

# RADON STATE DATA EXCHANGE WORKGROUP

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MAY 4, 2011 – 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM (EST)

CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION: 1-866-299-3188; 202-343-9427

In Attendance:

R1	CT – Lynn	R6	George	CDC	Greg Kearney
R2	Larainne NJ – Pat, Anita, Herb	R7	KS – Brian NE - Sara	EPA	Peggy Lou
R3	Michelle	R8	WY – Steve UT – Chris		
R4	Patsy Henry FL – Jorge KY – Clay TN – Kathy NC - Mike GA – Joe	R9	NV - Susan		
R5		R10	WA – Mike OR - Brett		

## Welcome and Overview

Peggy Bagnoli welcomed the workgroup and provided a brief summary of the April 20<sup>th</sup> workgroup conference call. States that participated agreed to explore the possibilities of developing a shared database using CDC's EPHTN as the foundation. The group also agreed to have biweekly conference calls/webinars. Today's meeting would focus on working with CDC and identifying a list of all radon data collected by states.

## Update from CDC

Greg Kearney from CDC mentioned that it is perfect timing to explore the possibilities of including radon in the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network (Tracking Network). The following efforts are underway that help support this initiative:

- Federal Radon Action Plan: Greg and CDC staff are working with other federal agencies on ramping up radon activities. As part of the Federal Radon Action Plan, CDC is considering including radon in their tracking system. Both management at EPA and CDC support this initiative.
- Missouri Proposal: Greg mentioned that CDC had their annual Tracking Network Content Workgroup meeting in NY last week. Missouri EPHTN submitted a proposal to include "radon" as part of the national EPHTN (Please attached proposal). Greg said that the proposal was well received, but the Principal Investigators (PIs) for the 23 states and New York City (all who receive grants from CDC) will need to vote on the proposal before the Content Work Group moves on this effort. Regardless of the Content Workgroup's decision,, Greg would like this us to continue our work which aligns perfectly with CDC's operating procedures. Both Peggy and Greg suggested all work group members contact their respective PIs (if they receive CDC grant

funding) to introduce themselves and encourage the PI to support including radon in the Tracking Network.

Sara Morgan (NE) asked if funds were available for states currently not participating in the Tracking Network. According to Greg, CDC released their RFA on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The RFA says that only existing partners can compete for additional funding. However, CDC is hoping to make additional funds available through the Affordable Care Grants if Congress approves CDC's budget request.

### **Brainstorming Radon Data Collected by States (Working Session)**

Peggy provided following flexible milestones that work group supported:

- October 2011: Working Session and potential presentation at the 2011 National Radon Training Conference in Orlando, FL. This can include a face to face meeting for all work group members and maybe additional Tracking Network PIs and a status update to all conference participants.
- June 2012: Target date for piloting the shared database for interested states.

Peggy reviewed the spreadsheet of identified collected data. She then led a discussion to identify additional radon data collected within four general categories:

- Personal Information
- Building Information
- Lab-Test Kit Information
- Test Results Information

Peggy requested that states review the spreadsheet, adding anything that may not have been discussed during the call so we have a comprehensive list of data collected. Peggy will post the spreadsheet on [www.radonleaders.org](http://www.radonleaders.org) as well as keep a master copy.

The next meeting, scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup> will focus on filtering and defining the data fields for each category in the spreadsheet (what information we're trying to collect for each field).

Greg also mentioned that as we move forward in the process, we need to answer the following:

- Are you a currently funded Health Tracking state?
- Do you have a radon website?
  - If yes, have you created radon maps for identifying potential high-risk radon areas?
  - If yes, have you established baseline rates for estimating the percentage of houses that have been tested within selected areas?
- Have you created any type of measure or indicator for expressing risks to radon (eg., numbers, rates, ratios, percentages)? Describe.
- Do you rely on federal sources (eg., USGS) for data or mapping as part of your website? If so, describe.
- Have you created or published any documents on radon in your state/area?
- Have you created public health messaging on radon risk, testing, prevention and/or remediation?
- In your opinion, what would be the best way to measure or describe the risk of radon in your state/city using your data.

A separate tab on the spreadsheet was added to include "Radon Outreach Efforts."

The following are concerns we need to consider as we develop this shared database:

- For states that are not regulated, how do you get industry/businesses to submit data? Is there a generic form states can use to request data?
- Need to coordinate with labs on this process as they are not usually willing to share certain data elements with the general public.
- Need to identify certain data elements that states can't share with the general public.

Peggy will work with Cadmus to post links/resources on [www.radonleaders.org](http://www.radonleaders.org) to existing forms states use to collect radon data.

***Next Meeting is May 18th.***