**INDIANA UNIVERSITY-PURDUE UNIVERSITY AT INDIANAPOLIS
ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY POLICY**

Subject: Radon

Effective Date: February 1, 1997

Approved: Robert Martin, Vice Chancellor - Policy: 3

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas, which according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. Several organizations, including the World Health Organization (WHO), and the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurement (NCRP), have recommended various levels that they regard as safe. The U.S. EPA is the agency most involved with indoor air pollution concerns and they recommend that levels not exceed 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/l) for an extended period of time.

POLICY:

The 4 pCi/l radon concentration recommended by the U.S. EPA will be used as a goal for all occupied areas. If radon levels in occupied areas are 4 pCi/l or less, no additional action will be required.

If long-term radon concentrations are in the 4 pCi/l to 20 pCi/l range, action should be taken to reduce levels to 4 pCi/l or below. This action should be initiated within several years (up to 3 years), sooner if levels are at the upper end of this range.

If long-term radon concentrations are above 20 pCi/l, remedial action should be taken within several months to reduce concentrations to a more acceptable level.

PROCEDURE:

The Department of Environmental Health and Safety will monitor occupied building space as deemed necessary to determine radon levels in buildings in accordance with current U.S. EPA guidelines. If results of these tests indicate the long-term radon level exceeds 4 pCi/l, investigations will be conducted to identify reasons for the elevated radon level and means of reducing the level, at reasonable expense, to the goal of 4 pCi/l.

If the radon level cannot be reduced to the 4 pCi/l level, Environmental Health and Safety will inform the Environmental Safety Committee of the results of their investigation.