

**N3421. ALARA PROGRAM FOR SWEDISH PLANTS**

SSI has required each utility to draw up an ALARA Program. These programs have to cover: objectives and dose targets for the short and longer terms; discussion of the basic considerations behind the choice of these objectives and targets; dose reduction plans (source and exposure time reductions to be considered); and ways of monitoring, following up and analyzing experience. In addition, the plans must also contain programs for education and training of the workforce.

The program has to be a "living" document, following the process of preparation, performance, analysis, and then back to preparation of a new program reflecting the experience gained. A key to successfully pursuing ALARA seems to be commitment; a commitment that has to exist at all levels of management, not just at the top level.

To achieve ALARA there has to be a systematic approach, including review of dose reduction measures, working conditions (protection, working environment, etc.), work organization (scheduling, preparation, coordination, etc.) And the workers themselves (qualifications, experience, knowledge of the work, etc.). With all these elements, ALARA can be considered as a quality assurance program for radiation protection at the utility.

*For additional information: Tommy Godas, Swedish Radiation Protection Institute SSI, S-17116, Stockholm, SWEDEN*