# Subject Index

### A

Absorbed dose, 15 Actinon, 9 Activated carbon monitors, 4-5, 49, 55 - 58factors affecting performance, 56-57 performance, 57-58 Active soil depressurization, 114-115, 119-123 block wall depressurization, 122 crawl space depressurization, 123 design, 121-122 features, 120-121 drain tile depressurization, 122 fans, 120 installation during construction, 128-129 rough-in for, 129 submembrane depressurization. 122-123 subslab depressurization, 121-122 subslab pressure field extension measurement, 117-118 sump hole depressurization, 122 Active subslab depressurization, 5-7 Advection, in soil, 84 outdoor, as indoor radon source, 25 physical-chemical interactions, federal research 155 Airborne radon, measurement activated carbon monitors, 55-58 alpha-track detectors, 54-55 continuous monitoring methods, 53 continuous scintillation cells, 53 diffusion-electrostatic radon monitor, 54 diffusion radon only monitor, 54 electrets, 58 grab sampling, 51-53 integrated measurement methods, 54-58 ionization chambers, 52 liquid scintillation methods, 56 pulse ion chamber monitors, 49, 53-54 scintillation cells, 51-52 solvent extraction method, 52-53 Air cleaning, 115-116, 127-128 Alpha activity, total, 12-13 Alpha particles, detection, 51 Alpha-track monitor, 49 Animal studies, lung cancer, 40-41 Anti-smoking campaign, 140-141

Appalachian Mountains, radon potential, 90–92 Appalachian Plateau, radon potential, 92 ASTM E 1465–92, 6 Availability, 155

#### В

Barometric pressure, effects on soil radon transport transport, 87 Basement walls concrete block, radon entry, 113 poured concrete, radon entry, 114 Basin and Range province, radon potential, 92 Bateman equations, 12 Becquerel, 1, 13 Blank measurements, 80 Block wall depressurization, active soil depressurization, 122 Blower door tests, 119 **Building materials** as indoor radon source, 25-26 radon from, 113-114 **Buildings** depressurization, reducing, 124-125 effects on indoor environment, 18-20 floor inspection, 117 HVAC system evaluation, 118-119 interaction with soil, 22 investigation, 117 measurement, 116-117 determining entry routes, 116 in water, 117 pressure control, 115 pressurization with HVAC system, 125-126 without HVAC system, 126 radon entry, causes, 112-113 radon transport into and within, 155 review of construction plans, 117 sealing entry routes, 123-124 tightness measurement, 119

## С

Calibration, 79–80 California, radon issues, 151 Canadian Shield, radon potential, 93 Canister method, soil gas measurement, 61 Centers for Disease Control, joint health advisory, 149

Charcoal canister (see Activated carbon monitor) Closed accumulation method, 61 Coastal Plain, radon potential, 89-90 Colorado Plateau province, radon potential, 92 Columbia Plateau, radon potential, 93 Concentration patterns, 4-5, 97-110 national and regional perspectives, 97-100 state and sub-state perspectives, 99 - 105see also Florida; Indoor radon; New Jersev **Conference of Radiation Control** Program Directors, results, 143, 145-146 Continuous monitoring methods, airborne radon measurement, 53 Continuous monitors, decay products, measurement, 59-60 Continuous working level meters, 50 Control strategies, 5-6, 112-132 active soil depressurization, 114-115, 119-123 air cleaning, 115-116, 127-128 building pressure control, 115 costs, 129-130 entry prevention, 114-115 EPA recommendations, 116 long-term maintenance of reduction systems, 131 new construction prevention in, 128-129 promoting radon-resistant, 143 standards and codes, 129 post-installation testing and inspection, 130-131 pressurization with HVAC system, 125-126 without HVAC system, 126 reducing building depressurization, 124 - 125removal after entry, 115-116, 126-128 removal from water, 128 sealing radon entry routes, 114-115, 123-124 source removal, 115, 126 ventilation, 115, 127 Convection, in soil, 84 Cosmic radiation, 15-16 Costs, control strategies, 129-130 Crawl space depressurization, active soil depressurization, 123

#### 159

foundation, radon entry routes, 114 inspection, 117 sealing, 124 CR-39 film, alpha-track detectors, 54 Curie, 13

