

Invited Presentation 4

A GLOBAL OVERVIEW OF NORM RESIDUE REMEDICATION AND GOOD PRACTICE

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The issues of management and disposal of NORM residues have been a source of concern for many years in almost every country of the world. However, not all NORM industries have the same ideas when it comes to managing residues and their remediation. The volumes and types of materials vary considerably and so good practice is a situation-specific activity, although the basic rules may be similar and the safety standards applied are the same.

The phosphate industry has long been a major player in the issue of best practice management and disposal of NORM residues but it is not always appreciated how the scale of the problems can vary. Similarly with uranium production, not all the NORM residue issues are on the massive scale that is usually associated with mining operations. Also the oil and gas industries have been managing NORM residues for a long time but good practice is also a dynamic concept and another issue is to determine what is the leading practice nowadays.

This paper looks at a selected number of international sites and situations to show the variation of size and scope of problems both within and between industries and how good practice is developing in the areas of management, disposal and remediation of NORM residues at the affected sites.