually show the presence of enhanced concentrations of natural radionuclides.

48. Air activity concentrations of 238 U, 226 Ra, and 230 Th were found to be about 200 μ Bq m⁻³ at approximately 400 m from the ore drying plant investigated [P4]. In comparison, the average background activity concentrations in the area are about 15 μ Bq m⁻³.

49. Smaller increases were observed around the two wet process phosphoric acid plants. Average concentrations of about 30 μ Bq m⁻³ of ²³⁸U, ²²⁶Ra, and ²³⁰Th were measured at approximately 1000 m from the plants [P4].

50. In Idaho, at about 800 m downwind from two adjacent phosphate plants, a wet process plant and a thermal process plant, the annual average gross alpha surface air activity concentration was about 700 μ Bq m⁻³ in 1974 [B4]. Most of this activity is attributed to ²¹⁰Po.

51. The main pathways through which the populations living around those plants are exposed to enhanced levels of natural radionuclides are inhalation during the passage of the cloud, and external irradiation, inhalation and ingestion resulting from the activity deposited on the ground. The collective dose commitments corresponding to those pathways have been roughly estimated using the methods already described in paragraphs 24-28 for airborne discharges from coal-fired power plants. 52. The collective dose commitments due to inhalation of all radionuclides except ²²²Rn and its short-lived decay products are expressed in the form

$$M_{q}^{c} = \frac{A_{o}}{v_{d}} \delta_{N} B \frac{D_{q}}{I_{ih}}$$
(5)

where A_o is the annual release (Bq); B is the breathing rate, taken to be equal to 2.3 10⁻⁴ m³ s⁻¹ for an adult; $v_d = 10^{-2}$ m s⁻¹; δ_N , the human population density, is assumed to be uniform and equal to 100 km⁻² around the plant; D_q/I_{ih} is the committed absorbed dose in organ or tissue q per unit intake (Gy Bq⁻¹). The values adopted for D_q/I_{ih} are those of Table 5, related to emissions from coal-fired power plants.

53. Regarding inhalation of 222 Rn and its short-lived decay products, the expression used is

$$M_{q}^{c} = \frac{1.8 (Bq m^{-3})}{2 10^{-2} (Bq m^{-2} s^{-1})} A_{o} \delta_{N} B \frac{D_{q}}{I_{ih}}$$
(6)

where A_0 is the activity of ²²²Rn daughters associated with the release of ²²²Rn (the equilibrium factor between ²²²Rn and its daughters is taken to be 0.6).

54. The estimated collective dose commitments due to inhalation during the passage of the cloud are presented in Table 12 for some of the radionuclides discharged into the atmosphere as a consequence of processing one tonne of phosphate ore. The radionuclides considered are those for which discharge data have been measured or derived from measurements (see Table 10 and paragraphs 39, 42 and 46).

55. The collective dose commitments incurred after deposition (external irradiation and internal irradiation arising from inhalation of resuspended or emanated material and ingestion of contaminated foodstuffs) can be roughly evaluated by comparison with the natural soil activity concentrations and the corresponding dose rates. As in the case of the airborne discharges from coal-fired power plants (see paragraphs 26 and 27), the expression used is

$$M_{q}^{c} = \frac{A_{o} \dot{D}_{q} \delta_{N} \tau}{h C}$$
(7)

where A_o is the activity associated with the release of a given radionuclide; \dot{D}_q is the natural dose rate in organ or tissue q due to the radionuclide under consideration; τ is the mean life of the long-lived natural radionuclides in soil, taken to be 100 years; h is the thickness of soil involved, expressed as mass per unit area (assumed to be 500 kg m⁻²); and C is the natural concentration of the nuclide in the soil. The collective dose commitments per unit mass of marketable ore processed obtained in this way are presented in Table 13.

B. DOSES ARISING FROM THE USE OF PHOSPHATE FERTILIZERS

56. The world production of phosphate fertilizers was approximately $3 \ 10^{10}$ kg of P_2O_5 in 1977 [U1]. Assuming that the activity distribution given in Table 11 holds on a global basis, the mass of marketable rock necessary to produce such an amount of phosphate fertilizers was about 10^{11} kg, which is approximately three-quarters of the world production of marketable ore in that year (1.3 10^{11} kg).

57. The application rate of fertilizers depends inter alia on the type of soil and on the type of crop. The average consumption of phosphate fertilizer per hectare of agricultural land varied in 1977 from 0.9 kg P_2O_5 for the African continent to 37.6 kg P_2O_5 for Europe, the world average being 6.3 kg P_2O_5 [F3]. The amounts of fertilizer applied annually by crop in the United States have been reported to range from about 30 kg P_2O_5 per hectare for barley, wheat and oats to about 150 kg P_2O_5 per hectare for potatoes and tobacco [N4].

58. Measured activity concentrations of naturallyoccurring radionuclides in phosphate fertilizers from several countries are summarized in Table 14. With the exception of basic slag (a by-product of the manufacture of steel), all the fertilizers considered in Table 14 are derived from phosphate ore processing. For a given radionuclide and type of fertilizer, the concentrations vary markedly from one country to the other, depending on the origin of the components. Relatively high concentrations of ²³⁸U are observed or should be expected when the phosphate ore is of sedimentary origin, while low concentrations are associated with ore of magmatic origin.

59. The degree of radioactive equilibrium between 238 U and its decay products depends on the type of manufacturing process used and more specifically on the relative contribution of phosphoric acid in the endproduct, since phosphoric acid has usually a very low content of 226 Ra. The lack of equilibrium between 238 U and 226 Ra is particularly clear for triple superphosphates and ammonium phosphates. Other general features that can be observed in Table 14 are that the concentrations of 232 Th are always low; with the exception of the potassium fertilizers, the concentrations of potassium (and thus 40 K) are also generally low; that the concentrations of 226 Ra do not exceed 1000 Bq kg⁻¹; and that 210 Pb and 210 Po are generally close to radioactive equilibrium with 226 Ra.

60. Phosphate fertilizers contribute to the external radiation exposure of persons occupationally handling phosphates and of members of the public. Through the contamination of foodstuffs, they also contribute to internal irradiation of mankind.

61. Pfister and Pauly [P7] have estimated the external radiation exposure of members of the public and of the small group of persons working in production, transport, storage and application of rock phosphates and phosphate fertilizers in the Federal Republic of Germany. With regard to the dispersal of phosphate fertilizers in agricultural areas, they assessed the average addition to the soil activity in 1977-1978 at 17 Bq m⁻² of ²³⁸U, 11 Bq m⁻² of ²²⁶Ra, 7.4 Bq m⁻² of ²³²Th and 150 Bq m-2 of 40K. Assuming an accumulation of ²²⁶Ra in the soil during the last 80 years, a mean additional absorbed dose rate in air of about 8 10-4 μ Gy h⁻¹ was calculated. Fertilizer application therefore results in a fairly small increase of the external radiation exposure over natural background which, on average, is 0.05 μ Gy h⁻¹ (see Annex B). In contrast, the occupational radiation exposure of individuals can be much higher. Pfister and Pauly [P7] measured mean additional absorbed dose rates in air ranging from 0.02 to 0.23 µGy h⁻¹ for various transport and loading operations and peak values of 0.8 µGy h⁻¹. In agricultural storehouses, they measured a mean additional absorbed dose rate in air of 0.09 μ Gy h⁻¹. It is possible, however, that inhalation of fertilizer dust might lead to higher doses.

62. A slight increase in the concentrations of natural radionuclides of the ²³⁸U series is also expected to occur in food crops grown on soils supplied with high amounts of phosphate fertilizers. Kirchmann et al. [K5] measured the ²²⁶Ra activity concentration in straw and grain of wheat harvested in plots fertilized for 11 years with controlled amounts of phosphate fertilizers. There was no significant difference in the ²²⁶Ra concentrations of wheat harvested in the plots fertilized at high levels (1356 kg P2O5 per hectare) or at low levels (343 kg P2O5 per hectare). However, the ²²⁶Ra soil contamination resulting from the application of phosphate fertilizers represented respectively only 1.08% and 0.25% of ²²⁶Ra activity of natural origin observed in the upper layer of soil [K5]. The small relative contribution of the ²²⁶Ra content in the fertilizer to the natural ²²⁶Ra content in the soil, combined with the fact that the fertilizer was homogeneously mixed in the soil, is likely to have precluded experimental evidence of an increased ²²⁶Ra concentration in wheat. Other tests with fertilizers labelled with ²²⁶Ra have shown that the radionuclide uptake by plants is practically the same whether it is included in fertilizer or in soil structures [D5].

63. However, foodstuffs may be contaminated to a greater extent if, for example, fertilizers are applied in liquid form on the soil surface or if phosphate products are used to feed animals. Phosphate products are extensively used as a source of phosphorus in livestock feed supplements. Activity concentrations of 226 Ra in livestock feed supplements have been measured in the United States to range from 7 to 1600 Bq kg⁻¹ [R5], which is consistent with the values presented in Table 14 for phosphate fertilizers. An assessment of the transfer to milk of 226 Ra ingested by dairy cows in their feed supplements showed that the maximum 226 Ra concentration in milk would be about 25 Bq m⁻³, to be compared with "normal" concentrations of 3 to 10 Bq m⁻³ [R5].

64. The collective dose commitments arising from the decision to use one tonne of marketable ore to produce phosphate fertilizer can be crudely estimated with the method used in paragraph 55. According to the data presented in Table 11, one tonne of marketable rock produces 0.54 tonne of fertilizer. On the basis of the results presented in Table 14, the average activity concentrations of natural radionuclides in phosphate fertilizers are taken to be 600 Bq kg-1 for 238U, 234U and ²³⁰Th, and 400 Bq kg⁻¹ for ²²⁶Ra and for each of its decay products. Therefore, one tonne of marketable ore is estimated to produce 0.54 tonne of phosphate fertilizers containing about 3 105 Bq of 238U and 2 105 Bq of ²²⁶Ra and of each of its decay products. The activity concentrations of ⁴⁰K and of the radionuclides of the ²³²Th series are generally low and the corresponding doses have been neglected.

65. Assuming that the ploughed layer of soil is 30 cm deep; the availability to plants of natural radionuclides is the same whether in fertilizer or in the normal constituents of the soil; the deposited activity becomes unavailable to the vegetation with a mean life of 100 years for the long-lived natural radionuclides; and the fraction of time spent by the populations exposed on, or near, fertilized fields is 1%; then the collective dose commitments per unit mass of marketable rock arising from external irradiation and from internal irradiation (resuspension and emanation from soil and ingestion of contaminated foodstuffs) may be calculated as in Table 15.

C. DOSES ARISING FROM THE USE OF BY-PRODUCTS AND WASTES

66. The main by-products resulting from processing phosphate ore in phosphoric acid plants are gypsum (or phosphogypsum) in wet process plants and calcium silicate slag in the thermal process plants. Radiation exposure to members of the public can occur if those by-products are used in the building industry. Another source of exposure stems from the reclamation of land on which phosphate mining has been completed and houses have been allowed to be built.

