

## **National Radon Stakeholder Consensus Building Dialogue**

### **Description of the June 4-5 Meeting in Las Vegas**

On June 4-5, representatives from EPA, CRCPD, E-25, State Radon Contacts, AARST, NEHA/NRPP, and the AARST Standards Consortium met in Las Vegas for a two-day convening of the National Radon Stakeholder Consensus Building Dialogue. The goals of the Dialogue are:

- To increase mutual understanding among groups and members of the Radon community regarding their respective roles and responsibilities, capacities and limitations, and interests and concerns.
- To seek increased collaboration, participation and engaged decision-making among all interested groups on a range of issues affecting the radon community, and to develop new decisions and agreements on these issues that will increase and improve national radon awareness, testing, and mitigation.
- To improve relationships, trust, and protocols of communication within and between groups and sectors working on radon.

The objectives of the two-day meeting were to:

- Learn common terms and techniques in collaboration and negotiation to “set the stage” for the consensus building dialogue
- Seek consensus on Dialogue protocols and substantive areas of discussion
- Name, frame and begin to address specific issues and concerns within the substantive areas of discussion and outline next steps
- Determine mechanisms for communication between Dialogue participants and their stakeholder constituents

Participants spent much of the first day becoming acquainted with the goals and methodologies of consensus building, including practicing skills from the Mutual Gains Approach to Negotiation, and beginning to discuss and explore how they would work together to achieve the goals of the Dialogue. The second day was dedicated to a more detailed examination of the three overarching substantive areas of concern – assuring high quality measurement and mitigation professionals & devices that protect public health & safety; clarifying and improving processes for setting implementable voluntary standards that avoid confusion, duplication, and dissatisfaction, and; clarifying communication channels, overcoming misunderstandings & misrepresentations, and improving relationships among and between the parties.

Meeting participants came up with some recommendations for addressing a some of these sub-topics, and developed a list of areas for future and on-going discussion. A detailed summary of the meeting will be circulated in draft to meeting participants within the next few weeks, which will then be amended, finalized, and made available to the broader radon community and the public.

Stakeholder representatives are committed to sharing information, seeking input, and providing a voice for the needs and concerns of the radon community on the topics at hand throughout this Dialogue process. Stakeholders and the public should direct any questions or comments to the representative(s) with whom they feel most comfortable, or with the process facilitator – Stacie Smith, [stacie@cbuilding.org](mailto:stacie@cbuilding.org).