

**SOUTH TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**BUILDING CONTROL**

**SHEET NO. 8 - MARCH 2005**

**RADON : REVISED TECHNICAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT C**

A revised version of Technical Guidance Document (TGD) C - September 2004 - has been published in terms of the amendments to Part C of the Building Regulations 1997.

This edition of TGD C amends and updates the guidance in Section 2 in relation to Radon Gas prevention and will be effective for building works commencing on or after 1 April 2005.

Substantially, the amendments cover Radon Proof Membranes, Radon Sump Outlets and incorporate Radon Maps detailing Radon levels throughout Ireland in relation to the National Reference Level (NRL).

➤ Radon Proof Membranes

- Emphasis placed on greater care in installation.
- Performance requirements - a revised specification of the schedule of parameters for the minimum performance level for Low Density Polyethylene Radon proof membranes has been and incorporated.
- The NRL's are confirmed as 200 Becquerels per cubic metre ( $\text{Bq/m}^3$ ) for residential buildings and 400  $\text{Bq/m}^3$  in the workplace.
- Dwellings in High Radon areas - where the prediction is that more than 10% of dwellings will have Radon Gas concentrations above 200  $\text{Bq/m}^3$  and are indicated by the light and dark brown coloured areas on the Radon Map - should incorporate a fully sealed low permeability membrane which meets the revised minimum performance level.

➤ Radon Sumps

- The principle of providing a sump in every dwelling or residential building and in addition the provision of a low permeability sealed membrane in High Radon areas is highlighted.
- In designing the location and frequency of sumps each sump should have an area of influence of at least 250 m<sup>2</sup> and for a linear distance of at least 15 m.
- Pipes connected to sumps which terminate outside the external walls of a building should be capped and clearly identified as an outlet for Radon Gas either by means of a marker plate or a cap incorporating raised lettering.

➤ Radon Maps

- Radon Prediction Maps have been incorporated into this edition and the maps cover the whole country.
- These maps show the estimated percentage of houses above the NRL for dwellings for each 10 km square grid.
- The maps were prepared by the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland (RPII) have been reproduced in this edition to make the publication more comprehensive.
- These maps will be available on the South Tipperary website [www.southtippercoco.ie](http://www.southtippercoco.ie) via a link to the RPII website from 1 May 2005.

***This information sheet does not purport to be a comprehensive review of the Regulations or Technical Guidance Documents. Persons should always obtain professional advice for their specific situation. South Tipperary County Council will not accept any liability arising out of reliance on any aspect of this information sheet.***