67. Large quantities of phosphogypsum are produced in the wet process phosphoric acid plants. The annual world production of phosphogypsum was approximately 9 10¹⁰ kg in 1974, which is greater than the production of natural gypsum [F4]. As shown in Table 11, the mass of phosphogypsum produced is about the same as that of the phosphate ore processed and the bulk of the ²²⁶Ra content of the phosphate ore is transferred to phosphogypsum. The average activity concentration of ²²⁶Ra in phosphogypsum was taken to be about 900 Bq kg⁻¹ in Annex B of the 1977 report [U2].

68. Phosphogypsum can replace natural gypsum in the building industry and thus be used to make blocks and plaster board, partition systems and also cement [N5, O2, O3]. The practice of using this waste product has been considered attractive, since overall building costs are reduced, natural resources are preserved, and environmental pollution is decreased. On the other hand, since phosphogypsum contains a much higher concentration of 226 Ra than its natural counterpart, its use increases the radiation doses to the public.

69. Japan was the first country to employ phosphogypsum for construction purposes in 1934 [S4]. In 1974, approximately 3 10^9 kg of phosphogypsum was used in Japan in the construction industry, half of it as setting controller for cement. The use of phosphogypsum for plaster, plasterboard and building blocks has gained importance throughout the world [S4].

70. O'Riordan et al. [U2] estimated the additional doses that would be received by the occupants of a residential building in which 4.2 tonnes of by-product gypsum (considered to be a high, but realistic amount) would have replaced the established materials. Assuming the 226 Ra concentration of phosphogypsum to be 900 Bq kg⁻¹, they estimated the additional absorbed dose rate in air to be 0.07 μ Gy h⁻¹, and the additional radon concentration, using a ventilation rate of 1 h⁻¹, to be about 10 Bq m⁻³.

71. If it is assumed that all the phosphogypsum produced by 1 tonne of marketable ore is used in the building industry, that on the average four persons live in the dwellings so constructed, and that the mean life of the dwelling is 50 a, the whole-body collective dose commitments due to external irradiation can be evaluated from the estimates provided by O'Riordan et al. [O2], to be about 0.02 man Gy t⁻¹. Assuming that the equilibrium factor between radon and its short-lived decay products is 0.6, the collective effective dose equivalent commitments arising from indoor inhalation would also be about 0.02 man Sv t⁻¹.

72. It should be indicated that phosphogypsum is also used in agriculture as an amendment to improve water movement in saline-alkaline soils and may also be substituted for limestone or lime to supply calcium to alkaline soils [L3]. Owing to the low solubility of Ra SQ4 and to the effect of the presence of calcium, the 226 Ra soil-plant transfer coefficient for plants grown on phosphogypsum-treated soils should be smaller than under "normal" conditions [L3].

73. Calcium silicate slag is a by-product of phosphate ore processing by the thermal process. With the exception of 210 Po, which is driven off during smelting, the measured concentrations of the natural radio-nuclides of the 238 U series were found to be about the same in the phosphate ore and in the slag [B4, G4, P5].

74. In Idaho, about 2.4 10⁹ kg of slag are produced each year [B4]. Measured activity concentrations in slag samples are 1300-1500 Bq kg-1 of 226Ra, 740 Bq kg-1 of ²³⁰Th and 1000 Bq kg⁻¹ of ²³⁸U. About one-tenth of this product is sold to slag crushing operations that market the material for railroad ballast, asphalt, concrete, and other uses. In that way, about 800 GBq of ²²⁶Ra was distributed into the environment in the areas of Pocatello and Soda Springs in 1974. The number of structures and dwellings constructed with slag in concrete is estimated to be approximately 150. Gamma surveys were conducted in Soda Springs and Pocatello. Above asphalt containing slag, the average external gamma absorbed dose rate in air was found to be about 0.08 μ Gy h⁻¹ above background, the maximum level being approximately 0.3 µGy h⁻¹. The preliminary results from the indoor survey indicate that the gamma absorbed dose rate in air can also be as high as $0.3 \mu Gy$ h-1 above background in dwellings constructed with 43% by weight slags in concrete slabs [B4]. In comparison, the average gamma absorbed dose rate in air received indoors is estimated as 0.06 μ Gy h⁻¹ in Annex B.

75. In Canada, about 21 000 tonnes of slag arising from a thermal process plant using Florida phosphate rock as input feed has been crushed and used in roadbeds, laneways, backfill around basements, and as a base for concrete floors in basements of dwellings [M14]. Measurements of slag samples indicated a ²²⁶Ra activity concentration of 2150 Bq kg-1. A gamma survey was conducted inside homes with slag and without slag. For 24 dwellings with slag, the average absorbed dose rate in air was 0.12 μ Gy h⁻¹ with a standard deviation of 0.04 μ Gy h⁻¹. The range of values observed was 0.07 to 0.21 µGy h-1 (excluding two houses in which crushed slag had been spread over the basement excavation to form an unfinished floor, resulting in measured absorbed dose rates in air of 0.33 and 0.54 µGy h⁻¹, respectively). By comparison, the average absorbed dose rate in air for 54 homes without slag was 0.09 μ Gy h⁻¹, with a standard deviation of 0.02 μ Gy h⁻¹ and a range of 0.05 to 1.5 µGy h⁻¹. Thus the use of slag has led to an apparent increase of 0.033 μ Gy h⁻¹. This difference is, however, not statistically significant because of the standard deviations given above [M14].

76. A similar situation has been discovered to occur in Florida [A2]. Approximately 250 000 tonnes of slag are used each year for paving roads, as ballast, as material for railroad beds, and for house roofing material. An investigation was conducted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency [A2].

77. Residents in structures built on "reclaimed" Florida phosphate land may also be exposed to enhanced radiation doses. About 600 km² of Florida land have been mined for phosphate rock in the last 80 years. Of that amount, about 200 km² have been reclaimed to various degrees. It is estimated that 4000 structures may be built on phosphate lands in central Florida [R6]. Absorbed dose rates in air were measured in and out of 672 structures built on reclaimed land, The average absorbed dose rate in air was found to be 0.092 μ Gy h⁻¹ outdoors, the highest one 0.35 μ Gy h⁻¹ [G7, G8]. By comparison, the natural background outside the phosphate area is approximately $0.05 \mu Gy$ h-1. The indoor levels reflected the degree of floor shielding present in the various structure categories. Absorbed dose rates in air in excess of 0.17 µGy h⁻¹ were only observed in crawl space and trailer constructions, which have either wood or thin metal flooring [G7]. The equilibrium equivalent radon concentration in houses ranged from 4 to 500 Bq m-3 with a weighted average of about 40 Bq m⁻³ which is estimated to be 26 Bq m⁻³ above normal concentrations in houses of that area. This average additional concentration results in an annual effective dose equivalent of approximately 1.6 mSv.

D. RECAPITULATION

78. Table 16 summarizes the radiation exposures due to the exploitation of phosphate rock, expressed in terms of collective effective dose equivalent commitments resulting from the decision of using a unit mass of marketable ore to accomplish a defined purpose. The most important natural radionuclides have been taken into account.

79. The impact from one year of phosphate ore processing has been very crudely estimated on the basis of the following data and assumptions:

- (a) The world production of marketable rock is 1.3 10¹¹ kg in a typical year;
- (b) All the marketable ore is processed in ore drying plants;
- (c) Seventy per cent of the marketable ore production is used to prepare phosphate fertilizers;
- (d) With regard to the wet process phosphoric acid plant, the results relative to plant A (see Tables 12 and 13, and paragraph 42) are adopted;
- (e) Ten per cent of the by-product gypsum is used as building material in dwellings.

80. On the basis of these assumptions, the collective effective dose equivalent commitment resulting from the 1977 production of phosphate rock is estimated to be about 3 10^5 man Sv; by far, the most important contribution to the total dose is due to the use of by-product gypsum in dwellings. The total of the other contributions to the collective effective dose equivalent commitment is only about 6000 man Sv.

IV. ENHANCED INDOOR EXPOSURES

81. Indoor exposures result mainly from external irradiation and from inhalation of radon decay products. The general aspects of indoor exposures are discussed in Annexes B and D. This section deals essentially with elevated indoor exposures. High external irradiation rates usually arise from high concentrations of natural radionuclides (especially ²²⁶Ra) in building materials and in soil. Elevated concentrations of radon decay products may be due to the same reasons or to high radon influx from the soil, or to high radon concentrations in water or natural gas used in homes.

82. Building materials. As exemplified in Table 17, the use of some building materials may lead to elevated indoor radiation levels. The building materials may be of natural origin, such as pumice stone (Federal Republic of Germany and the USSR), concrete containing alum shale (Sweden), lithoid tuff (Italy), and granite wherever it is used. They may also result from industrial processes. In the non-uranium industries, the use of phosphogypsum and of calcium silicate slag, two by-products of the phosphate industry have already been discussed. Other by-products that were shown to contain relatively high concentrations of naturally-occurring radionuclides were red mud, a waste product of aluminium mills, and blast furnace slag, a by-product of iron manufacture [K7].

83. In its basic radiation standards, the National Commission of Radiation Protection of the USSR [K8] used a dosimetric relationship. If the concentrations of ⁴⁰K, ²²⁶Ra and ²³²Th, expressed in Bq kg⁻¹, in materials made of industrial wastes satisfy the expression

$$\frac{C({}^{40}K)}{4810} + \frac{C({}^{226}Ra)}{370} + \frac{C({}^{232}Th)}{259} \le 1$$
(8)

it was estimated that the increase over background of the gonad absorbed dose indoors from external irradiation is less than 1.5 mGy in a year. In comparison, the average absorbed dose in all tissues received indoors from external irradiation of terrestrial origin is assessed as 0.3 mGy in a year in Annex B. The measurements of activity concentrations of naturally-occurring radionuclides in building materials in the Soviet Union [K8] showed that only a few materials would not satisfy the expression given above, while in the Federal Republic of Germany it was found that 12% of the analysed samples would exceed that limit [K7].

84. It should be pointed out that the average absorbed dose rates in air measured in buildings using these materials are much lower than what would be expected from the radioactive content of the materials considered, because materials usually less active are also used in the same buildings. For example, the average absorbed dose rate derived from measurements carried out in Swedish houses made of aerated concrete containing alum shale is about 0.17 µGy h⁻¹ [M7], while the value given in Table 17, calculated from the activity concentration of radionuclides in that type of concrete, using very pessimistic assumptions, is 1.5 µGy h⁻¹ [S6]. Measurements of radon daughters have been carried out in 32 single-family houses containing a large fraction of concrete based on alum shale in their building materials [S13]. The average equilibrium equivalent concentration of radon in those houses was found to be 260 Bq m-3, corresponding to annual effective dose equivalents of 16 mSv.

