



Australian National Radiation Dose Register (ANRDR) Advisory Board

December 2023 - Agenda/Minutes

Details	
Date	6 December 2023
Time	1500 AEDT
Location	MS Teams
Present	Cameron Lawrence (Cmth), Trent Elms (Cmth), Brendan Tate (Cmth), Andrew McCormick (Cmth), Hazel Upton (WA), Duncan Surin (WA), Penny Hill (ACT), Glenn Riley (Vic), Karen Marler (NSW), Antoinette Kesha (EPiC)
Absent	Stephen Carter (Qld), Bradley Feldtman (NT)

#	Agenda item	Presenter	Time allocated	Papers
1.	Introduction			
1.1	Overview of meeting	Cameron Lawrence	5 minutes	Nil
<p>Staff introductions: Antoinette from EPiC, Trent who replaced Ben Paritsky in late 2022 and Brendan who joined the team early in 2022. There was limited resourcing while CL was employed part time.</p> <p>CL: Opened the meeting and announced that there is a new project with funding of \$800k from a New Policy Proposal (NPP). The current submission from Dosimetry Service Provider (DSP)-project is still awaiting DTS resourcing, we are unable to perform user acceptance testing (UAT) until these resources are finalised.</p>				
#	Agenda item	Presenter	Time allocated	Papers
2.	Issues for discussion/decision			
2.1	ANRDR Review 2021/2022	Trent Elms	5 minutes	Nil
<p>The ANRDR Annual statistical summary review was skipped in 2022 due to resourcing issues, a report will be published by the end of 2023, however we are still waiting for a small number of reporting groups to submit data. The mining sector is finalised, TE presented the uranium mining data acquired over the 2021-22 period & discussed trends in data. ANSTO has not submitted data since 2021 & late submissions have been an ongoing problem across many reporting groups.</p> <p>CL: A retrospective analysis has been performed this year due to the recently completed replicated data clean up. Approximately 20k records were merged with other records. Resulting overall doses have</p>				

increased by about 10% due to this factor. Merging of workers decreased the number of individuals in the register which in turn increased the average effective doses.

Questions and Comments

HU: Do reported doses include gamma doses only?

TE/CL: Clarified total effective dose includes other pathways including radon, dust etc.

HU: Why is the Mineral sands industry not included?

CL: Operators in the Mineral Sands industry will not submit data into a to voluntary system. We have received some submissions from Iluka some years ago. A Queensland mineral sands operation did submit but have ceased operations, none from other operators.

2.2	ANRDR Internal Audit	Trent Elms	5 minutes	Nil
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TE: An Internal audit on the activities of the ANRDR was conducted mid-year by ARPANSA. Several minor issues were uncovered including a non-conformance due to no statistical summary report being published in 2022. Other matters:

- The policy commitment to cover all workers requires needs to be incorporated into the ANRDR Vision Statement.
- Several Incorrect document references need to be updated and some updates are required to correct outdated documents, the required changes will be made soon.
- Action plan and statements, issues with DTS/IPS

2.3	ANRDR DSP-submits system + NPP project	Cameron Lawrence	5 minutes	Nil
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CL: The extra money from the NPP (via AUKUS) was approved after the details of the DSP submission project had been finalised. Further feedback on options to combine NPP and DSP-submits projects will be sought from a Vendor once the tender submission has been finalised.

Overview of project: A tender is currently being organised, with a proposal to combine the existing 2 databases, new objectives are detailed which are broader in scope than previously detailed. We will seek feedback on these projects from the advisory board in the new year.

Current access and new features including the proposed worker dose report process were detailed. Data manipulation will be automated etc. A new ANRDR Vision statement will also be communicated to the Advisory board when finalised.

CL and TE gave presentations at the ARPS conference in Queensland in October on the new projects.

Mineral sands operations and the aviation sector are still missing, this will be addressed in the future. It is anticipated that 90%+ of workers will be covered by new system. It is expected that the system will be like current Canadian and European dose submission models.

DTS resourcing is currently the major issue, the project is 12 months overdue at this stage; the ANRDR is low priority for DTS. Otherwise, the system is ready for testing and implementation.

Questions and Comments:

HU: How will dose limit exceedances be communicated? Regulators would prefer a pro rata rather than total dose to be reported, to allow for planning for possible limit exceedances in advance?

CL: The new system will allow for regulators to add their own constraints which enable them to configure for dose limit warnings in advance.

2.4	DSP accreditation standard	Glenn Riley	5 minutes	Nil
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GR: The Final version of the proposed standard was endorsed by the RHC at the meeting in July. The proposed standard is currently with ARPANSA for publishing. The issue of accreditation and how

dosimetry service providers would be accredited was raised so a Working Group was formed to investigate pathways of accreditation. Group has met several times and will submit a paper to the next RHC meeting in December.

The expectation is that NATA or an overseas equivalent will fulfill these obligations. These obligations will become an Australian standard.

It is expected that Jurisdictions will need to use an accredited provider. It will possibly take 6-12 months to implement the new standard once finalised.

However, the Standard should be pushed into service relatively quickly once finalised. The Victorian regulator is aiming to make it a regulatory req in Vic.

Questions and Comments:

KM: Can the advisory board write or use leverage to get DTS assets assigned faster?

CL: These actions are not required yet. ARPANSA DTS are having issues with security. Expect them to be rectified in the new year.

HU: Is funding ongoing? Is extra funding from regulatory services required?

CL: Ongoing funding still uncertain. NPPs usually have ongoing components and/or continuing support of projects. The outsourcing of IT support is a possibility.

HU: Uranium mining internal/external doses? There is no standardised internal dose method, DCFs can differ throughout the country

CL: Varying dose methodologies are required as provided by the reporting organisation, this is in the current system and will be in the new system. The new system will capture and account for the methodology used by each jurisdiction.

HU: Does this mean that all doses are captured other than mineral sands?

CL: This issue will be addressed in the new strategic plan.

2.5	ANRDR NPP, employer submits system rebuild + new user portal	Cameron Lawrence	10 minutes	Nil
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CL: Future state of ANRDR led to upgrade project, some information provided in previous agenda topic. Introduced Antoinette (AK).

AK: Explained ANRDR approach to market for Tender. EPiC system/method of documenting system required. Feature refinement, workshops, priorities, reviews etc.

ANRDR essential features detailed, wish lists of what we'd like to have in the new system. Feedback from the Advisory Board on new feature specs welcomed. Feature mapping is next step which will be carried out this week.

CL: Detailed reports and interfaces that we aim to have available

2.6	Strategic Review	Cameron Lawrence	5 minutes	Nil
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The recent NPP covers all areas included in previous/current 5-year plans.

A new 5-year plan will be introduced in 2024, will include aviation and mineral sands.

In current planning period, bringing the DSPs into order was the higher priority than areas such as mineral sands etc.

#	Agenda item	Presenter		Papers
3.	Any other business			
3.1	Other business	All	10 minutes	Nil
N/A				
3.2	Next meeting	All	5 minutes	NIL

Meeting in March/April TBC, second meeting towards end of year

#	Actions Arising from Meeting		
1	Send copies of Current and proposed Revised Vision statement to members	CL/TE	
2	Organise Meeting for March 2024	BT	
3	Organise 2 nd Meeting for late 2024	BT	
4	Remind members of renewal of tenure or nominate replacement	BT	