

Radioactive Materials

Volume 1, Issue 1

www.drp.enr.state.nc.us

September 1, 2002

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 DIVISION CHANGES
- 2 BILLING CYCLE
- 3 LICENSING
- 4 SECURITY
- 5 FINES AND ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES
- 6 INCIDENT RESPONSE

1. Division Changes - The North Carolina Division of Radiation Protection has been integrated into the North Carolina Division of Environmental Health, and is now officially titled "The North Carolina Radiation Protection Section." Subtle internal programmatic changes have occurred during the reorganization, but we hope that the overall efficiency of the Section will remain unchanged.

2. Billing Cycle - The billing cycle for the current year has been offset according to temporary rule 15A NCAC 11.1102. Annual invoices will be printed and mailed to licensees on September 1, 2002. The next year's billing cycle will return July 1, 2003. *Please note - licensee address or contact corrections may not be made on the invoice. Specific Licensee address or contact corrections must be submitted as a license amendment. General Licensee address or contact corrections must be submitted on company letterhead.*



3. Licensing - all forms, publications, and licensing guides are posted on www.drp.enr.state.nc.us

- **New License Requests**, when accompanied with a complete license application, should be reviewed, processed, and issued by the Agency in approximately 30 days. License deliveries are then scheduled with the licensee.
- **License Renewals**, when accompanied with a complete license renewal application, should be reviewed, processed, and re-issued by the Agency in approximately 30 days.
Please note: It is the responsibility of the licensee to submit a complete renewal package to the Agency at least 30 days prior to the license expiration date. Timely renewal notices and

reminders are sent to the licensees only as a courtesy by this Agency.

- **License Amendments** - and License Requests require at least two weeks of review and processing before they can be issued by this Agency. Please use the "License Amendment Form" to submit license amendments to the Agency. Once you receive your license amendment, please read the license. Errors and omissions can be identified at that time, you as the licensee, will become more aware of the commitments and requirements outlined in the license.
- **License Reviews** - All NC Specific Licensees are required to perform and document an Annual Review of their radioactive materials program (known as Rule 1603.) Failure to perform the review is the most common violation found during license inspections.

4. Security - With the changing mentality of US Homeland Security, it is imperative that all North Carolina Licensees perform a security analysis of their radioactive material storage locations and transportation practices to ensure that their radioactive material is secure and accounted for. The Federal Government predicts that a “Dirty Bomb” containing radioactive material may be deployed if terrorists successfully obtain a radioactive source or radioactive material.

To access a complete fact sheet on Dirty Bombs, please see the NRC web site: www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/fact-sheets/dirty-bombs.html

5. Fines and Administrative Penalties

– The Escalated Enforcement Policy used by this Agency allows penalties to be assessed involving the loss, theft, misuse, and abandonment of radioactive material, instances of deliberate and willful noncompliance, and repeat violations. Additionally, according to the NC General Statutes, this Agency is allowed to issue administrative penalties of up to \$10,000 per day for each incident. The following summary outlines the most recent penalties assessed by this Agency:

Penalty License Type	Findings/Issues
\$13,250 Industrial Accelerator	Repeat Compliance Failures, Surveys, Oversight, Committee, Procedures, RSO
\$10,000 Portable Gauge	No NC Reciprocal Radioactive Materials License, Program Oversight, Personnel Monitoring, Storage, Postings
\$ 8750 Portable Gauge	Lost/Stolen Portable Nuclear Gauge, Security
\$ 5000 Portable Gauge	Lost/Stolen Portable Nuclear Gauge, Security
\$ 5000 Portable Gauge	Program Oversight, Unauthorized personnel used RAM
\$ 5000 Industrial Accelerator	Program Oversight, Committee, RSO, Safety Checks, Procedures, Calibration
\$ 3750 Portable Gauge	Program Oversight, Security, Repeat Compliance Failures
\$ 2500 Portable Gauge	Lost/Stolen Portable Nuclear Gauge, Security
\$ 2500 Nuclear Gauge	No NC Reciprocal Radioactive Materials License
\$ 2000 Nuclear Pharmacy	Program Oversight, Training, Equipment QC, RAM Inventory, RAM L/T
\$ 2000 Fixed Gauge	No valid NC Radioactive Materials License, Possession of RAM

6. Incident Response - This Agency responds to incidents and allegations potentially involving radioactive material. In 2001, we responded to 39 incidents and allegations. In 2002, we have responded to 24 incidents and allegations, to date. Although scrap metal recycling and landfill detector alarms constitute the majority of our incident responses, all incidents and allegations are treated with utmost seriousness by this Agency. Below, the different categories of incident responses for 2001-2002 are tabulated.

- 34 Landfill Alarms, Scrap Yard Alarms, Rejected Train Cars/Trucks
- 9 Allegations
- 7 Lost or Found Radioactive Material
- 13 Other (Overexposures, Shielding, Medical, No License, Contamination, Vehicle Accidents)