85. Waste products of the uranium and radium industry have been used as building materials. In the United States, notably in Grand Junction, Colorado, tailings from uranium mills were used during the period 1952–1966 as fill material under houses and as building materials [U4]. Remedial action was deemed necessary by the national authorities more because of the elevated radon concentrations measured in houses than because of the external radiation doses. The average equilibrium equivalent concentration of radon measured in 47 houses was about 200 Bq m⁻³ [C7]. It is in many cases true that when building materials containing high concentrations of 226 Ra are used in dwellings, the occupants receive a higher effective dose equivalent

rate from inhalation of ²²²Rn and its short-lived decay products than from external irradiation.

86. In the town of Port Hope, Ontario, Canada, another type of problem arose from a plant which had recovered radium in the 1930s and the 1940s from pitchblend-radium-silver ores [S7]. In this particular case, the potential radon problem was not recognized and consequently much contaminated construction and fill material was used in and around the houses in the town. As in the case of Grand Junction, remedial action was deemed necessary by the national authorities.

Radium in soil. In Sweden, areas containing 87. tailings from the alum shale industry have been built on. The radium concentration of the tailings is on average 2900 Bq kg-1 and the outdoor gamma radiation dose rate in air is of the order of 1 µGy h⁻¹ [S14]. In houses, the equilibrium equivalent concentration of radon was found to be 500 Bq m-3 on average [S14], corresponding to annual effective dose equivalents of about 30 mSv. In March Township, Ontario, Canada, 343 houses were surveyed because of the discovery of nearby low-grade uranium deposits. The highest equilibrium equivalent concentration of radon was 700 Bq m⁻³ and the weighted arithmetic average 50 Bq m⁻³ [L5]. This weighted average is estimated to result in annual effective dose equivalents of 3 mSv received indoors.

88. High radon influx from soil. In the Chicago area, United States, high radon concentrations have been found in houses with unpaved crawl spaces while the radium concentration in soil was normal [R9]. In a total of 22 houses investigated, the radon concentration was more than 185 Bg m⁻³ in nine houses and more than 370 Bq m⁻³ in six of these. Most of the radon emanated from the unpaved crawl space under the house. In Sweden, it is estimated that about 75% of the total collective dose caused by inhalation of radon daughters arises from radon emanating from the ground. Houses have been found with more than 10 000 Bg m⁻³ of radon. An equilibrium equivalent concentration of radon of 10 000 Bq m⁻³ is estimated to yield an annual effective dose equivalent of about 600 mSv received indoors.

89. Radon in water. Radon in water may be a significant source of radon in the air in dwellings in many countries. In the region of Helsinki, Finland, very high concentrations of radon in water from deep wells, ranging up to 44 MBq m-3, have been reported [C8]. From measurements of air concentration of radon in 20 houses [A5], it can be derived that the average equilibrium equivalent concentration of radon would be 360 Bq m⁻³ with a maximum value of 1200 Bq m⁻³. In Canada, the area of Castlegar-Trail in British Columbia, was surveyed because of high radon concentrations in water. The weighted average equilibrium equivalent concentration of radon in indoor air was found to be about 70 Bq m-3 while the highest value was 2900 Bq m-3 [L5].

90. Radon in gas. Natural gas containing radon may also be a significant source of radon in indoor air if it is used in unvented appliances. Average radon concentration in natural gas in various distribution lines have been reported to be within the range of 40 to 2000 Bq m^{-3} [J9, W9]. Assuming that natural gas is used in unvented kitchen ranges, the resulting additional indoor air concentrations are estimated to be only about 0.01 to 0.3 Bq m⁻³. 91. In conclusion, enhanced indoor exposures may be due to various reasons and may give rise to high individual doses. More detailed information on the elevated indoor concentrations of radon that have been measured in several countries is provided in Annex D. The collective doses have not been quantified owing to the lack of data on the number of houses involved. Further measurements are required in that field.

V. ENHANCED EXPOSURES TO COSMIC RAYS

A. PASSENGERS IN AIRCRAFT

92. The number of passenger kilometres flown throughout the world in scheduled commercial flights was 9.34 1011 in 1978 [12]. Taking the average speed to be 600 km h^{-1} , a total of about 1.6 10⁹ passenger hours was spent travelling in that year. The dose rates incurred during the flights vary according to the altitude and, to a smaller extent, to the latitude and to the solar activity. Table 18 shows the variation with altitude, from 4 to 20 km, of the dose rate and of the dose equivalent rate averaged over two geomagnetic latitudes and two periods of solar activity [O4]. The altitudes of subsonic flights depend on the type of aircraft used and on the distances covered in a given flight. They could be as low as 2-3 km for short flights and as high as 12 km for intercontinental flights, with intermediate values of 5-10 km for medium-range and continental flights [H2, W1, W2]. Table 18 shows that the dose rate and the dose equivalent rate vary by a factor of 20 between the altitudes of 4 and 12 km. Assuming that the average altitude of commercial flights is 8 km, the average dose rate would be 0.84 μ Gy h^{-1} and the average dose equivalent rate 1.35 μ Sv h^{-1} , yielding a collective effective dose equivalent to the world population of about 2000 man Sv from air transportation in 1978.

93. Supersonic aircraft (SST), which are used on a small scale, fly at altitudes ranging up to 20 km, compared with at most 12 km for standard jet aircraft. Assuming that SSTs fly at an average altitude of 16 km, the average absorbed dose rate would be about 6 μ Gy h⁻¹ (Table 18). Actually, the absorbed dose rates measured on board the commercial SST flights of Air France, averaged over the years 1976–1980, amount to about 5 μ Gy h⁻¹ [P8]. Taking from Table 18 the quotient of the dose equivalent to the absorbed dose to be 1.6 Sv Gy⁻¹, the corresponding dose equivalent rate is about 8 μ Sv h⁻¹.

94. Wallace [W2] calculated absorbed doses to passengers for a round trip, for both subsonic and supersonic transport between various city pairs. Some of these estimates are shown in Table 19. Doses for a round trip in supersonic aircraft are approximately 70% of those for subsonic speeds, because of the shorter flying time. However, the dose rates in supersonic aircraft are about twice as high as in subsonic aircraft. For a round trip across the Atlantic, the tissue absorbed doses in passengers may be estimated to be about 2 10⁻⁵ Gy for an SST and 3 10⁻⁵ Gy for a subsonic aircraft, under average solar conditions,

95. All the dose values given above refer to galactic cosmic rays. There is, in addition, a contribution due to the solar flares. From dose rate values given in the 1972 UNSCEAR report [U6], based on results obtained by

an ICRP working group by averaging the effects of solar flares over the period 1952–1960 [13], the average absorbed dose index rates from solar radiation can be estimated to be 4 10^{-8} Gy h⁻¹ at 12 km and 9 10^{-7} Gy h⁻¹ at 20 km. The average contribution from this source is thus small compared with that from galactic cosmic rays.

96. Although radiation of solar origin does not contribute significantly to the average absorbed dose index rate, during an occasional intense solar flare radiation levels at these altitudes may increase by several orders of magnitude. The giant solar flare events last only for about 10 h and occur a few times in each solar cycle, and therefore are not likely to add significantly to the collective dose of the world population. It is worth mentioning that SST aircraft carry radiation monitors, and the pilots will move the aircraft to lower altitudes when the dose rate reaches a prescribed level.

B. ASTRONAUTS

97. When travelling into space, astronauts are subjected to primary cosmic ray particles, the radiation from solar flares, and also the intense radiation present in the two radiation belts. Savun et al. [S8] have reported measurements in the radiation belts in 1971. Measurements inside a 0.7 g cm⁻² shield indicate that the maximum absorbed dose rate crossing the inner belt was 0.22 Gy h⁻¹ and crossing the outer belt 0.054 Gy h⁻¹.

Estimated absorbed doses received by astronauts 98 on several Apollo missions (average for the three occupants) based upon measurements carried out with tissue-equivalent ionization chambers are shown in Table 20 [C3, E2, R7, G9]. A large part of this dose was received while the spacecraft was passing through the earth's radiation belts. For example, the higher dose received on the Apollo X mission was largely due to a different trajectory through the radiation belts. Analogous data in Table 20 from space flights of the USSR (Vostok, Voskhad and Soyuz series) indicate doses of comparable magnitude [G9]. Table 21 indicates the breakdown of the absorbed dose and of the dose equivalent on the first lunar landing mission, Apollo XI [E2].

99. In outer space, remote from the shielding influence of the earth's magnetic field, the absorbed dose index rate from solar protons emitted during solar flares can be very high. For example, it has been estimated that the absorbed dose indices in outer space from the solar proton event of 10 July 1959 were: from protons 3.6, 1.7, and 0.4 Gy behind shielding of 1. 2 and 5 g cm⁻², respectively, and from alpha particles the corresponding values were 1.5, 0.3 and 0.05 Gy, respectively [C3]. However, the Apollo missions did not experience any measurable solar particle events [E2].

VI. MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES OF RADIATION

100. In the present context the term miscellaneous sources indicates a variety of radiation sources which the general public is exposed to during the normal course of its activities, generally without being aware of them. Those sources of radiation result from man-made activities. Most of them are consumer products containing radioactive substances that have been deliberately incorporated to satisfy a specific purpose.

A. CONSUMER PRODUCTS

101. The consumer products containing deliberately incorporated radionuclides can be broadly classified into five categories: radioluminous products; electronic and electrical devices; antistatic devices; smoke detectors; and ceramic, glassware, alloys, etc. containing uranium or thorium. Some of these products, such as the antistatic devices, are more widely disseminated in industry than among the general public.

102. Table 22 presents some information on the number of products and the activities involved in each category in the Federal Republic of Germany [W3]. Although the data shown are not contemporaneous as some correspond to the year 1973 and others to the year 1975, the table gives a good idea of the relative importance of each category in an industrialized country.

1. Radioluminous products

103. Radium-226, promethium-147, and tritium have been used extensively in the dial-painting industry for the illumination of timepieces, the radiation emitted by those radionuclides being converted into light by a scintillator, which is usually zinc sulphide containing small amounts of copper or silver. From the public health point of view, one of the major disadvantages of radium is its inherent emission of a great deal of penetrating radiation which is not useful for the production of light yet irradiates the whole body of the watch wearer. Radium tends to be replaced by ³H and ¹⁴⁷Pm, which are soft beta emitters and thus cause much smaller external radiation doses to the watch users.

104. Table 23 presents estimates of the numbers of radioluminous watches and clocks in use in Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. The values for the United States are based on production data assuming that the average useful life of a luminous timepiece is 3 years [M8]. The estimates from Switzerland are an extrapolation to the whole population of the country of the results of a survey involving 1032 consumers [K9]. The data for the United Kingdom are based on information from the watch trade [T1]. It is clear from the table that most of the radioluminous watches contain tritium; in clocks, 147Pm and 226Ra seem to be more used than 3H.

