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Radon backgrounds assaying program for nEXO

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Future large-scale detectors searching for rare events such as neutrinoless double beta decay and dark matter nuclear recoils require understanding and an accurate measurement of the background sources present in such detectors. Radon contamination presents a challenge and significant contribution to the background of these experiments. This talk will present the radon assay program developed for the nEXO experiment. nEXO is a proposed next generation experiment planning to search for neutrinoless double beta decay of 136 Xe. nEXO plans to use a liquid-xenon filled time projection chamber that employs 5 tonnes of xenon, isotopically enriched to 90% in 136 Xe.

More specifically, this work presents the development of electrostatic chambers (ESC), instruments designed to measure radon emanation in a recirculating gas loop, state-of-art in the field sensitive to the micro-becquerel range. ESCs and other detection devices are planned to assay all experiment components that come in contact with the xenon or the liquid heat transfer fluid, envisage to surround the TPC.

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