Bibliographic Data Sheet **NKS-180**

Title	Overview of sources of radioactive particles of Nordic relevance as well as a short description of available particle characterisation techniques
Author(s)	Ole Christian Lind[1)], Ulrika Nygren[2)], Lennart Thaning[2)], Henrik Ramebäck[2)], Singh Sidhu[3)], Per Roos[4)], Roy Pöllänen[5)], Ylva Ranebo[6)], Elis Holm[6)] and Brit Salbu[1)]
Affiliation(s)	[1)]Norwegian University Of Life Sciences, Norway [2)]Swedish Defense Research Agency (FOI), Sweden [3)]Institute For Energy Technology, Norway [4)]Risø National Laboratories, Denmark [5)]STUK, Finland [6)]University Of Lund, Sweden
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Abstract	The present overview report show that there are many existing and potential sources of radioactive particle contamination of relevance to the Nordic countries. Following their release, radioactive particles represent point sources of short- and long-term radioecological significance, and the failure to recognise their presence may lead to significant errors in the short- and long-term impact assessments related to radioactive contamination at a particular site. Thus, there is a need of knowledge with respect to the probability, quantity and expected impact of radioactive particle formation and release in case of specified potential nuclear events (e.g. reactor accident or nuclear terrorism). Furthermore, knowledge with respect to the particle characteristics influencing transport, ecosystem transfer and biological effects is important. In this respect, it should be noted that an IAEA coordinated research project was running from 2000-2006 (IAEA CRP, 2001) focussing on characterisation and environmental impact of radioactive particles, while a new IAEA CRP focussing on the biological effects of radioactive particles will be launched in 2008.
Key words	radioactive particles, sources, characteristics

Available on request from the NKS Secretariat, P.O.Box 49, DK-4000 Roskilde, Denmark.
Phone (+45) 4677 4045, fax (+45) 4677 4046, e-mail nks@nks.org, www.nks.org