



C-NRPP Communications Brief: April 2017

C-NRPP Statement on Short-Term Testing

As part of developing quality standards for the Canadian radon industry, C-NRPP has developed a statement on Short-Term Testing.

Short-Term Radon Test – is a radon test which is of duration of at least 48 hours but less than 3 months

Long-Term Radon Test – is a radon test which is of duration of 90 days or longer

1. C-NRPP recommends that a decision for mitigation be based on Long-Term Test.
2. C-NRPP acknowledges that Short-Term Testing has a place in post-mitigation confirmation, real estate and when a more rapid indication of the radon concentration may be required.
3. Short-Term Tests must be at least 48 hours in duration.
4. Placement of a Short-Term device should follow proper Health Canada placement guidance as per Health Canada's *Guide for Radon Measurements in Residential Dwellings (Homes)*.
5. A Short-Term Test must be conducted under closed house conditions, and a Short-Term Test which is between 48 hours and 4 days, must also be conducted with closed house conditions at least *12 hours prior to starting the test* and for the duration of the test; as per section **2.21 Conditions for Short-Term Measurements**, Health Canada's *Guide for Radon Measurements in Residential Dwellings (Homes)*, home occupants must be informed of these conditions and should agree to them before the test is started.
6. A Short-Term Test *that is not conducted with closed house conditions, or suspected that it may not have been*, should have a statement in the communication to the report recipient that open windows may affect the radon level and a follow up long term test should be considered.
7. A homeowner should also be made aware that a short-term test that produces a result of less than 200 Bq/m³ may not be an accurate picture of the annual average in the home, and that they should conduct follow up long-term testing to ensure they are not being exposed to unknown elevated radon levels.
8. C-NRPP recommends that homeowners should also be made aware that although the health risk from radon exposure below the Canadian guideline (200 Bq/m³) is reduced, there is no safe level and it is the choice of each homeowner to decide what level they are exposed to, and what level of radon exposure they are willing to accept.
9. Only C-NRPP Listed devices should be used for short-term and long-term testing.