#### D

Daily variations, in radon, 68-71 Decay products, 58-61 air cleaning, 127-128 behavior indoors, 27-29 concentration in mines, 34 deposition in lungs, 35 determination of concentrations, 51 exposure-dose relation, 35 measurement, 4 continuous monitors, 59-60 grab sampling methods, 58-59 integrated sampling methods, 60 standardization activities, 62 radon-222, 16 respiratory dosimetry, 34 unattached (see Unattached fractions) Diagnosis of problem, 116-119 building investigation, 117 building materials as radon source, 119 building tightness measurement, 119 floor inspection, 117 HVAC system evaluation, 118-119 measurements, 116 in buildings, 116-117 review of building construction plans, 117 subslab pressure field extension measurement, 117-118 Diffusion, in soil, 83 Diffusion barrier charcoal absorber, 56-57 advantages, 57 Diffusion-electrostatic radon monitor, 54 Diffusion radon only monitor, 54 Direct reading instruments, calibration, 80 Dose equivalent, 15 Dosimetry, 34–36 concentration and exposure, 34 indoor, compared to mining environments, 36 respiratory, decay products, 34-36 Drain tile depressurization, active soil depressurization, 122

# E

Electret, 49, 58 Entry routes, sealing, 114–115, 123–124 during construction, 129 Environment natural, 1–2 *see also* Indoor environment Equilibrium equivalent concentration, 13, 15 Equilibrium factor, 15 Extraction methods, soil gas, 62

## F

Fans, active soil depressurization, 120 Filtered-Cup method, 75 Floor inspection, 117 Florida geologic profiles and elevated radon potential, 104, 108–109
patterns of indoor radon, soil radon, geological occurrences, and terrestrial uranium, 104, 110
radon issues, 151
spatial pattern of radon potential, 100, 105
Flow-through accumulation, 61
Flux density, as function of diffusion coefficient in concrete, 26
soil permeability, 22

## G

Gas, natural (*See* Natural gas) Geographic areas, surveys, 78 Geology, 4–5 Glaciated areas, radon potential, 93 Grab sampling airborne radon, measurement, 51–53 decay products, measurement, 58–59 DOE protocols, 75–76 Granular activated carbon treatment unit, 128 Great Plains, radon potential, 92 Great Valley of California, radon potential, 93

#### H

Half-life, 1 Half-title, 10 Health effects, 2-3, 33-45 epidemiologic studies, 33 other than lung cancer, 44 see also Lung cancer Heating, ventilating, and air conditioning systems building pressurization with, 125-126 designing to prevent radon entry, 129 evaluation, 118-119 types, 19-20 Homebuilders, effect of policies and media activities, 153 Hourly variations, in radon, 68-71 Houses measurement strategies, 72-77 DOE protocols, 74-76 EPA protocols, 76-77 need for universal testing, 136-137 temporal and spatial variations of radon, 68-74

#### I

Illuviation, 85 Indoor radon building factors, 18–20 concentration distribution, 20–21 decay product behavior, 27–29 dosimetry, compared to mines, 36 entry rate, 23 historical overview, 3 model for pollutant concentrations, 17–18 predictors of, 100–104, 106–110 foundation type, 100, 106 soil concentrations, 104, 106–110 radon-222 sources and concentrations, 26–27

screening measurement, by state and region, 5-6 sources, 21-26 building materials, 25-26 natural gas, 26 outdoor air, 25 soil, 21-23 water, 23-25 variations in radon and environmental parameters, 23-24 Indoor Radon Abatement Act of 1988, 7, 134 Integrated measurement methods airborne radon measurement, 54-58 decay products, measurement, 60 International Commission on Radiological Protection, risk assessment model, 42-43 Ionization chambers, 52 Ionizing radiation, sources, 1-2

#### K

K factor, 36 Known samples, 80 Kodak-Pathe technique, 75

#### L

Leaching, 85 Legislation, 6-7 Liquid scintillation methods, 56 Lucas cells (see Scintillation cells) Lung cancer, 33 animal studies, 40-41 epidemiological studies, 36-40 general population, 38-40 miners, 37-38 future rates, 154 mechanisms of induction, 156 mortality rates, 42-43 most common types, 36 risk, 1, 33, 135-136 federal research, 156 risk assessment, 41-44 Risk coefficients, selection, excess lung cancer risk, 42 smoking and, 36-37

