EPA's Radon Futures Strategy

Tom Kelly, Director, Indoor Environments Division

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Overview

- Four Topics
  - High Risk, High Confidence
  - Strong Results – But Slow Progress
  - Need for Revitalization
  - Need to Restore Syndicate of Action

Clear Science on Risk

- Human Data: Miner Exposure
- NAS BEIR IV and VI
- Updated radon risk assessment
  - ~20,000 Excess Deaths Annually
  - Never Smokers at 4X the Risk

EPA's Radon Program

- Aggressive Information Campaign
  - Voluntary
  - Cooperative Partners
  - Information to Build Public Demand
- Fix High-Risk Homes
- Build New Homes Radon-Resistant

Notable Success, But...

- 700,000 High-Risk Homes Fixed
  - 450 Lives Annually@ $400K per Life
- 1Million Homes Built Radon-Resistant
  - 120 Lives Annually @ $80K per Life
- But…
  - Barely a Dent in Nation’s Housing Stock
  - Many More Lives Still at Risk

A Tough Sell

- Radon Odorless, Colorless, Invisible
- Skeptics Denounce the Science
- “Where Are the Bodies”?
- A Home Is a Castle
- No Clear Villain…
- Unless It’s the Victim -- Smoking

Revitalizing Radon

- If This Isn’t a Public-Health Problem, What Is?
- 20,000 Deaths Annually
- Testing is Easy
- Fixing is Cheap ($1150 on average)

What We're Doing New

- Bundling Radon within Healthy Homes and Built Environment issues:
  - Moisture Study
  - Air+
- Recruiting new partners and renewing existing relationships
- Working with Federal agencies to get leverage on big systems
  - FHA Home Inspection form

CAAAC Role

- Advise on Ways to Expand Risk Reduction
- Suggest Additional Partners
- Act as Rainmakers
- Revisit Issue at Future Meeting and Reframe Strategy

Summary and Conclusions

- High risk and low receptivity
- A need for renewed commitment
- Some significant work underway
- We welcome your input and ideas