

Chief Administrative Office	Date of Issue	Expiration Date	No.
POLICY MEMORANDUM	10/10/00	N/A	33
TO: ALL Divisions and Departments	Subject: RADON POLICY STATEMENT		
SIGNATURE:			
COMMENTS:			

The purpose of this policy is to outline LFUCG's radon exposure measurement and mitigation plan. The LFUCG will be involved in monitoring all of its buildings where there is a potential for long term exposure of radon to our employees. It is the intent and purpose of the LFUCG to provide its employees with a safe and healthful work environment. In doing so, the LFUCG strives to reduce unsafe exposures to chemicals, gases, and unsafe working conditions.

Radon is a naturally occurring colorless, odorless, tasteless radioactive gas. It comes from the natural radioactive decay of uranium. Radon itself then decays into radioactive decay products. These decay products can enter the lungs through inhalation by breathing air or through ingestion by drinking water (usually well water due to its contact with the earth). Some of the decay products can become trapped in the body. These decay products break down further and, reside in either the lungs or stomach. Released bursts of energy from the decaying particles may potentially cause damage to the lung/stomach tissue and could lead to lung/stomach cancer.

Since radon is a naturally occurring gas with low level exposure, the danger associated with radon comes about when the gas accumulates in an enclosed area such as the basement of a building, house, or other structure. Radon can enter a building through several different points. These include dirt floors, crawl spaces, cracks in concrete floors and walls, floor drains, sumps, joints, and cracks and holes in concrete block walls. As the concentration of the gas rises, the hazards associated with exposure to the gas rises too.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that as many as 20,000 deaths per year can be attributed to radon exposure. This makes it one of the leading causes of death by lung cancer,

POLICY MEMORANDUM #33	RADON POLICY STATEMENT	Page 2
-----------------------	------------------------	--------

second only to tobacco use. The EPA has established a recommended exposure level of 4 pCi/l (picoCuries per liter) for residences. Additionally, OSHA has established an exposure limit of 30 pCi/l in the workplace. Radon exposure can be controlled with several different known engineering techniques such as modifying the HVAC system, installing a mitigation system, and/or sealing openings in the building's foundation.

The LFUCG's plan of action is to monitor all regularly occupied LFUCG buildings and to mitigate the level of radon to below the concentrations established by the applicable federal or state recommended level or requirement. For most instances, the standard established by OSHA (30 pCi/l) will be used to determine whether mitigation will be performed. However, buildings that are used as residences or where occupants are in the area greater than 12 hours/day (such as Community Corrections) and have an average radon concentration above the EPA recommended level of 4 pCi/l would be mitigated or institutional controls implemented to reduce exposure. The Division of Risk Management will be responsible for the monitoring of buildings, pre-and post-mitigation monitoring, and the determination as to which buildings should be mitigated. The Division of Risk Management personnel will maintain Residential Measurement and Mitigation Provider certifications and ensure monitoring is conducted using EPA protocol. The Division of Risk Management will coordinate with Building Maintenance and Construction in the mitigation efforts and preventive maintenance.

In areas where the average radon level is greater than 7.5 pCi/l, each area will be posted with a sign or signs with the radiation symbol and the words "CAUTION AIRBORNE RADIOACTIVITY AREA" in accordance with OSHA requirements. LFUCG will also educate employees regarding the risk posed by radon and the measures to take to protect themselves in the workplace and in the home.

OSHA references: Subpart Z - CFR 1910.1096 (e)(4)(i)(ii).

EPA reference: Toxic Substance Control Act, Section 2670