## М

Mass-balance equation, time-dependent, 17 - 18Measurement, 49-63 activated carbon monitor, 49 alpha-track monitor, 49 continuous working level meters, 50 electret, 49 errors, 70-72 methods and instrumentation, 3-4 airborne radon, 52 calibration, 79-80 performance and background checks, 80 selection, 50 principles, 51 protocols, 4, 67-81 blank measurements, 80 calibration, 79-80 DOE, in houses, 74-76 duration and season of measurement, 67

EPA, in houses, 76-77 instrument performance and background checks, 80 known samples, 80 location in building, 67 measurement and sampling errors, 70-72 quality assurance, 78-80 replicate measurements, 80 sampling conditions, 67 temporal and spatial variation in houses, 68-74 in schools, 69-70 radon flux and soil gas concentration, 61-62 radon in water, 62 radon progeny integrating sampling units, 50 sampling duration and desired output, 50 scintillation cells, 49 standardization activities, 62 strategies, 72-78 houses, 72-77 large-scale measurement programs, 78 in schools, 77-78 in workplaces, 78 units, 1, 13-15 conversion factors, 14 see also Airborne radon, measurement; Decay products, measurement Measurement companies, 151-152 Miners lung cancer risk, 37-38 respiratory diseases, 33 stomach cancer, 44 Mines decay product concentration, 34 dosimetry, compared to indoor environment, 36 Minnesota, radon issues, 150 Mitigation, federal research, 156 Mitigation companies, 152 Monthly variations, in radon, 68, 72-73

# Ν

National Council for Radiation Protection and Measurement, risk assessment model, 42-43 National Research Council, Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiation IV Committee, risk assessment model, 42-44 Natural gas, as indoor radon source, 26 New construction preventing radon in, 128-129 promoting radon-resistant, 143 standards and codes, 129 New Jersey results by geologic province, 104, 106 spatial pattern gamma anomalies and elevated indoor radon, 104, 107 radon potential, 100, 104

# 0

Occurrence, 4–5 Origin, 9–10

# P

Pacific Coast Ranges, radon potential, 92-93 Passive radon measurement detector systems, calibration, 80 Passive soil depressurization, in new construction, 129 Picocurie, 1 Policy current, 148-149 population-risk versus individual-risk, 154 versus science, 153-155 Pollutants, model for indoor concentrations, 17-18 Polyvinyl chloride pipes, active soil depressurization, 120 Potential alpha energy concentration, 13 Pressure, difference between indoors and outdoors, 18 Pressure coefficient, 19 Pressure field extension, 118 Prompt Alpha-Track method, 75 Properties, 9 Public, reaction to policies and activities, 149-150 Publications, currently available, EPA, 144 Public information programs, 143 Pulmonary function, abnormalities, uranium miners, 44 Pulse ion chamber monitors, 49, 53-54 Pulse-type ionization chambers, 52

## Q

Quality assurance, protocols, 78-80 Quality factory, 15

## R

Radiation average background, 15-17 man-made sources, 16 natural sources, 15-16 Radioactive decay, 10-13 Radiometric data, rocks and soil, 88-89 Radionuclides cosmogenic, 15 terrestrially derived, 16 Radium concentration in rock and soil, 83 in soil, 86 Radon availability, federal research, 155 current and future perspectives, 7-8, 148-157 importance of, 1 risk communication, 156 Radon-220 decay series, 10-11 relative activity concentration as function of time, 12-13 Radon-222 decay series, 10-11 exposure to decay products, 16 indoor sources and concentrations, 26 - 27relative activity concentration as function of time, 12 Radon Action Program, 6-7, 134-146 continuing scientific research, 138

