

## **Revision of the BSS: impact for the building industry**

Rob Wiegers, Marit Sijbers-Wismans

IBR Consult bv, De Giesel 14, 6081 PH Haelen, Netherlands

Tel: + 31 475 59 55 64, email: [r.wiegers@ibrconsult.nl](mailto:r.wiegers@ibrconsult.nl)

### **Abstract**

Up to now the building industry is exempted from the regulation of the BSS. Hence, in most EU countries there is no specific legislation or regulation to address the building materials. In the upcoming revision of the BSS this situation will change; on one hand building materials have to fulfill thresholds and on the other hand several types of raw materials are indicated to be of concern regarded to their potential concentration of natural radio nuclides. Basically, this implies that there is a system of three levels of threshold when it comes to either the constituents of the building materials and the building materials itself. First the two thresholds (EL/CL) for assessing whether or not a materials has to be regarded as being radioactive when used in respectively large and minor quantities. And the second set of limits are related to thresholds the individual members states will apply for building materials. In this paper several aspects will be addressed:

- Impact to the building industry as such and the means the industry need to comply.
- Impact to the reuse of all kinds of NORM(related) byproducts and its consequences for society.
- Impact of radon (and thoron?) threshold levels for all kinds of buildings

First a short overview of the relevant building industry will be given and a first analyses of who will have to be involved by the implementation of the BS revision (both concerning building materials and the radon action plans).

### **Impact to the building industry**

Although each member state can have their own implementation of the BSS on this subject, it is likely that some thresholds, whether or not based on the equation as given in RP 112, will be set. In the paper it will be discussed what options a given manufacturer will have to comply to the legislation.

### **Impact to reuse of NORM by-products**

First the current use of some major byproducts (fly ash and blast furnace slag) will be given. Next their generic impact on all kinds of demands from society and authorities are given. Furthermore, an analysis will be given up to what extend the new BSS revision can have on the future use of these types of products.

### **Impact on radon action plans**

A first estimation how an action plan could look like and based here on the impact of the legislation will be given going from the Dutch situation and the structure it requires to implement these plans in daily practice.