
Dear Stakeholders,

We are seeking your advice on the 2023 review of the UNSW Radiation Research Safety Procedure. The current version is published here. The purpose of the Procedure is to provide a compliance framework for the use of ionising and non-ionising apparatus and material at UNSW, mostly in the context of research and in some cases in teaching-related activities.

Policy and compliance frameworks are continuously evolving, and we would like to ensure currency, bearing in mind any recent changes to legislation, standards or codes relevant to ionising and non-ionising radiation. We would also like to incorporate recommendations of the 2023 Radiation Waste Management Internal Audit report.

Some of the key points to consider in the current review are:

- Does the Procedure adequately identify stakeholders and their responsibilities in maintaining a compliant radiation research environment?
- Are there new or updated legislation, standards or codes to consider, in the New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory/Commonwealth contexts?
- Are the structure and responsibilities of the Radiation Safety Committee clear and appropriate for achieving the aims of the policy?
- Do we need to include details about a threshold of ionising radiation/cumulative effects of below-threshold materials at one location to clarify what needs to be approved?
- Should there be a ‘for noting’ process of below threshold materials and apparatus and potentially an accompanying register of materials and apparatus such as scintillation counters?
- Are training expectations of those involved in radiation research clear?

We welcome your advice on these questions and your general advice on the document. For any clarifications please reach out to radiationresearch@unsw.edu.au or contact Dr Ted Rohr, Director Research Ethics & Compliance Support.

Kind regards,

Dr Ted Rohr, Director Research Ethics & Compliance Support