

Subject: **Pooling of North American Residential Radon Studies**

Citation: *Residential Radon and Risk of Lung Cancer: A Combined Analysis of 7 North American Case-Control Studies*, D Krewski, JH Lubin, JM Zeilinski, M Alavanja, VS Catalan, RW Field, et al, *Epidemiology*, 2005 March 16 (2): 137-45.

EPA's Position on the Study:

- The study provides direct evidence of an association between residential radon exposure and lung cancer at levels below EPA's action level of 4 pCi/L. The study results are a significant addition to the body of scientific knowledge on radon health risks and underscore the importance of the Radon Health Advisory issued by the U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. Carmona, January 13th 2005.
- The study findings reinforce EPA's and the Surgeon General's recommendation that Americans test their homes for radon and, if elevated levels are found, fix their homes to reduce their level of exposure to radon. Radon continues to be the second leading cause of death from lung cancer after smoking in America [contributing to approximately 21,000 lung cancer deaths per year].
- These results are consistent with radon risk estimates from the Environmental Protection Agency's *EPA Assessment of Risks from Radon in Homes* (EPA 402-R-03-003, June 2003), and the *Health Effects Of Exposure To Radon: BEIR VI*, National Research Council, National Academy Press, 1999.
- Together with the recently published and parallel European combined analysis of residential studies [*Radon in Homes and Risk of Lung Cancer: Collaborative Analysis of Individual Data From 13 European Case-Control Studies* (2005), S Darby et al.], this U.S. study further increases our confidence in the estimates of radon health risks to the general public.