



RadiActive News



For Radioactive Material Licensees in North Dakota

 North Dakota Department of Health

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North Dakota Radiation Control Program is Now "On-Line"

The North Dakota Department of Health has developed its own website to promote public access to health-related information. The State Radiation Control Program also has created a website that contains information about the use of radioactive material in North Dakota.

The Radiation Control Program site contains electronic versions of the North Dakota Radiological Health Rules, radiation forms such as an "Application for Radioactive Material License," basic information about radiation and the program's contact information.

(The documents on the website are in Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format, a.k.a. "PDF" files; information about obtaining Adobe Acrobat Reader is available at the website.)

If you have any questions or comments about the Radiation Control Program website, please let us know.

Access can be made using the URL address below:

<http://www.health.state.nd.us/ndhd/environ/ee/rad/rad.htm>

North Dakota Rad Health Rules Updated May 1, 1998

On May 1, 1998, the latest version of the North Dakota Radiological Health Rules went into effect. Copies of the new rules were sent to all North Dakota licensees.

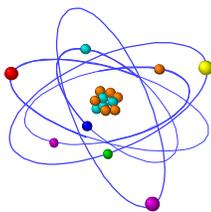
Each licensee should review the applicable portions of the rule to adjust for any regulation changes to ensure that compliance is maintained.

Additional copies of the rule can be obtained by contacting the state health department at the address below. A \$20 fee to defer printing and mailing costs will be charged for each copy.

*North Dakota Department of Health
Division of Environmental Engineering
1200 Missouri Ave., Box 5520
Bismarck, N.D. 58506-5520*

An electronic version of the rules is available for free download from the state health department homepage at:

<http://www.health.state.nd.us/ndhd/environ/ee/rad/radrules/contents.htm>



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"Radioactive News" Newsletter

For North Dakota Radioactive Material Licensees

This is the first issue of the *Radioactive News* newsletter. It is being distributed to all radioactive material licensees in North Dakota.

Publication and distribution of this newsletter will be made on an "as needed" basis. Comments from licensees about this newsletter are appreciated.

Please direct your questions, comments and suggestions to *Ken Wangler*, Manager of the Radiation Control Program, at the address seen above, by email to: kwangler@state.nd.us, or by calling 701.328.5188.

North Dakota Radiation Control Program Information

≧MEET THE STAFF≦

Ken Wangler: *Manager*

Ken has been the manager of the Radiation Control Program since 1992. He also manages the Asbestos, Radon, and Indoor Air Quality programs within the Division of Environmental Engineering. Before joining the North Dakota Department of Health in 1988, Ken worked as a well logger using radioactive material. He obtained his civil engineering degree in 1981 from North Dakota State University.

Jim Killingbeck: *Environmental Scientist*

Jim is originally from Seattle, Wash., where he received his degree from the University of Washington. He joined the North Dakota Department of Health in 1981 and has been involved in the Radiation Control Program for 12 years. Upon first joining the radiation program, he helped coordinate EPA/Health Department radon surveys of North Dakota homes and gave technical advice on measuring and controlling radon levels in homes and other buildings. Since 1992, his primary duties have been related to the licensing and inspection of radioactive material facilities.

Justin Griffin: *Environmental Engineer*

Justin has worked in the Radiation Control Program since November 1997. He is originally from Mott, N.D., and graduated from the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering. While in college, Justin spent three summer internships working as a radioactive waste management specialist at a radioactive waste disposal facility located on the Nevada Test Site.

≧WHAT WE DO≦

The Radioactive Material Program staff is involved in a variety of radiation protection activities, including (but not limited to):

1. Licensing about 70 facilities to possess and use by-product, naturally occurring and accelerator-produced radioactive material.
2. Processing about 54 amendments to state licenses annually.
3. Processing about 14 license renewal applications annually.
4. Performing inspections of about 22 licensed radioactive material users annually.
5. Performing about four investigations or non-routine inspections annually.
6. Providing assistance and consultation to companies that produce naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM) waste.
7. Participating in the state's emergency response efforts involving radioactive material incidents or accidents.
8. Reviewing and authorizing applications for reciprocity from out-of-state based radioactive material users.