105. The activities of ³H and ¹⁴⁷Pm which produce the same brightness as 37 kBq of ²²⁶Ra have been estimated to be about 200 TBq of ³H and 6 TBq of ¹⁴⁷Pm for a newly manufactured timepiece [14]. However, owing to radioactive decay, release of activity and deterioration of the phosphor, the brightness decreases continuously over the useful life of the timepiece at a rate that depends upon the radionuclide used. The activities of ³H and ¹⁴⁷Pm required to produce the same average brightness as 37 kBq of ²²⁶Ra over the useful life of the timepiece, taken to be three years, have been estimated to be about 300 TBq of ³H and 10 TBq of ¹⁴⁷Pm [M9].

(a) Absorbed doses from ²²⁶Ra-activated timepieces

106. The absorbed doses from ²²⁶Ra-activated timepieces result mainly from external irradiation, the release of radon being usually insignificant. As indicated in Annex B of the 1977 report [U2], an annual gonad dose per unit activity of 1.6 10-8 Gy Bq-1 is estimated for wrist-watches worn continuously. According to the recommendations issued by a joint group of experts from OECD and IAEA [14], the total activity of 226Ra should be limited to 3.7 kBq. That limit corresponds to a gonad absorbed dose in a year of 40 μ Gy if the watch is worn on average 16 hours per day. However, as the production of ²²⁶Ra-luminous watches has stopped in many countries, a significant fraction of the existing ²²⁶Ra-painted watches is likely to have been manufactured in the 1950s or the early 1960s, and to contain greater activities than the limit.

107. The external radiation gonad dose per unit activity to the user of an alarm clock has been calculated for an exposure of 8 h per day at a distance of 2 m to be 1.6 10^{-10} Gy Bq⁻¹ [M8]. Assuming that the ²²⁶Ra activity contained in the alarm clock is 5.5 kBq, which is the limit recommended [I4], the annual gonad dose would be about 1 μ Gy; the annual effective dose equivalent would be about 1 μ Sv.

(b) Absorbed doses from ³H-activated timepieces

108. As shown in Table 22, most of the radioluminous watches currently in use are luminized with tritium paint. The external dose from a tritium luminous watch is negligible because of the low energy of the β -particles and of the bremsstrahlung arising from the decay of ³H. However, tritiated water or tritiated organic molecules evolve slowly from the tritium paints leading to internal absorbed doses to wearers from inhalation and skin absorption.

109. The relationship between the ³H activity in watches and the resulting whole-body absorbed dose has been studied under controlled conditions by Moghissi and Carter [M9]. The average dose in a year per unit activity of tritium paint, from a watch worn continuously, was found to be 8 10^{-15} Gy Bq⁻¹, the range being 3 10^{-15} to 1.2 10^{-14} Gy Bq⁻¹.

110. There are as yet no published estimates of doses from 3 H-activated alarm clocks. The activity-to-dose relationship has been conservatively assumed to be the same as that adopted for watches. Taking into account the fact that the exposure occurs only 8 hours per day on average, the quotient of annual dose to activity would be about 3 10-15 Gy Bq-1 for alarm clocks.

111. The average content of tritium in luminous timepieces has been determined in Switzerland to be 37 MBq for wrist-watches and 60 MBq for clocks [K9]. In the United States, the records from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission suggest an average of 25 MBq for watches and 15 MBq for clocks [M8]. In this Annex, a single value of 40 MBq will be adopted for the purpose of dose calculations. It results in a whole-body dose of 0.3 μ Gy for the wearer of a tritium-painted watch, and of 0.1 μ Gy for the user of a tritium-painted clock. The corresponding annual effective dose equivalents would be 0.3 μ Sv and 0.1 μ Sv, respectively.

112. With the advent of liquid-crystal displays, the use of gaseous tritium light sources (GTLS) to illuminate

digital watches could become widespread in the near future. A GTLS consists of a hollow glass tube whose inside walls are coated with an inorganic phosphor. The tube is evacuated, back-filled with tritium gas, and laser sealed. For watch applications, the tritium content is much higher than in a painted watch; it was observed to range from 1.7 GBq to 7.4 GBq [W4]. A total of approximately 40 000 timepieces were distributed during 1976 in the United States [R8]. Preliminary tests indicate that the dose to the wearer will result from tritium permeating through the glass and being absorbed into the body [W4]. It appears at present that on average the dose to the wearer of a watch luminized with a GTLS containing 7.4 GBq of ³H may be of the same order as that to the wearer of a typical watch luminized with ³H paint [T1]. There will also be internal dose to a person breaking the source which is usually sealed in a metal or glass capsule with the liquid-crystal display and is not easily accessible to the wearer. Out of the 40 000 timepieces distributed in 1976 in the United States, two watches were returned for tritium tube breakage [R8]; thus only a small fraction of the tritium is returned to the environment.

(c) Absorbed doses from 147 Pm-activated timepieces

113. Since promethium is a solid, it does not evolve from a watch under normal conditions of usage, so that the risk of external radiation is the only one that has to be considered. Promethium-147 is a pure beta emitter. The maximum energy of its beta particles is 224 keV, corresponding to a range of 46 mg cm-2. Since the standards set by the OECD and the IAEA recommend a minimum thickness of 50 mg cm-2 for the casing of timepieces, no exposure hazard from beta radiation should exist. However, a low external radiation dose from bremsstrahlung has to be expected. Moghissi and Carter [M9] have conservatively estimated the annual gonad dose per unit activity to be 1.4 10-12 Gy Bq-1. The average ¹⁴⁷Pm content of timepieces is suggested to be 1.5 MBq on the basis of a search of the records of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The resulting gonad dose to the wearer of a ¹⁴⁷Pm-painted watch would be approximately 2 μ Gy and the annual effective dose equivalent would be about 2 µSv.

114. There are no published estimates of doses from ¹⁴⁷Pm-activated clocks. In the case of ²²⁶Ra, the ratio of the gonad doses from a watch and from a clock is 100; the same ratio will be assumed for ¹⁴⁷Pm, although it is recognized that the energies of the electromagnetic radiation involved are much lower for ¹⁴⁷Pm than for ²²⁶Ra. The gonad dose in a year to the user of a ¹⁴⁷Pm-painted alarm clock would therefore be approximately 0.02 μ Gy and the effective dose equivalent would be about 0.02 μ Sv.

(d) Collective doses from radioluminous timepieces

115. The annual collective effective dose equivalents arising from the use of radioluminous timepieces have been estimated, for the populations of Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States, on the basis of the number of products presented in Table 23, of the activity contents per type of product and of the quotients of dose to activity given in previous paragraphs. It is assumed that the gonad dose and the effective dose equivalent have the same value. The annual collective effective dose equivalents obtained are 5, 33, and 17 man Sv for Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States, respectively. Translated into per caput annual effective dose equivalent, they become 8 10⁻⁷, 6 10⁻⁷, and 8 10⁻⁸ Sv. The per caput annual effective dose equivalent for the United States population is underestimated because the 226 Ra-painted watches were assumed to be completely out of use. Taking an average value of 5 10⁻⁷ Sv to be representative of the per caput annual effective dose equivalent to the world population, the annual collective effective dose equivalent for the world population is found to be of the order of 2000 man Sv.

(e) Other radioluminous devices

116. It is known that radioluminous materials are being used in exit signs, compasses, gun sights, telephone dials, and many other devices, but there is not enough information available to make a reasonable estimate of the doses arising from their use. However, it is likely that the resulting collective dose is insignificant in comparison to that from radioluminous timepieces.

2. Electronic and electrical devices

117. Electronic and electrical equipment may give rise to radiation exposure if they contain radioactive substances or if they emit x-radiation owing to the deceleration of electrons. Television sets belong to the second category and will be discussed later.

118. Radioactive materials provide pre-ionization in gases for the purpose of passing an electric current, so that the equipment reads faster and more reliably, or displays more constant characteristics [D4]. Examples of application are starters for tubular fluorescent lamps, trigger tubes in electrical appliances and excess-voltage protection devices. The radionuclides mainly used are ⁸⁵Kr, ¹⁴⁷Pm and ²³²Th. Although the number of articles produced is very large, and the activities involved significant (see Table 22), the doses resulting from the normal use of such equipment can be expected to be very small. It is only in the event of breakage through accident or disposal that the radiation exposure could be significant.

3. Antistatic devices

119. Static eliminators containing radioactive substances are widely used in industry to reduce the electrical charge build-up on certain materials. The radiation ionizes the air around a charged object and thereby allows the charge to be neutralized.

120. Static eliminators using alpha particles emitted from ²¹⁰Po are also manufactured and sold to the general public in the United States. These devices are used to remove dust from phonograph records, photographic negatives and slides, lenses, etc. Each static eliminator nominally contains about 20 MBq of ²¹⁰Po at the time of manufacture [N6].

121. During the fabrication, polonium is interspersed in microspheres of ceramic material, which are then fixed to an aluminium backing plate with epoxy adhesive [N6]. The physical size of the microsphere is large enough so that the inhalation of the material is unlikely in case of loose contamination. If ingested, the microspheres are claimed to be insoluble in body fluids. The only significant hazard to the user seems to result from external irradiation due to the very small gamma component of the 210 Po decay scheme. The corresponding annual whole-body dose was estimated to be about 10⁻⁸ Gy [N3]; the annual effective dose equivalent would be about 10⁻⁸ Sv.

122. In the United Kingdom, ²¹⁰Po static eliminators were subjected by the National Radiological Protection Board to routine leakage tests and to special tests intended to simulate severe but credible abuse and accident with these devices [W5]. Under severe conditions (impact and fire), the containment integrity of ceramic microspheres was found unsatisfactory and it was considered possible that ICRP dose limits could be approached or even exceeded.

4. Smoke detectors

123. Ionization chamber smoke detectors (ICSDs) use alpha radiation to cause ionization in the air between two electrodes, thereby allowing an electric current to flow across the air gap under the influence of a small potential. Combustion products entering the air gap become attached to the moving ions comprising the electric current. Current flow is thereby reduced, and the potential between the electrodes rises. These changes trigger an electronic circuit, and an alarm is released [N3, J6]. ICSDs provide an early warning of a fire condition.

124. Although some of the ICSDs now on the market contain ²²⁶Ra, ²³⁸Pu, ⁸⁵Kr, and ⁶³Ni, the preferred radionuclide is ²⁴¹Am. The use of ICSDs is widespread in industrial, commercial and public buildings, and also, at least in Canada and in the United States, in private homes. During the normal use of ICSDs, the doses to members of the public are virtually limited to those resulting from external irradiation.

125. Since 1972–1973 the residential market for ²⁴¹Am ICSDs has increased rapidly in the United States. Fourteen million units containing 1.5 TBq of ²⁴¹Am were distributed in 1978 and 26 million units have been distributed since 1972 [B5]. Belanger et al. [B5] have analysed the radiation impact resulting from manufacture, distribution, normal use and disposal of those 1.4 10⁷ ICSDs. Assuming that their useful life is 10 years and that disposal is by either sanitary landfill or incineration, they calculated the collective whole-body dose to be 11 man Gy, most of it resulting from external irradiation during the useful life of the ICSD. The corresponding effective dose equivalent would be about 10 man Sv.