continuum of strategies for solving the problem, 140-142 decentralized system for reaching public, 138-140 developing coordinated research plan, 143 guiding scientific and policy principles, 135-138 health risks in smokers, 137 key elements, 134-135, 144 key priorities, 142-143 lack of known safe level of exposure, 135-136 measurable goals, 140-141 mitigation threshold, 136 program objectives, 148 promotion of radon action during real estate transactions, 143 promotion of radon-resistant new construction, 143 sustaining of public information campaign, 143 targeting of greatest risks first, 142-143 translating principles and policies into radon action, 138 universal testing of homes and schools, 136-137 use of proficient radon measurement and mitigation companies, 136 use of short-term tests, 137-138 Radon flux, measurement, 61-62 Radon gas, adsorption, air cleaning, 128 Radon potential Appalachian Mountains, 90-92 Appalachian Plateau, 92 Basin and Range province, 92 Canadian Shield, 93 Coastal Plain, 89-90 Colorado Plateau province, 92 Columbia Plateau, 93 glaciated areas, 93 Great Plains, 92 Great Valley, 93 mobility principles application, 84 Pacific Coast Ranges, 92-93 Rocky Mountains, 92 Sierra Nevada, 92 Radon progeny, federal research, 155-156 Radon progeny integrating sampling unit, 50, 60, 74-75 Radon transport diffusion-driven, 113 federal research, 155 mechanisms, 113-114 pressure-driven, 112-113 Real estate industry, effect of policies and media activities, 153 Real estate transactions, radon action during, 143 Replicate measurements, 80 Risk projection models, 41-44 Rocks radiometric data, 88-89 radium concentration, 83 Rocky Mountains, radon potential, 92 Room model, 27-28

## s

Sampling errors, 70–72 Saskatchewan seat belt program, 141 Schools

# **162** MANUAL ON RADON

measurement strategies, 77-78 need for universal testing, 136-137 temporal and spatial variations in radon, 69–70 Science, versus policy, 153-155 Scientific research, 138 federal, 155-156 Scintillation cells, 49, 51-52 calibration, 80 continuous, 53 Sealants, recommended, 123-124 Sealing radon entry routes, 114-115, 123 - 124during construction, 129 Seasonal variations, in radon, 68, 72-73 Seat belt program, 141 Sierra Nevada, radon potential, 92 Slabs, sealing, 124 Smokers health risks, 137 lung cancer risk, 1, 36-37 Soil characteristics. 84-86 as indoor radon source, 21-23 interaction with buildings, 22 pressure and flow fields, 22 radiochemical composition, 9-10 radiometric data, 88-89 radium concentration, 83 radon emanation, 83 radon measurement, 50 radon mobility, 83-84 radon transport barometric pressure and wind effects, 87 precipitation and soil moisture effects, 86-87 pressure-driven, 112-113 temperature effects, 87 structure, texture, and permeability, 84-85 uranium mineralogy and occurrence, 87-88

weathering processes and products, 85-86 Soil gas, measurement, 61-62 Solid state nuclear track detector, 54 Solvent extraction method, 52-53 Source removal, 115, 126 Spatial variations, in radon, 69, 73-74 Stack effect, 18-19, 112, 121 States, concentration patterns, 97-100 Stomach cancer, in miners, 44 Submembrane depressurization, active soil depressurization, 122-123 Subslab depressurization, active soil depressurization, 119-120, 121-122 Sump hole depressurization, active soil depressurization, 122 Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, 7

## Т

Temperature, effects on soil radon transport, 87 Terrestrial radioactivity, 15–16 Thorium-232, decay series, 9–10 Thoron, 9 Total alpha activity, 12–13 Tsivoglou method, 59

#### U

Unattached fraction, 15 as determinant of dose received, 35 measurement, 60–61 Uranium mineralogy and occurrence, 87–88 radioactive decay, 86 Uranium-238, decay series, 9–10 United States, concentration patterns, 97–100 U. S. Department of Energy measurement protocols, 70–71
Office of Health and Environment, research program, 7
protocols, measurement strategies in houses, 74–76
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency currently available publications, 144
joint health advisory, 149
measurement protocols, 71
protocols, measurement strategies in houses, 76–77
Radon Action Program (see Radon Action Program)
risk assessment model, 43

### V

Ventilation, 18, 115, 127 forced-air, 127 natural, 127 rates, 19 Ventilators, heat recovery, 127

## W

Walls below-grade, sealing, 124 inspection, 117 Water aeration, 128 as indoor radon source, 23-25, 113 radon measurement, 62 radon removal, 116, 128 Weathering, of soils, 85-86 Wind effects, 121 on soil radon transport, 87 interaction with building walls and roof, 18-19 Working level month, 15 Workplaces, measurement strategies, 78