



National Center for Radioecology – An Introduction to NCoRE

Dr. Wendy Kuhne
NCoRE Director
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NCoRE Workshop Summary Briefing

Outline

- **Why is radioecology needed?**
- **Current status of programs in the U.S.**
- **Introduction to NCoRE**
- **Members of NCoRE**
- **Path Forward**

Why Radioecology is Needed?

As long as there is an interest in these areas there is a need for a scientific field to provide *credible, consistent and defensible* information that can be used for clean up activities and conducting risk assessments:

- **Nuclear industry** (new facility start-ups, small modular reactors development and aging reactor and other nuclear facility closures)
- **Uranium mining and milling**
- **Emergency response**
- **Radioactive waste management**
- **Environmental releases from nuclear facilities**
- **Naturally occurring radionuclides in non-nuclear industries**
- **Education of the public about radiological risks**

Current Status of Radioecology Programs in U.S.

Research in radioecology:

- Is fragmented, with little coordination to identify national strategies and direct programs;
- Is suffering from a steadily decreasing funding base;
- Will soon be hampered by closure of key infrastructures and retirement of expertise;
- Requires training of young scientists to ensure continuation of the science

Establishment of National Center for Radioecology (NCoRE)

- Savannah River National Laboratory took the lead to establish the National Center for Radioecology in an effort to maintain and grow the scientific discipline and expertise in the United States.



National Center for Radioecology

Managed by Savannah River National Laboratory

A Network of Excellence for Environmental Radiation Risk Reduction and Remediation

Establishment of National Center for Radioecology (NCoRE)

- 2010 - Signed MOU/MOA's with 6 Universities and 2 International Organizations
- Held an inaugural meeting with Key Partners in February 2011



Additional MOUs with NCoRE

- **International Union of Radioecology**
- **McMaster University (Canada)**
- **Australia Nuclear Science and Technology Organization (ANSTO)**