5. Ceramic, glassware, alloys, etc., containing uranium or thorium

126. The main uses of uranium in consumer products are either as a pigment [S9] or in applications making use of its high density. Thorium is used in incandescent mantles and in certain optical lenses.

127. The principal hazard from the uses of uranium and thorium under normal conditions is the external irradiation from the beta-emitting decay products. In general, doses received will be small due to substantial attenuation over the distance between the device and the exposed person. In particular cases, this may not apply, however. Some optical lenses containing up to 30% by weight of uranium or thorium may deliver substantial doses to the lens of the eye [W7]. The air absorbed dose rate at the surface of a lens which contained 18% thorium by weight was measured by thermoluminescent dosimetry to be 10^{-5} Gy h⁻¹ [M11].

128. High concentrations of uranium and thorium are occasionally found in ophthalmic glass as a natural consequence of the glass manufacturing process [G12]. In the United States, the Optical Manufacturers Association issued a voluntary performance standard [O7] to establish a uniform maximum limit for radioactive emissions for ophthalmic glass. The standard states that the concentrations of 228 Ac. 212 Pb and 214 Pb in manufactured ophthalmic glass should not exceed 30 dpm g⁻¹ (0.5 Bq g⁻¹). This limit could produce a maximum annual dose equivalent of about 5 mSv to the corneal germinal layer [G12].

129. Another example which has attracted interest is the practice of incorporating uranium in the porcelains used in restorative and prosthetic dentistry. In the United Kingdom, it is estimated that about one in nine adults has artificial porcelain teeth [O6]; in the United States, that proportion is likely to be even higher [S10]. A combination of uranium and cerium compounds is incorporated in the majority of modern porcelains in order to simulate the fluorescence of natural teeth in day light and in artifical light. As all the isotopes of uranium are radioactive, the tissues of the mouth are exposed to ionizing radiation from fluorescent porcelains.

130. An analysis performed by O'Riordan and Hunt [O6] on 20 porcelain powders under five brand names showed that 17 of the powders contained uranium, on the average 0.041% by weight, with 2 having about 0.1%. It is estimated in that study that for people with fluorescent porcelain teeth, the absorbed dose from external irradiation in the basal layer of the oral epithelium would be the limiting factor. Assuming a mass concentration of depleted uranium in the porcelain of 0.1%. the absorbed dose in that basal layer, taken to be at a distance of 30 µm from the interface, was found to be of the order of 0.03 Gy in a year. As the ranges of the alpha particles emitted by the isotopes of uranium are less than 30 µm in soft tissues, most of the absorbed dose is due to beta radiation. On the basis of that estimate, the National Radiological Protection Board has recommended that the use of radioactive fluorescers in dental porcelain be discontinued in the United Kingdom [O6]. Following that decision, the false-teeth industry in the United States voluntarily agreed to standardize the uranium content of procelain at 0.025-0.03% by weight [W7].

131. In the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States, the two countries where most of the dental porcelain seems to be manufactured, the mass concentration of uranium is limited by law. The uranium content of porcelain powders and artificial teeth should not exceed 0.1% by weight in the Federal Republic of Germany and 0.05% in the United States. In the Federal Republic of Germany, an average concentration of uranium in porcelain of about 0.03% by weight was measured, none of the samples showing an uranium concentration in excess of 0.1% by weight [S15, S16]. In a recent survey conducted in Japan, the average uranium concentrations in four brands (one of which was from the United States) were found to be 0.0004%, 0.0009%, 0.002%, and 0.008%, the highest measured value being 0.02% [S17, S18].

B. OTHER MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES OF RADIATION

132. The general public may also be exposed to consumer products that do not contain radioactive materials but that emit x-radiation owing to the deceleration of electrons. The most familiar example of such consumer products is the television receiver. The exposures arising from the domestic use of television receivers, the inspection of hand luggage by x-ray equipment, and the use of x-ray tubes in secondary schools will be briefly discussed. Reference [N3] provides a more detailed treatment of the x-ray emitting consumer products.

133. As indicated in the 1972 UNSCEAR report [U6], several surveys conducted in the 1960s showed that a small proportion of the colour television sets emitted xradiation in excess of the limit recommended by the ICRP, that is 0.5 mR h⁻¹ (corresponding to 1.29 10-7 C kg⁻¹ h⁻¹) at 5 cm from the surface of the television receiver. Modern television receivers have low x-ray emissions, as shown by several sets of data. This conclusion is supported by the results of measurements recently conducted in the Federal Republic of Germany [K10] and in Asia [W8]. In the first of these surveys, conducted in 1972, it was found that the average exposure rate 5 cm from the surface of the colour television receivers was about 3 10-8 C kg-1 h-1 and that the estimated annual gonad dose, under normal viewing conditions, was of the order of 10 μ Gy. Assuming that the effective dose equivalent (expressed in μ Sv) is approximately equal to the gonad dose (expressed in μ Gy), the corresponding annual effective dose equivalent would be about 10 µSv. In the second survey the exposure rate at the surface of 28 randomly chosen colour television receivers was found to vary from about 3 10-10 to 2 10-8 C kg-1 h-1 under normal working conditions.

134. X-ray fluoroscopic scanning systems are used at most airports to inspect hand-carried baggage. The traveller often walks alongside the cabinet-type x-ray equipment as his or her luggage is being examined. The average exposure to the traveller per air trip due to the inspection of hand luggage was estimated in 1973 to be less than 4 10^{-10} C kg⁻¹ in the United States [N3]. The corresponding effective dose equivalent is about 7 nSv.

135. Surveys conducted in Canada and in the United States in the early 1970s revealed that significantly large numbers of demonstration devices capable of emitting x rays were being used in secondary schools of those countries [Z1]. In Canada, exposure rates of up to 9 10^{-3} C kg⁻¹ h⁻¹ were measured at a distance of 0.3 m from the surface of cold cathode x-ray tubes [Z1]. Assuming that the energy of the x rays involved is 50 keV, the

corresponding effective dose equivalent rate would be about 0.1 Sv h^{-1} . Most of the school teachers demonstrating the x-ray tubes had little or no knowledge of radiation protection principles or practices.

VII. SUMMARY

136. This Annex deals with some examples of technologically modified exposures to natural radiation which have been brought to the attention of the Committee. It is very likely that those examples do not present the complete picture of technologically modified exposures to natural radiation; indeed, the lack of rigour in the definition of such exposures (see paragraph 3) makes a comprehensive picture impossible. From the assessments presented at the current level of industrial and nuclear and coal cycle wastes utilization, the exposures do not add significantly to the collective effective dose equivalent on the global scale but may give rise, in localized areas or for people exposed under extreme conditions, to appreciable increases in individual exposures from natural radiation. The present state of knowledge does not allow an accurate estimate of the collective effective dose equivalent from technologically modified exposures to natural radiation to be made, and further measurements are required in this field.

137. Some examples of miscellaneous sources of radiation exposure have also been considered in this Annex. Many millions of units of various types of consumer products containing deliberately incorporated radionuclides are in everyday use around the world. Estimates of doses in individuals resulting from the use of such products show that in all cases these doses are small. The highest calculated effective dose equivalents result from the wearing of radioluminous watches, which are the most widespread radioactive consumer product. The assessment of the global collective effective dose equivalent from these sources is hampered by wide gaps in the knowledge of important factors such as the activities involved, the number of products on the market, and the problems related to the disposal of those devices. Even for the most common product, watches, the data are not always available since watches are generally not subject to control. Nevertheless, owing to international recommendations, and national regulations in some countries, there is a gradual improvement of control. It is likely that the average annual effective dose equivalent due to the use of consumer products is less than 10 µSv, almost entirely due to radioluminous timepieces. However, in view of the growing number and diversity of consumer products, it is important to ensure that proper control is maintained over their use and disposal.

	Tab	<u>l e</u>	1			
Activity	concentration of	radionu	clides	in	coal	samples
	(Bq	kg ⁻¹)				

Origin			238 _U decay	series		²³² Th dec	cay series	Ref.
	40 _K	2 38 _U	226 _{Ra}	210 _{Pb}	210 _{P0}	232 _{Th}	228 _{Ra}	
Australia			30-48		-			(B1)
Brazil	370		100			67		1511
Canada	440		30			26		111
Czechoslovakia			4.1-13					ไวโโ
China			7					ไม่ไ
Germany, Fed. Rep. of								[]
Bituminous coal		< 40	20	25	30	< 20		[]8]
Brown coal		15	< 10	10	10	< 7		1381
Hungary		••	1.5					111
India			25				35	11111
Italv								, -]
Lignite from central Italy		15-25	4-15	25-50		70-110		(M1)
Lignite from Sardinia		250						Î MI Î
Poland								[]
Average	290	38				30		[72]
Range	37-760	2-140				7-110		1721
South Africa	110	2 1 10	30			20		1511
USSR			••			20		[01]
Average	120	28			22			[[4]
United Kingdom		20						[]
Average	120	17				17		[H3]
Ranne	120	11-29	7 4-94			2 4-19		irai
United States						2.4 15		[04]
West	110	20	16	17		13	13	fC11
Illipois and Kentucky	44	27		••		85		1821
Alahama, Tennessee, Kentuck	v 120	27	8 9			27		1831
Wyoming 1	, 120		0.52	10		<i>L</i> /		1411
Wyoming 2		19	0.52	31	41			1021
Annlachia Illinois Montan	,	10		51	41			[Jr]
Pennsylvania and Wyoming	", 70	16	14			8 0		[82]
Country average a/	52	19	**			21		[82]
Vonozuola	110	10	< 20			< 20		
renezaciu	110		1 60			× 20		[ar]

a/ Arithmetic mean activity concentrations of 910 samples of coal originating from several United States mines. The results, given in reference [B2], are compiled from data contained in references [F2], [G2], and [S3].

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Activity	concentrations	of	natural	radionuclides	in	ash	samples
				1			

(Bq kg⁻¹)

Type of ash		23	8 _{U deca}	y serie	5	232 _{Th}	decay s	eries	Ref.
and origin	40 _K	2 38 _U	226 _{Ra}	210 _{Pb}	210 _{Po}	232 _{Th}	228 _{Th}	228 _{Ra}	
BOTTOM ASH (slag)									
Australia			250						[B1]
Fed.Rep.of (1)	520		13C 17C a	,			96 140		[J3] [S1]
Japan	520			2			140		[21]
Central Southern Northern			4 37 20	740 300 3900			560 90 250	44 20 55	[N1] [N1] [N1]
Poland	500								1
Rverage Range USSR	500 280-1200 370	48 17-10	0 78		7.4	44 15-120 70			[12] [T2]
United States									[]
West Ill. and Kent. Pennsylvania	240 480 480	81 180 67	81 59	30		67 59 52		67	[C1] [K2] [B2]
Wyoming 1 Wyoming 2	400	93	20	37 210	190	52			[\$2] [\$2]
FLY-ASH (collected)								
Germany, Fed.Rep.o Bituminous coal Brown coal	f	300 70	200 40	2000 60	2000 100	100 30		130	[J7] [J7]
Italy			100					150	1112]
Central Sardinia Polond	8	30-100 1000	40-70	44-33()	300			[M1] [M1]
Average Range	730 180-1500	97 44-170)			74 33-130			[T2] [T2]
Appalachia 1 Appalachia 2 Appalachia 3 Appalachia 4	780 410	06	140 70 100			96 52 44		89 44	[E1] [B3] [G3]
Ill. and Kent. Pennsylvania	590 700	1 30 85	90 85 30	270	490	81 78			[K2]
Wyoming 2 West Appalachia, Midwest and Wes	260 480 t	160 110 89	10C	210 78	200	81 170		81	[S2] [C1] [F1]
FLY-ASH (escaping)									
Australia			520						[B1]
Germany, Fed. Rep. Bituminous coal Brown coal Hungary	of	300 100	300 70 20-560	3000 200	5500 300	100 40			[J7] [J7] [P2]
West <u>b</u> / Wyoming 1 Wyoming 2 <u>c</u> /	260-270	200	15	160-6 630 410	30 700 250		100-120	100-160	[C1] [K1] [S2]

a/ Derived from the assumption that radium-228 is in radioactive equilibrium with thorium-228.
 b/ Range of values obtained for four different size fractions (2.4 to 18.5 µm mass median diameter).
 c/ Derived from the assumption that the enrichment between collected and escaping fly-ash is equal to 1.3 for uranium-238.

T	a	b	1 e	3
		-		

Measured	enrichment	factors	in	escaping	fly-ash
		[B2]	-	-	

	Enrichment	factor i	n escap	ing fly-ash	I	Percentage	Rof
Uranium	226 _{Ra}	210 _{Pb}	210 _{Po}	Thorium	228 _{Ra}	released	Ref.
1.3	1-2	1-5	-	1.0-1.2	1.0-1.6	< 3	{C1} a,
-	1.7 b/	11 c/	-	1.4	1.7 b/	0.47	K21 -
-		1 -	-	-		3.5	[K2]
-	1	5	5	-	-	4.8	ľκ1 i
-	2	-	-	-	-	7.5	řB1 j
-	-	6-10 <u>c</u> /	-	-	-	-	<u>[</u> N2] <u>а</u> ,

Range for various size fractions; the variation with size is presented <u>a</u>/

in Figure I.

Estimate of Beck et al. [B2] from measurement of barium. Measurements for stable lead. Range of composite samples of different size fractions from 8 power plants; maximum enrichment for particles of L-2 µm diameter. ₽\ <u>5</u>\ ₽\

Table 4

Estimates of average activity concentrations of natural radionuclides in escaping fly-ash and of annual atmospheric discharges per unit energy generated

Origin		23	³⁸ U deca	ay serie	es.	²³² Th	decay s	eries	Ref.
	40 _K	238 _U	226 _{Ra}	210 _{Pb}	210 _{Po}	232 _{Th}	228 _{Ra}	228 _{Th}	
	ACTI	IVITY CO	DNCENTR	ATIONS 1	IN ESCA	PING AS	H (Bq kg	-1)	
UNSCEAR.									
1977 report	600	200	40	400	400	40	40	40	[U2]
Averages of Table	2 265	200	240	930	1700	70	130	110	
Adopted values	500	200	200	600	600	200	200	200	
		EST	IMATED /	ATMOSPHE	RIC DI	SCHARGE	s		
		per uni	it ener	gy genei	rated (I	1Bq per	GW a)		
France 198	81 3500	7000	7000			6000			۲۸4]
Germany, Fed.Rep.	,1981								
Brown coal		100	70	200	400	40	40	40	'J7 ,S19
Bituminous coal	L	500	500	4000	8000	200	200	200	1 37]
removal	15N	300	200	200	300	100	200	100	THAT
Rituminous linu	id	300	200	200	500	100	200	100	
ash removal		500	300	2000	6000	200	200	200	FH41
India 198	BO		11000	2000			15000		TM121
Italy (1) a/ 19	79	4400	4400	15000		18000			[H1]
(2)		18000	18000	26000		26000			(M1
USSR 193	78 20000		2000	8100	7400	2000	1100		11
United Kingdom 198	BO 1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	[C4]
United States, 196	54		640				400		[E1]
191	70	270	270			300	300		[112]
19	77	300	300	300	300	200	200	200	'M3 }
19	77	4900	5600	670	6.70	6300	6300	6300	IN3
<u>b</u> / 19.	// 670-	150-	- 140-	6/0-	670-	110-	110-	110-	LZ
- / 10	2000	410	410	2000	2000	3/0	370	3/0	(02)
C/ 19. T/ 10	77 10000	1000	/80	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	102
\overline{a} 19	// 10000	4700	4700	9300	930Ú	2000	2000	3800	102]
UNSCEAR,								_	
1977 report	5500	1850	370	3700	3700	370	370	370	'U2]
This report	4000	1500	1500	5000	5000	1500	1500	1500	

The two plants considered burn lignite of low heat content, high ash fractions, and high activity content, resulting in elevated discharges. Range of releases reported for plants burning different types of coal. Hodern plant. 1972 reference plant. <u>a</u>/

ь/ с/ д/

		Committed	doses p	per unit	activ	ity inh	aled (µGy I	Bq ⁻¹)		
of	the most	important na	atural i	radionuc	ides	release	d from	coa	l-fired	power	plants
					[J7]						

Organ or tissue			Uranium decay series Thorium decay se							decay set	ries
	2 38 _U	234 _U	²³⁰ Th	226 _{Ra}	222 _{Rn a} / and daughters	210 _{Pb}	210 _{Po}	²³² Th	228 _{Ra}	228 _{Th}	220 _{Rn} and daughters
Lungs	5.5	6.6	6.0	0.4	0.0093 (T-B) 0.0012 (P)	0.2	0.5	26	0.2	15	0.011
Bone surfaces	0.06	0.07	46	0.17	- , , ,	0.8	0.01	240	0.15	20	0.013
Red bone marrow	0.004	0.004	3.6	0.015	-	0.085	0.01	20	0.015	1.7	0.001
Liver	0.0001	0.0001	0.075	0.002	-	0.35	0.01	0.065	0.004	0.15	0.002
Kidneys	0.025	0.029	0.01	0.002	-	0.17	0.25	0.007	0.004	0.02	0.008
Spleen	0.0001	0.0001	0.01	0.002	-	0.03	0.45	0.007	0.004	0.02	0.0003
G.I. tract	0.0007	0.0008	0.01	0.003	-	0.006	0.006	0.008	0.004	0.025	-
Other soft tissues	0.0001	0.0001	0.01	0.002	-	0.01	0.01	0.007	0.004	0.02	0.0001
Effective dose equivalent per unit activity inhaled (USy Bo ⁻¹)	13	15	51	1 1	0.013	2 0	2.2	250	0.61	51	0.051

 \underline{a} / The committed doses and effective dose equivalents per unit activity inhaled of the short-lived decay products of the radon isotopes are estimated from data in Annex D. For the radon-222 daughters the effective dose equivalent is obtained from the absorbed doses in the bronchial basal cell layer (T-B) and the pulmonary epithelium (P). Only the doses due to the α particles are taken into account.

<u>Table 6</u>

Estimates of collective dose commitments per unit energy generated resulting from atmospheric releases from coal-fired power plants $(10^{-3} \text{ man Gy per GW a})$

Inhalation during the passage of the cloud.

			Uraniu	m decay	series			Thoriu	m decay	series	
Organ or tissue	2 38 _U	^{2 34} ປ	230 _{Th}	226 _{Ra}	²²² Rn and daughters <u>a</u> /	210 _{Pb}	210 _{Po}	232 _{Th}	228 _{Ra}	228 _{Th}	Total (rounded)
Lungs	19	23	21	1.4	0.69 (T-B) 0.09 (P)	2.3	5.8	90	0.7	52	210
Bone surfaces Red bone marrow Liver Kidneys Spleen G.I. tract Other soft tissues	0.2 0.01 0.0003 0.09 0.0003 0.002 0.0003	0.2 0.01 0.0003 0.1 0.0003 0.003 0.0003	160 12 3 0.3 0.03 3 0.03 0.03 3 0.03	0.6 0.05 0.007 0.007 0.007 0.01 0.007	-	9.2 0.1 4.0 2.0 0.3 0.07 0.1	0.1 0.1 2.9 5.2 0.07 0.1	830 69 0.2 0.02 0.02 0.03 0.02	0.5 0.05 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01	69 5.9 0.5 0.07 0.07 0.09 0.07	1070 89 5 6 0.3 0.4
Collective effective dose equivalent commitment per unit energy generated $(10^{-2} \text{ man Sv} (\text{GW a}))$	4.5 -1)	5.2	18	0.4	0.1	2.3	2.5	86	0.2	18	140

 \underline{a} / T-B and P stand for bronchial basal cell layer and pulmonary epithelium, respectively.

Tab<u>le</u> 7

Estimates of collective dose commitments per unit energy generated resulting from atmospheric releases from coal-fired power plants (10⁻³ man Gy per GW a)

			Uraniu	m decay	series		Thori	um decay s	eries	
	238 _U	234 _U	230 _{Th}	226 _{Ra}	222 _{Rn} and daughters <u>a</u> /	210 _{Pb} and 210 _{Po}	232 _{Th}	228 _{Ra} and daughters	220 _{Rn} and daughte	Total (rounded) ers <u>a</u> /
Internal irradiation Lungs	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.2	140 (T-B)	5.2	0.5	3.0	20	170 (T-B)
Bone surfaces Red bone marrow Liver Kidneys Other soft tissues	2.6 0.4 0.2 1.6 0.2	2.4 0.3 0.1 1.4 0.1	8.9 0.7 0.008 0.3 0.008	6.8 0.7 0.2 0.2 0.2	- - - -	69 12 9.7 9.7 9.7	2.4 0.2 0.5 0.7 0.004	5.5 0.5 1.0 1.9 0.1	24 1.9 3.6 14 0.2	120 17 15 30 11
Collective effective dose equivalent commitment per unit energy generated (10 ⁻² man Sv/(GW a) ⁻¹)	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.9	20	22	0.3	1.6	9.4	56
External irradiation All tissues (10 ⁻³ man Gy (GW a) ⁻¹)	· · · · ·			5			L	54		90

External and internal irradiation due to the activity deposited,

a/ T-B and P stand for bronchial basal cell layer and pulmonary epithelium, respectively.