≧INSPECTIONS≦

The North Dakota Department of Health conducts routine radiation safety inspections of all radioactive material licensees. The frequency of inspection depends on the licensee's use of radioactive material (e.g., industrial radiography licensees are inspected annually; fixed gauge users are inspected once every five years). Inspections may be *announced* or *unannounced*.

-From the North Dakota Rad Health Rules 33-10-01-04.53:

"Inspection" means an official examination or observation including, but not limited to, tests, surveys, and monitoring to determine compliance with rules, regulations, orders, requirements, and conditions of the Department.

-And from North Dakota Rad Health Rules 33-10-01-07:

Each licensee and registrant shall afford the Department at all reasonable times, opportunity to inspect sources of radiation and the premises and facilities wherein such sources of radiation are used or stored.

Each licensee and registrant shall make available to the Department for inspection, upon reasonable notice, records maintained pursuant to this article.

Radioactive News is a publication of:



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Bismarck, N.D. 58506-5520

Murray Sagsveen, State Health Officer
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Regulatory Compliance

The following list has been compiled to assist radioactive material licensees in correcting issues that are commonly cited as noncompliance items following North Dakota Department of Health inspections of licensed facilities:

Common Violations

1. A record of compliance with public dose limits was not available during the inspection. The licensee must maintain records that demonstrate compliance by measurement or calculation of the highest possible dose to any individual member of the public or any non-radiation worker. This dose must be less than the established annual dose limit of 100 millirem. [North Dakota Radiological Health Rules 33-10-04.1-15 Subsection 8]
2. The Radiological Health Rules, the license, any material referenced by the license, operating procedures, etc. were not posted; or a document to describe the Radiological Health Rules, the license, any material referenced by the license, operating procedures, etc. and where these documents may be examined was not posted. [North Dakota Radiological Health Rules 33-10-10-02.1]
3. The 4/95 version of the "Notice to Employees" form (SFN 8414) was not posted in sufficient locations. [North Dakota Radiological Health Rules 33-10-10-02.1]
4. A review of the licensee's Radiation Protection Program has not been performed annually. [North Dakota Radiological Health Rules 33-10-04.1-05]
5. Individuals were allowed to use radioactive material without receiving adequate training. [North Dakota Radiological Health Rules 33-10-03-05 Subsection 2 and 33-10-10-02 Subsection 2]
6. A physical inventory of licensed materials has not been performed at the required intervals. [License Condition]
7. Leak tests have not been performed at the required intervals. [License Condition]
8. Caution signs were not posted in areas near radioactive materials where they should appear as described in the regulations. [North Dakota Radiological Health Rules 33-10-04.1-13.2 subdivision e]
9. Survey meters have not been calibrated at the required frequency. [North Dakota Radiological Health Rules 33-10-04.1-09, 33-10-05-04, 33-10-12-05, or license condition, depending on the type of license involved]
10. Shipping papers were incomplete, inadequate or not in use. [49 CFR 172.200]

A larger list of common items of apparent noncompliance identified during routine radiation safety inspections is available from the North Dakota Radiation Control Homepage at <http://www.health.state.nd.us/ndhd/environ/ee/rad/violate.htm>

A copy of the list may also be obtained by calling 701.328.5188.

In addition to issues of regulatory noncompliance discovered during an inspection, the state health department occasionally provides licensees with a list of recommendations to help improve the overall radiation safety at their facilities. The following list was developed by inspectors who visit numerous facilities and witness common radiation safety problems:

Common Recommendations

1. "Caution Radioactive Material" signs need to be replaced as soon as they become unreadable.
2. The clipboard (or other device) holding the shipping papers during the transport of radioactive material should be more clearly marked and made to be recognizable to authorities in the event of an accident or emergency.
3. Rewrite information on package labels with permanent marker as soon as they begin to fade.
4. Personnel responsible for radiation safety and/or who are authorized users of radioactive material should be retrained at least every seven years. Refresher training should be provided annually.
5. All non-radiation workers and ancillary personnel (management, clerical, janitorial staff, etc.) should at least be informed of the existence of radioactive material, the location of radioactive material at the facility, and who to contact in case of an emergency.

If you have questions about how to comply with any of the items listed above or how to implement the recommendations, please call the Radiation Control Program at 701.328.5188.



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED