



EC Recommendation on the reporting of discharges below the limit of detection

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Introduction

- Background
- EC recommendation
- Alternative approaches
- Consultation
- The way forward

Background

- DEFRA sponsored project

- Aims
 - Establish the current approaches and response to the EC Recommendation
 - Ensure approach is applicable to nuclear and non-nuclear sources
 - Identify implications of chosen approach
 - Draft time scale for implementation

- Process
 - Identify all available approaches
 - Review approaches
 - Recommend response

EC Recommendation

- Applies to
 - airborne and liquid discharges
 - civil nuclear industry (power stations and reprocessing)
 - routine operations
- Importantly
 - Calculated discharge values may be used as a substitute for direct measurement
 - Refers to decision thresholds (as defined by ISO/IS 11929-7)
 - Where measurements are below decision threshold the results should be substituted by one half of the decision threshold
 - Where repeated measurements in a period are **all** below the decision threshold then it is reasonable to assume that the true value is zero
 - Annex 1 provides limits of detection that should not be exceeded

Approaches

- Substitute
 - At the limit of detection
 - For zero
 - At 50%
 - Any other number
- Provide a range
- Distributional approach
- Statistical approach

Issues

- Perception
- Acceptability
- Accuracy
- Understandable
- Defensible
- Ease of implementation
- Endorsed by regulators
- Consistency
- Proportional effort to impact

Consultation

- Stakeholder involvement
 - Questionnaires
 - Workshops

- This meeting
 - An opportunity for your comments ...

Way Forward

- Analyse questionnaire responses
- Review outcome of workshops
- Assess any additional comments

- Final consultative meeting

- Recommendation to DEFRA

Questions ???

Any comments to:
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