Table 8

$\frac{\text{Estimates of collective effective dose equivalent commitments}}{\text{per unit energy generated}} \\ \frac{\text{resulting from atmospheric releases from coal-fired power plants}}{(10^{-2} \text{ man Sv per GW a})}$

Inhalation Internal External Radioduring irradiation irradiation due to the activity the cloud nuclide due to the Total passage activity deposited deposited 238_U 4 0.6 2 34_U 5 0.6 230_{Th} 18 0.9 226_{Ra} 0.4 0.9 4 82 222_{Rn+daughters} 0.1 20 210_{Pb+}210_{Po} 5 22 232_{Th} 0.3 86 228_{Ra+daughters} 18 2 5 120 ²²⁰Rn+daughters 9 -9 Total (rounded) 140 56 200

Table	9
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	Production rock	e Activi	Activity conceptrations (Bq kg)				
	(10 ⁹ kg)	Percentage of the worl production	d ²³⁸ U	226 _{Ra}	2 32 _{Th}	40 _K	Ket.
WORLD	125.7	100					
China <u>a</u> / Christmas Islands Israel Jordan	4.1 1.3 1.2	3.3 1.0 1.0	150 330 1500-1700 1300-1850	150 300	25 7		[15] [15] [03] [03]
Morocco (1) (2) (3)	17.6	14.0	1700 1500 1700	1700 1500 1570	30 30 20	200 10	(115) (C2) (P6]
Nauru Senegal <u>b</u> / Togo Tunisia	1.1 1.8 2.9 3.6	0.9 1.4 2.3 2.9	810 1300 1300 590	850 1400 1200 520	7 67 110 92	≤ 100	[M5] [M5] [C2]
USSR Kola, apatite (1) (2)	24.2	19.3	90 70 44	40 70 30	91 92 78	170	fC2]
Kola, phosphorite	47 3	37.6	**	390	25	230	[G6]
Central Florida (1 Central Florida (2 North Florida, peb Florida land pebb)) (pebble) ble		1500 1700 800	1600 2100 1000	16		[14] [R4] [R4]
Florida, land pebb and soft phospha Florida Arkansas Idaho Montana North Carolina Oklahoma South Carolina Tennessee, brown r	rock,		1900 1300 370 1850 1400 960 300 4800	2000 1270 410 1800 1500 670 370 4800	59 30 52 30 25 40 30 78	48	[M5] [M5] [M5] [M5] [M5] [M5]
Diue rock, white phosphatic limes Utah Hyoming Viet Nam	tone 1.5	1.2	150 1600 2300	150 1850 2300	20 30 10		[M5] [M5] [M5] [M5]

	Product	ion of	phosphate	rock	in 1977	7
and	reported activi	ty con	centrations	ofr	natura	radionuclides

a/ Samples from China, India, and South-East Asia. \overline{b} / Samples from Senegal and other African countries.

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Type of plant	Annual input of marketable ore (10 ⁹ kg) <u>a</u> /	238 _U	230 _{Th}	226 _{Ra}	232 _{Th}	Ref.
		Airbor	ne annu	al disc	harges (MBq)
Ore drying plant	2.7	245	250	250		[P4]
Plant A Plant B <u>b</u> / Uranium recovery plant	1.2 1.2 0.4	9.2 1300 350	8.7 1200 small	6.8 540 small	sma 1 1	[P4] [P4] [D2]
		Acti → in	vity co liquid (Bq	ncentra discha m ⁻³ }	tions rges	
Phosphate mine and beneficiation Heavy slime: undissolved dissolved Effluent: undissolved dissolved	plant		2	500(400 65(20 20(5 30 (1	-80000) -80) -40) -80)	[G4] [G4] [G4] [G4]
Wet process phosphoric acid plant Plant 1: Field survey number 1 Untreated process water Outfall (after chemical treatme	nt)	39000 20	2600 20	3000 170	170	[G4] [G4]
Field survey number 2 Untreated process water Outfall (after chemical treatme	nt)	15000 620	3700 30	2000 70	120 4	[G4] [G4]
Plant 2: Untreated process water Outfall (after chemical treatme	nt)	68000 12	15000 5	3200 17	2 30 ND	'G4] [G4]
Plant 3: Untreated process water Outfall (after chemical treatme	nt)	24000 10	320 ND	2000 94	150 ND	[G4] [G4]

Data on discharges from phosphate industry operations

Reported or estimated.

а/ Б/ The airborne discharges from plant B are very uncertain and likely to be overestimates.

<u>Table 11</u>

Estimated distribution of the activity (TBq) present in the phosphate fertilizers produced in the United States during 1974 [G4]

	Ma	S S	Activity (TBq)				
Material	(10 ⁹ kg)	(10 ⁹ kg P ₂ 0 ₅)	226 _{Ra}	238 _U	230 _{Th}	²³² Th	
Marketable ore used for							
fertilizer production	25.6	8.0	40	39	40	0.4	
Normal superphosphate	3.1	0.6	2.4	2.3	2.1	0.07	
Concentrated superphosphate	3.4	1.6	2.6	7.0	5.9	0.04	
Ammonium phosphates a/	5.3	2.4	1.1	13	13	0.07	
Phosphoric acid	10.0	3.1	0.37	9.4	10	1.1	
Other fertilizer production	2.0	0.3					
Gypsum	25.2		31	5.7	12	0.3	

 $\underline{a}/$ Does not include phosphoric acid used to produce diammonium phosphates and concentrated superphosphates.

Estimates of collective dose commitments per unit mass of phosphate ore									
due to atmospheric releases from phosphate industry plants:									
doses arising from inhalation during the cloud passage									

Radio-	Airborne	Colle	ective dose	commitments	per unit m	ass of phos	phate ore (10 ⁻⁹ man G	iy t ⁻¹)
nuclide	discharge (Bq t ⁻¹)	Lungs <u>a</u> /	Bone surfaces	Red bone marrow	Liver	Kidneys	Spleen	G.I. tract	Other soft tissues
					Ore dr	ying plant			
²³⁸ U	90	1.1	0.01	0.0009	0.00002	0.005	0.00002	0.0001	0.00002
234 _U	90	1.4	0.01	0.0009	0.00002	0.006	0.00002	0.0002	0.00002
230 _{Th}	90	1.2	9.5	0.7	0.02	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002
226 _{Ra}	90	0.08	0.04	0.003	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	0.0006	0.0004
222 _{Rn}	1.5 10 ⁶	[17 (T-B) [2.2 (P)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		[¹⁷ (T-B) [6.0 (P)	9.6	0.7	0.02	0.01	0.002	0.003	0.002
				Wet proc	ess phospho	pric acid pl	ant (Plant	A)	
238 _U	7	0.09	0.001	0.00006	0.000002	0.0004	0.000002	0.00001	0.000002
²³⁴ U	7	0.1	0.001	0.00006	0.000002	0.0005	0.000002	0.00001	0.000002
²³⁰ Th	7	0.1	0.7	0.06	0.001	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002
226 _{Ra}	6	0.006	0.002	0.0002	0.00003	0.00003	0.00003	0.00004	0.00003
222 _{Rn}	1.5 10 ⁶	[17 (T-B) [2.2 (P)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		[17 (T-B) [2.5 (P)	0.7	0.06	0.001	0.001	0.0002	0.0003	0.0002
				Wet pro	cess phospho	oric acid pi	lant (Plant	B)	
238 _U	1000	13	0.1	0.009	0.0002	0.06	0.0002	0.002	0.0002
234 _U	1000	15	0.2	0.009	0.0002	0.07	0.0002	0.002	0.0002
²³⁰ Th	960	13	100	8.0	0.2	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
226 _{Ra}	440	0.4	0.2	0.02	0.002	0.02	0.002	0.003	0.002
222 _{Rn}	1.5 10 ⁶	[17 (T-B) [2.2 (P)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		[17 (T-B) [44 (P)	100	8.0	0.2	0.2	0.02	0.03	0.02
					Uranium	recovery pla	ant		
238 _U	850	11	0.1	0.008	0.0002	0.05	0.0002	0.001	0.0002
234 _U	850	13	0.1	0.008	0.0002	0.06	0.0002	0.002	0.0002
Total		24	0.2	0.02	0.0004	0.1	0.0004	0.003	0.0004

 \underline{a} / T-B and P stand for bronchial basal cell layer and pulmonary epithelium, respectively.

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Estimates of collective dose commitments per unit mass of phosphate ore due to atmospheric releases from phosphate industry plants: doses due to the activity deposited

Dadia	Ainhounn	Collective	dose con	mitments per i	unit mass of	ph os phate	ore (10 ⁻⁹ (man Gy t ⁻¹)					
nuclide	discharge (Bo t ⁻¹)	External irradiation		Internal irradiation									
		All tissues	Lungs <u>a</u> /	Bone surfaces	Red bone marrow	Liver	Kidneys	Other soft tissues					
				Ore	drying plant								
238 _U	90]	0.009	0.2	0.03	0.009	0.09	0.009					
234 _U	90		0.009	0.1	0.02	0.009	0.09	0.009					
230 _{Th}	90	2.1	0.03	0.5	0.04	0.0005	0.02	0.0005					
226 _{Ra}	90		0.01	0.4	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.01					
222 _{Rn}		1	[8.6 [1.2	(T-B) _ (P) _	-	-	-	-					
Total			[8.6 [1.3	T-B) P) 1.2	0.1	0.03	0.2	0.03					
			Wet	process phosp	horic acid p	lant (Plant	A)'						
238 _U	7	1	0.000	0.01	0.002	Ó.0007	0.008	0.0007					
234 _U	7		0.000	0.01	0.001	0.0007	0.007	0.0007					
230 _{Th}	7	0.1	0.003	3 0.04	0.003	0.00004	0.001	0.00004					
226 _{Ra}	5	0	0.001		0.003	0 0008	0.000	0.0009					
222 _{Rn}	-]	[0.6 [0.08	(T-B) _ (P) _	-	-	-	-					
Total			[0.6 [0.09	(T-B) 0.09 (P) 0.09	0.009	0.002	0.02	0.002					
			Wet	process phosp	horic acid p	lant (Plant	B)						
238 _U	1000]	0.1	1.8	0.3	0.1	1.0	0.1					
234 _U	1000		0.1	1.6	0.2	0.1	1.0	0.1					
²³⁰ Th	960	10	0.4	5 .7	0.4	0.005	0.2	0.005					
226 _{Ra}	440		0.06	2.0	0.2	0.06	0.06	0.06					
222 _{Rn}]	1 42 (T 5.6	-B) - (P) -	-	-	-	-					
Total		••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	[42 (T- 6.3	-B) 11 (P) 11	1.1	0.3	2.3	0.3					
				Uranium	recovery pl	ant							
238 _U	8 50	-	0.09	1.5	0.2	0.09	0.9	0.09					
234 _U	850	-	0.08	1.4	0.2	0.08	0.8	0.08					
Total			0.2	2.9	0.4	0.2	1.7	0.2					

 \underline{a} / T-B and P stand for bronchial basal cell layer and pulmonary epithelium, respectively.

