

## **The status of NORM regulation in South Korea**

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### **Abstract**

The social issues have arisen due to the natural radioactive materials usage since 2007. And the public concerns about radiation have been increased after the Fukushima NPP accident in 2011. For these reasons, in South Korea, the *Act on Protective Action Guidelines Against Radiation in the Natural Environment* was enacted in 2011 (effective in July 2012), to protect people against the radiation exposure from household items, construction materials or recyclable scrap metals.

According to the Act, raw materials (NORM), residues and products that contain the natural radioactive nuclides were subject to the Nuclear Safety and Security Commission (NSSC)'s safety management. Therefore, the usage registration of raw material or residues was regulated under the Act, thereby the current status of distribution was managed. The NSSC has also conducted the field investigation for safety management on the facilities using the above materials and the workers handling them.

The NSSC shall install and operate the radiation portal monitors at airports and harbors. Even they let the recyclable scrap metal dealers install these devices to detect the radioactive materials in the imported goods.

In addition, the Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety (KINS) has developed and operated a comprehensive information system to manage the radiation in the natural environment systemically and effectively.

This presentation introduces the status of safety regulation for radiation in the natural environment in South Korea.