

## **REGULATION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

of 27 April 2004

### **on prior information to the general public in the event of a radiation emergency<sup>1</sup>**

(Journal of Laws no. 102, item 1065)

Pursuant to the provisions of art. 92 section 4 of the Atomic Energy Law of 29 November 2000 (Journal of Laws of 2001, no. 3, item 18 as amended<sup>2</sup>) the following is ordained.

**§1.** This regulation defines:

- 1) members of the general public to whom prior information is addressed;
- 2) entities responsible for the development and distribution of prior information;
- 3) scope of prior information, the manner and frequency of its distribution;
- 4) types of activity which, in a radiation event, could expose the general public to ionising radiation in exceeding dose limits.

**§2.** Prior information shall be developed and forwarded in the event of a radiation emergency, which could occur in relation to the activity indicated in §3, or another radiation event which could lead to:

- 1) substantial release of radioactive substances to the environment, or
- 2) occurrence of substantially increased doses of ionising radiation in the environment  
- which could expose the general public to ionising radiation in exceeding dose limits

**§3.** The activity which could expose the general public to ionising radiation in excess of the threshold dose includes:

- 1) operation and decommissioning of nuclear facilities, including nuclear reactors,
- 2) operation, closure and decommissioning of radioactive waste repositories, spent nuclear fuel facilities, construction and operation of storage facilities for spent nuclear fuel;
- 3) storage of nuclear fuel and radioactive waste;
- 4) production, application, storage and utilisation of radioactive substances for the needs of agriculture, industry, health protection and scientific research;
- 5) transport of nuclear fuel and radioactive waste;
- 6) transport of radioactive substances for the needs of agriculture, industry, health protection and scientific research;
- 7) use of radioactive substances for energy generation in space vehicles.

**§4.** Prior information shall be forwarded to members of the general public in:

- 1) areas in the vicinity of organisations which conduct activity as per §3 points 1-4;
- 2) areas that could be affected by radiation events related to accidents during transport, as per §3 points 5 and 6;

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<sup>1</sup> This regulation transposes the provisions of the Council Directive no. 89/618/Euratom of 27 November 1989 on informing the general public about health protection measures to be applied and steps to be taken in the event of a radiological emergency.

<sup>2</sup> The amendments to the act have been published in the Journal of Laws of 2001, no. 100, item 1085, no. 154, item 1800, of 2002, no. 74, item 676, no. 135, item 1145, of 2003, no. 80, item 717, no. 124, item 1152, of 2004, no. 70, item 632, no. 96, item 959.

- 3) areas that could be affected by radiation emergencies which occur outside of the Republic of Poland and are related to the type of activity indicated in §3;
- 4) areas where other radiation emergencies could occur, leading to the substantial release of radioactive substances to the environment or the occurrence of substantially increased doses of ionising radiation in the environment.

**§5.1.** The managers of organisations which conduct the type of activity indicated in §3 points 1-4 shall be responsible for the development of prior information following the determination of the boundaries of the areas indicated in §4 point 1.

2. The managers of organisations which perform transport activity, as per §3 points 5 and 6, shall be responsible for the development of prior information following the determination of the boundaries of the areas indicated in §4 point 2.

3. The President of the National Atomic Energy Agency shall be responsible for the development of prior information following the determination of the boundaries of the areas indicated in §4 points 3 and 4.

4. The boundaries of the areas, as per §4, shall be determined based on the analysis of the potential consequences of radiation emergencies.

**§6.** The scope of prior information shall include:

- 1) basic data on ionising radiation and its effect on human beings and the environment;
- 2) as regards the activity indicated in §3 points 1-4 - the type of radiation emergency and its possible development scenario, taken into account when planning that activity, that could lead to a radiation event which causes a threat, as per §2, outside the premises of the organisation, including a description of the type and scope of the potential threat for the general public and the environment;
- 3) as regards the activity indicated in §3 points 5-7 - the type of radiation emergency and its possible development scenario that could occur during the transport or the emergency return of a space vehicle to the Earth, and that could lead to a radiation event which causes a threat, as per §2, including a description of the probability of its occurrence, the type and scope of the potential threat for the general public and the environment;
- 4) the manner of notifying the general public of a radiation emergency and distributing information on the course of the radiation emergency;
- 5) indication of emergency measures envisaged to alert, protect and assist the general public in the event of a radiological emergency, including appropriate information on the means of protection for the general public, as indicated in the company and voivodship radiological emergency plan.

**§7.** The managers of organisations which conduct activity indicated in §3 points 1-6 shall forward prior information in written form which ensures that such information is durable, legible and comprehensible under stress to the general population in the areas indicated in:

- 1) §4 point 1
  - a) on an annual basis - by 20 January of each year,
  - b) directly following any amendments to prior information;
- 2) §4 point 2 - within 14 days before the commencement of transport.

**§8.1.** The President of the National Atomic Agency shall forward prior information to the administrators of voivodships which could be affected by radiation emergencies, as per §4 points 3 or 4, directly after obtaining information on the possibility of a radiation emergency.

2. Voivodship administrators shall forward the information, as per section 1 above, to members of the general public, as per §4 point 3 or 4, by way of an act of local law, directly after obtaining such information from the President of the National Atomic Energy Agency.

**§9.** This resolution shall become effective as of the date the Republic of Poland acquires membership in the European Union.