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PAPER TITLE Exclusion, Exemption and Clearance - A Clarification of Concepts

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ABSTRACT (See instructions overleaf)

The terms exclusion, exemption and clearance are defined and used in the International Basic Safety Standards for Protection Against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources (BRSS). All of the terms are concerned with specifying the types of radiation sources which do not need to be regulated. However, the reasons that regulatory control is not needed are different in each case. Exclusion refers to sources which are not amenable to control, for example, cosmic radiation at ground level and most natural sources in the environment. Exemption and clearance apply to sources which would normally be expected to be under control but which present such a low risk that it would be a waste of resources to exercise control by regulatory means. Exemption applies to sources which never enter the regulatory control regime, while clearance applies to sources which are released from regulatory control. While the broad concepts are clear, it has become evident that some clarification and elaboration of their application is necessary.