

3454. THE MANAGEMENT OF RADIATION PROTECTION IN EDF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

Electricite de France aims to be one of the world's best operators, especially in the field of radiation protection.

The implementation of radiation protection requires motivation and efficiency at every level, ranging from the process worker in an EDF power plant who must reduce his own exposure as part of the self-protection approach, to the Director of the site who must anticipate change and balance the cost and effectiveness of radiation protection measures. From the data made available to him, the manager must be able to assess the situation and formulate the radiation protection policy for the site with a view to achieving the objectives laid down in agreement with EDF at national level.

In pursuing the objectives it is nevertheless essential to abide by the basic rule that what has been achieved must be preserved. Thus good results in radiation protection must be made permanent, meaning that action must be taken in every area: chemistry, dosimetry standards, utilizing the feedback of experience, and so on.

It is possible to improve dosimetry results :

- at practically no cost (or even with savings), when there are good ideas, particularly on organizational questions;
- at reasonable cost, when the money value of the man-rem and the necessary priorities are taken as a reference.

In the EDF power stations, there are many potential improvements that can be made in the field of radiation protection, and good ideas are not in short supply. It is now a matter of managing the whole question at least cost, the objective being a continuing reduction in the figures rather than a one-off record low.

Presented at the 1997 International ALARA Symposium, Orlando, FL, March 16-19, 1997, by Philippe Colson, EDF/DSRE, Saint Denis, FRANCE.