

Radiological Assessment Team (RAT)

The Radiation Assessment Team (RAT) was created by Ohio EPA over 25 years ago after the Three Mile Island nuclear plant accident. Currently, operations of the RAT are funded by a grant from First Energy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC). Personnel salaries for this activity, equipment, supplies and training are part of this grant. This team is a direct result of a requirement by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) that Nuclear Power Plants must have a state contingency plan for a potential release of radioactive material from any of the three facilities potentially affecting Ohio. The RAT is administered by DERR, Central Office, and is comprised of multi-divisional volunteers from affected District Offices; NEDO, NWDO, SEDO, and CO. Equipment and survey meters are stored and maintained at the Groveport Field Facility.

The Ohio EPA requirements and commitment are outlined in the [Ohio Plan for Response to Radiation Emergencies at Commercial Nuclear Power Plants](#). The RAT is responsible for assessing the environmental impact from a radiological release by sampling various environmental media including; soil, sediment, surface water, ground water, vegetation, and snow. The RAT has developed numerous radiological sampling procedures and has purchased the instrumentation and equipment required to do the job. In addition, the Ohio EPA has responsibilities involving solid waste and drinking water issues. These activities are outlined in a response plan with all state agencies involved.