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Activity concentrations of naturally occurring radionuclides in phosphate fertilizers

(Bq kg⁻¹)

Type of fertilizer	Country	^{2 38} U	²³⁰ Th	226 _{Ra}	210 _{Pb}	210 _{Po}	²³² Th	40 _K	Ref.
TREATED ROCK PHOSPHATES Apatite	USSR				25	30	60	100	1061
Phosphorite	USSR			390	380	480	25	230	[G6]
Concentrate obtained by	11550			420	20.0	200	20	77	1001
Calcined, ground soft, partly converted rock	0338			420	290	290	20	/3	(co)
phosphate, etc. <u>a</u> /	FRG <u>b</u> /	670		480			25	110	'P6]
ONE-COMPONENT PHOSPHATE FERTILIZERS									
Superphosphate	FRG b/	529		520			15	140	[P6]
Superphosphate Superphosphate		740	670	110	300	150	44	120	G6
Superphosphate	Belgium	1100	070	910			<20	<180	114
Triple superphosphate	FRG b/	800		230			44	52	P61
Triple superphosphate	usa —	2100	1800	780			48		'M4 j
PK-FERTILIZERS <u>d</u> /	FRG <u>b</u> /	410		370			15	5900	'P6]
NP-FERTILIZERS		000		21.0					(0()
Ammonium phosphate	USSR	920		100			30 48	41	⁷ G6
Nitrophosphate	USSR			850	870	920	10		IG6
Nitroammonium phosphate	USSR	2000	1900	20	15	15	30		IG6
Diammonium phosphate	USA	2300	2400	210			15		114
NPK-PERTILIZERS E/	FRG b/	440		270			15	5200	1 P6 3
NPK	USSR			9	15	20	54	1200	1 GG 1
NPK	Belgium	470		210			<15	5900	[C2]
BASIC SLAG	Belgium	23		19					rk4]
									•

 \underline{a} / Assuming a P_2O_5 -to-fertilizer mass concentration ratio of 0.28.

b/ Federal Republic of Germany.

c/ United States.

 $\underline{d}/$. Assuming a $P_2 0_5\text{-to-fertilizer}$ mass concentration ratio of 0.16.

e/ Assuming a P_20_5 -to-fertilizer mass concentration ratio of 0.13.

T<u>able 15</u>

	238 _U	²³⁴ U	²³⁰ Th	226 _R	a 222 _{Rn}	210 _{Pt}	o Total
Internal irradiation							
Lungs	0.3	0.3	1.1	0.3	[¹⁹⁰ (T-B 26 (P)) 5.0	[¹⁹⁰ (T-B) [³³ (P)
Bone surfaces	5.3	4.8	18	9.0	(- /	66	100
Red bone marrow	0.9	0.6	1.3	0.9		11	15
Liver	0.3	0.3	0.02	0.3		9.3	10
Kidneys	3.1	2.9	0.6	0.3		9.3	16
Other tissues	0.3	0.3	0.02	0.3		9.3	10
External irradiation	L						
All tissues			1.	5			1.5

Estimates of collective effective dose equivalent commitments per unit mass of marketable ore due to the exploitation of phosphate rock (10⁻⁶ man Sv t⁻¹)

	Cloud	Activity	deposited		
Source of exposure	passage Inhalation	passage Internal Inhalation irradiation		Total	
Atmospheric discharges from an ore drying plant	0.04	0.01	0.002	0.05	
Atmospheric discharges from wet process phosphoric acid plant A	0.03	0.0009	0.0001	0.03	
Atmospheric discharges from wet process phosphoric acid plant B	0.2	0.06	0.01	0.3	
Atmospheric discharges from an uranium recovery plant	0.05	0.007	-	0.06	
Agricultural use of phosphate fertilizers	-	50	15	65	
		Internal irradiation	External irradiation	Total	
Use of by-product gypsum as building material in homes		17000	16000	33000	

Table 17

Activity concentration of naturally occurring radionuclides in building materials expected to give rise to higher-than-average external absorbed doses

Type of building material	N Country s <u>b</u> /	No. of samples	Average activity concentration (Bq kg ⁻¹)			Absorbed dose rate in air <u>a</u> / Ref.	
			40 _K	226 _{Ra}	²³² Th	(10 ⁻⁸ Gy h	-1)
Natural origin							
Granite	FRG	34	1200	100	80	30	{S5}
Granite bricks	UK	7	1000	90	85	28	[H1]
Granite	USSR	2	1500	110	170	45	[K6]
Lithoid tuff	Italy	-	1500	130	120	40	[N5]
Pumice stone	FRG	20	1100	130	130	35	[\$5]
Concrete containing alum shale	Sweder	n 83	850	1500	70	145	[S6]
Industrial origin							
Phosphogypsum from phosphorite	FRG	39	110	600	<5	54	[\$5]
Phosphogypsum	UK	6	70	800	20	68	{H1}
Phosphogypsum	USA	-		1500	7	126	G6]
Calcium silicate sl	ag Canad	da -		2150		184	[P5]
Calcium silicate sl	ag USA	-		1300-1500		110-130	[B4]
Red-mud bricks	FRG	23	330	280	230	58	[S5]
Fly-ash	FRG	28	700	210	130	42	[S5]
Fly-ash type 1	UK	1	550	7	40	10	[H1]
type 2	UK	1	550	140	30	20	[H1]
type 3	UK	1	220	50	44	12	[H1]
Blast-furnace slag	USSR	29	240	70	20	11	[K6]
Slag aggregate <u>c</u> /	Finland	1 3	190	100	70	19	[R5]

 $[\]underline{a}/$ The absorbed dose rates in air have been calculated assuming a 4 π geometry and an infinite thickness of material. The values obtained are an index allowing the comparison between building materials and not an estimate of the doses that would be received in dwellings constructed with those building materials.

b/ Federal Republic of Germany = FRG; United Kingdom = UK; United States = USA. \overline{C} / Mixture of coal clinker, ash, and cement.

<u>Table 18</u>

Variation of the galactic dose rate and dose equivalent rate with altitude a/ [04]

Altitude (km)	Absorbed dose rate (µGy h ⁻¹)	Dose equivalent rate (µSv h ⁻¹)
Δ	0 14	0.20
6	0.33	0.51
8	0.84	1.35
10	1.75	2.88
12	3,01	4.93
14	4.62	7.56
16	5.92	9.70
18	7.09	11.64
20	7.72	12.75

a/ Values averaged over 2 geomagnetic latitudes (43⁰ and 55⁰) and over two periods of solar activity (mininum and maximum).

Table 19

Comparison of calculated cosmic-ray doses to a person flying in subsonic and supersonic aircraft (average solar conditions) [W2]

	Subsonic fl	ight at 11 km	Supersonic	flight at 19 km
Route	Flight Dose per Flight duration round trip duration (h) (10 ⁻⁵ Gy) (h)		Dose per round trip (10 ⁻⁵ Gy)	
Los Angeles - Paris Chicago - Paris New York - Paris New York - London Los Angeles - New York Sydney - Acapulco	11.1 8.3 7.4 7.0 5.2 17.4	4.8 3.6 3.1 2.9 1.9 4.4	3.8 2.8 2.6 2.4 1.9 6.2	3.7 2.6 2.4 2.2 1.3 2.1

Table 20

.

Absorbed dose rates of astronauts on space missions [C3, E2, R7, G9]

Mission or mission series	Launch date	Duration of mission (٢)	Type of orbit	Dose (10 ⁻⁵ Gy)	
Apollo VII	Aug. 1968	260	Earth orbital	120	
Apolio VIII	Dec. 1968	147	Circumiunar	185	
	Feb. 1969 May 1969	192	Circumlunar	470	
Apollo XI	July 1969	182	Lunar landing	200	
Apollo XII	Nov. 1969	236	Lunar landing	~ 200	
Apollo XIV	Jan. 1971	209	Lunar landing	~ 500	
Apollo XV	July 1971	286	Lunar landing	~ 200	
Vostok 1-6			Earth orbital	2-80	
Voskhad 1, 2			Earth orbital	30,70	
Soyuz 3-9		_	Earth orbital	62-234	

<u>Table 21</u>

Breakdown of the absorbed dose and dose equivalent on spacecraft mission Apollo XI [E2]

Component	Absorbed dose (10 ⁻⁵ Gy)	Dose equivalent (10 ⁻⁵ Sv)		
Protons	150	220		
Stars	15	94		
Fast neutrons	~ 1	~ 12		
Heavy nuclei	5	46		
Electrons and gamma rays	~ 30	~ 30		
TOTAL (rounded)) 200	400		

Table 22,

Consumer products in the Federal Republic of Germany [W3]

The data refer to the years 1973 or 1975, depending on the product.

	Produced in	the Fed. Rep. of	Germany	Number of	
Type of consumer product	Number of pieces or weight	Total activity and radionuclide used	Exported	imported into the Fed.Rep.of Germany	
Radioluminous timepieces Devices containing scales or dials with luminous paint	14 10 ⁶	40 TBq ³ H 10 TBq ¹⁴⁷ Pm	50 %	8 10 ⁵ (³ H) 1 10 ⁵ (¹⁴⁷ Pm)	
Electronic and electrical devices High-pressure mercury lamps	7 10 ⁶	15 GBq ²³² Th	20 %		
Ignition devices for fluorescent lamps	26 10	3 TBq ^{US} Kr	50 %		
Electronic components containing radioactive substances	40 10 ⁶ 11 10 ⁶ 3 10 ⁶	$\begin{array}{c} 200 \text{ TBq} & {}^{85}\text{Kr} \\ 10 \text{ TBq} & {}^{3}\text{H or} & {}^{147}\text{g} \\ 0.2 \text{ GBq} & {}^{232}\text{Th} \end{array}$	Pm]40 %	3 10 ⁴	
Electronic tubes	7 10 ⁵	³ H, ⁶⁰ Co, ⁶³ Ni 147 _{Pm,} ²²⁶ Ra			
Antistatic devices	?	210 _{Po}			
Smoke detectors	1 10 ⁵	226 _{Ra,} 241 _{Am}			
Ceramic, glassware, alloys, etc. containing uranium or thorium					
Articles with uranium paint	s 3 10 ⁵	0.6 GBq ²³⁸ U	50 %	1 10 ⁶	
Glassware containing uraniu	m 410 ³ kg	g 2 GBq ²³⁸ U	50 %	3 10 ⁵	
Glassware containing thoriu	m 16 10 ³ kg	g 7 GBq ²³² Th	10 %		

Table 23

Estimated number of radioluminous timepieces in use in the various countries

Country		Watches (10 ⁶)		Clocks (10 ⁶)				
	tear	3 _H	147 _{Pm}	226 _{Ra}	3 _H	147 _{Pm}	226 _{Ra}	кет.
Switzerland United Kingdom	1976 1978	2.6	0.64	0.07	1.4	1.6	0.38	[K9]
United States	1977	27	0.21	negli- gible	0.98	2.3	8.4	[M8]

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