

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

DIVISION OF RADIATION CONTROL (DRC) FY 2008 GOALS – END OF YEAR REPORT

DRC RADON GOAL:

Continue the fundamental activities regarding the EPA Radon Grant.^{RAD}

Measures:

1. Promote New Home Construction with Radon Resistant Technology.
 - a. Promote and distribute information about radon resistant building technology to builders throughout the state. Display Radon information at an exhibitor's booth at the Home Improvement Show in October, 2007 at the South Towne Convention Center in Sandy, Utah and Home Builders Annual Conference in March 2007, St. George, Utah.

STATUS: *DEQ had a booth at the Home Improvement Show October 12 - 14, 2007 at South Towne Convention Center in Sandy, Utah and Utah Home Builders Annual Conference, March 27 - 29, 2008, in St. George, Utah. 48 Radon bags were distributed. Bags contained the following: Build Radon Out, A Citizen's Guide to Radon, and the Radon Newsletter.*

2. Support Disclosure, Testing and Mitigation in conjunction with Real Estate Transfers.
 - a. Training; conduct at least two courses; "Radon for the Real Estate Professional", put on by the Center for Environmental Research & Technology, Inc. (CERTI) or other organization approved for continuing education by the Department of Commerce, Division of Real Estate, the 3rd calendar quarter, 2007 and the 1st or 2nd quarter of 2008. One course will be held in Salt Lake City and the 2nd course in Utah County, with other possible locations being: Logan, Cedar City, Weber, Ogden, St. George, or Park City.

STATUS: *DEQ changed the processes for conducting training courses. Radon Manager John Hultquist and Radon Program Coordinator David Neville became certified instructors through the Division of Real Estate and certified the course "Radon for the Real Estate Professional" as a 2-hour continuing education seminar. With the creation and certification of the course, the Radon Program's certified instructors actively solicited venues to do training—instead of hosting events. This has been met positively by REALTORS® and brokers; it resulted in 13 presentations and 167 additional REALTORS® trained on Radon and its health effects.*

3. Develop coalitions with Local Governments, partner affiliates and other radon risk reduction leaders.
 - a. Continue working with the 12 Local Health Districts. Outreach activities range from, providing information packets on radon, distributing radon test kits, conducting radon presentations, and testing radon levels in schools. The DRC will request an individual from local health districts that receive pass through monies to attend a radon training class, either the "Radon for the Real Estate Professional" or a measurement course.

STATUS: *During January 2008, radon boxes containing 40 test kits, 200 Citizen's Guide to Radon, and 150 Winter Radon Newsletters were mailed to the 12 local health districts.*

- b. Conduct outreach activity with the Utah Safety Council promoting radon awareness and radon testing during the month of October 2007.

STATUS: *Partnered with the Utah Safety Council promoting radon awareness and radon testing during the Radon Poster Contest, July – October, 2007. KSL-TV News ran a story on radon mitigation in Utah.*

- c. Provide assistance when requested by tribal organizations throughout Utah (specifically, the Piute tribe and the Shoshone tribe).

STATUS: *No additional information.*

- d. Continue partnership with Intermountain Health Care (IHC) newborn radon packet that started December 2003 (FY04)

STATUS: *The continuation of the IHC newborn packets included the addition of the new Intermountain Medical Center which replaced the Cottonwood Hospital. During FY 2008, 1071 newborn coupons were returned to DRC for radon test kit delivery. Of the 1071 test kits delivered, 207 kits (19%) were actually utilized and mailed on to the laboratories for analysis. 53 test kits (26%) were analyzed with having equal or greater than 4 pCi/L, EPA's guidance level for long-term exposure.*

- e. Expand newborn radon packets to other area hospitals including: St. Mark's Hospital and the University of Utah Hospital System.

STATUS: *No additional information.*

- f. Create, print, and distribute radon information to each library within the State of Utah for education and resource materials concerning radon.

STATUS: *Presentations were conducted by the Division of Radiation Control at 8 local*

libraries.

4. Determine (track) and measure results with respect to awareness levels, testing frequency, mitigation, and radon resistant new construction.
 - a. Continue to inform the public about radon and the health hazard associated with exposure to elevated levels.

STATUS: *Radon presentations were given at 8 local libraries.*

- b. Provide educational opportunities to the general public, real estate professional, and homebuilders.

STATUS: *Thirteen continuing education radon courses for 167 real estate agents were held during the year.*

- c. Continue to track phone inquiries and distribute radon detectors and or literature to the citizens of Utah.

STATUS: *Distributed approximately 1500 free radon detectors to Utahns, along with radon fact-sheet literature (includes the newborn radon packet program).*

- d. Track the number of homes tested for Radon by currently listed Radon Measurement Service providers and report to the EPA the number of mitigations performed by currently listed Radon Mitigation Providers in Utah. In addition, the DRC will attempt to track and report to the EPA the number of homes built radon resistant based on information provided by local homebuilders.

STATUS: *According to the two laboratories servicing Utah (Alpha Energy and Air Chek), 2,243 homes were measured and analyzed for radon gas. Utah Radon Measurement and Mitigation Providers (ten certified providers) reported a total of 629 homes mitigated for radon. Test results were updated on DRC's online zip-code tracking database.*

- e. Update radon's website within the DEQ to include the following: (1) video clips available for download of radon mitigators, local doctors, and non-smoking lung cancer patients telling why testing and fixing radon is so important; (2) MP3/podcasts of radon information available for download; and (3) .pdf marketing materials available for download targeted specifically toward realtors, home inspectors, home builders, construction foremen, and citizens.

STATUS: *Updates to Utah's radon program website during the last year include the following: downloadable documents and a video for real estate agents, home*

builders, and citizens at large; a new database allowing citizen's to locate a Radon Trained Realtor via a new website; and a pilot campaign for state employees www.radon.utah.gov/employees.

5. Testing and where necessary, mitigating schools for radon and radon decay progeny.
 - a. When requested by School District administrators, inform them of the health hazard associated with exposure to radon and promote radon testing in schools. Have radon test kits available to school districts that care to test for radon.

STATUS: *One school in Tooele County tested for radon.*

6. Continue to work with the Division of Drinking Water, regarding the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, Radon in Water rule.
 - a. Contingent upon when EPA provides its guidance document to States and Public Water Systems regarding the requirements to the multimedia program, and in coordination with the Division of Drinking Water, develop a multimedia mitigation program that is based on this guidance document for the State of Utah.

STATUS: *No updates.*

- b. Continue to encourage both Public Water Systems and Private systems to test their water for radon.

STATUS: *No updates.*