OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT IN A TITANIUM DIOXIDE PLANT LOCATED AT THE SOUTH-WEST OF SPAIN

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On the frame of a broad project devoted to the control of exposures in several typical NORM industries located at the south of Spain, the evaluation of the occupational radiation exposures in one industry devoted to the production of titanium dioxide pigments, via sulphate process, has been performed. External (via gamma) and internal (via inhalation) pathways of exposure have been considered in the performed evaluation, arriving to the conclusion that under normal running conditions, the increment of the occupational exposures is lower than 1 mSv/y. However, some precautions should be taken during some maintenance operations, while drastic changes in the worker time occupational factors inside the different areas of the factory should be avoided without a previous radiological evaluation.