

Western University Notification of Nuclear Energy Worker Status



Western University is committed to the health and safety of its employees. To this end, in the Radiation Safety program, the University informs all those working with nuclear materials including nuclear substances, radiation devices or class II prescribed equipment as Nuclear Energy Workers (NEWS). In accordance with the Nuclear Safety and Control Act and Regulations of Canada, the University is required to inform such NEW status if there is a reasonable probability of an individual receiving a radiation dose (effective dose) greater than the dose limit for the general public (1 mSv per year for the whole body). The radiation dose is tracking by the National Dose Registry maintained by the Radiation Protection Bureau of Health Canada of each workers lifetime exposure to radioactive material.

Western is committed to taking every reasonable precaution, as is practical, to maintain the radiation exposure of all Nuclear Energy Workers, staff, students and the public to ALARA, (As Low As Reasonably Achievable).

As a Nuclear Energy Worker you must be aware of the following critical radiation levels:

- Natural background levels: 2.0 –3.0 mSv/year
- Typical occupational level: 0.2-1.0 mSv/year
- Effective dose limit: (a) One-year dosimetry period: 50 mSv (b) Five-year dosimetry period: 100 mSv. The average is 20 mSv/year in five year period
- Action level of effective dose: 2.0 mSv/year (any value greater than this must be investigated and reported to the CNSC)

You must also be familiar with the following documents, which are provided to you:

1. The applicable dose limits as specified in the Radiation Protection Regulations by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
 2. Dose limits for pregnant Nuclear Energy Workers in section 13 of the Radiation Protection Regulations of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
 3. Radiation Risk in Perspective, a position statement of Health Physics Society
 4. Risk Assessment, a position statement of Health Physics Society
- i. The risks associated with the exposure of embryos and fetuses to radiation and the risks to breastfed infants from the intake of nuclear substances
 - ii. The importance of informing the licensee, as soon as feasible, in writing, that the female nuclear energy worker is pregnant or breastfeeding;
 - iii. Regarding their pregnancy and/or breastfeeding status, the worker's decision to advise the licensee is a personal one and will be informed by the risk information provided by the licensee. However once declared the regulatory requirements will apply.

I understand the risks, my obligations and the radiation dose limits and levels that are associated with being designated as a Nuclear Energy Worker.

Name _____ Department _____

Signature _____ Date: _____

Signature of Radiation Safety Officer _____ Date: _____