



ERS 99-1102

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF RADIATION PROTECTION
Airustrial Center, Bldg. 5 • P.O. Box 47827 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7827

November 3, 1999

Frederick Combs
Deputy Director
Office of State Programs
US NRC
Washington DC 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Combs:

The Washington State Department of Health is revising its radiation protection regulations to meet NRC compatibility requirements for Radiological Criteria for Decommissioning (RATS ID 1997-6). Please find enclosed, for your review, a new chapter in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC), Chapter 246-246 WAC, which corresponds to 10 CFR, Part 20, Subpart E; and amendments to WAC 246-221-270, 246-232-060, and 246-235-075 to cross reference the new criteria.

A hearing on the adoption of the new regulation will take place on December 9, 1999, so we would appreciate any comments by that date. Please direct comments to Scott Van Verst at the above address. If you have any questions, you may contact Scott at 360-236-3256 or spv0303@doh.wa.gov.

Sincerely,


Terry C. Frazee, Supervisor
Radioactive Materials Section

TF:EK
Enclosure

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OSP



Chapter 246-246 WAC

RADIOLOGICAL CRITERIA FOR LICENSE TERMINATION

NEW SECTION

WAC 246-246-001 General provisions and scope. (1) The criteria in this chapter apply to the decommissioning of all facilities licensed or registered under these regulations. For low-level waste disposal facilities (chapter 246-250 WAC), the criteria apply only to ancillary surface facilities that support radioactive waste disposal activities. The criteria do not apply to uranium and thorium recovery facilities already subject to chapter 246-252 WAC or to uranium solution extraction facilities.

(2) The criteria in this chapter do not apply to sites which:

(a) Have been decommissioned following department approved procedures prior to the effective date of this rule; and

(b) Have previously submitted and received department approval on a license termination plan (LTP) or decommissioning plan.

(3) After a site has been decommissioned and the license terminated in accordance with the criteria in this chapter, the department will require additional cleanup only if, based on new information, it determines that the criteria of this chapter were not met and residual radioactivity remaining at the site could result in significant threat to public health and safety.

(4) When calculating total effective dose equivalent (TEDE) to the average member of the critical group the licensee shall determine the peak annual TEDE dose expected within the first one thousand years after decommissioning.

NEW SECTION

WAC 246-246-010 Definitions. As used in this chapter, the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Critical group" means the group of individuals

reasonably expected to receive the greatest exposure to residual radioactivity for any applicable set of circumstances.

(2) "Decommission" means to remove a facility or site safely from service and reduce residual radioactivity to a level that permits:

(a) Release of the property for unrestricted use and termination of the license; or

(b) Release of the property under restricted conditions and termination of the license.

(3) "Distinguishable from background" means that the detectable concentration of a radionuclide is statistically different from the background concentration of that radionuclide in the vicinity of the site or, in the case of structures, in similar materials using adequate measurement technology, survey, and statistical techniques.

(4) "Residual radioactivity" means radioactivity in structures, materials, soils, groundwater, and other media at a site resulting from activities under the licensee's control. This includes radioactivity from all licensed and unlicensed sources used by the licensee, but excludes background radiation. It also includes radioactive materials remaining at the site as a result of routine or accidental releases of radioactive material at the site and previous burials at the site, even if those burials were made in accordance with the provisions of past regulations (WAC 402-24-150) allowing burial in soil.

NEW SECTION

WAC 246-246-020 Radiological criteria for unrestricted use. The department will determine a site is acceptable for unrestricted use if:

(1) The residual radioactivity that is distinguishable from background radiation results in a TEDE to an average member of the critical group that does not exceed 0.25 mSv (25 mrem) per year, including that from ground water sources of drinking water; and

(2) The residual radioactivity has been reduced to levels that are as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA). Determination of the levels which are ALARA must take into account consideration of any detriments, such as deaths from transportation accidents, expected to potentially result from decontamination and waste disposal.

NEW SECTION

WAC 246-246-030 Criteria for license termination under restricted conditions. A site is acceptable for license termination under restricted conditions if:

(1) The licensee can demonstrate that further reductions in residual radioactivity necessary to comply with the provisions of WAC 246-246-020 would result in net public or environmental harm or were not being made because the residual levels associated with restricted conditions are ALARA. Determination of the levels which are ALARA must take into account consideration of any detriments, such as traffic accidents, expected to potentially result from decontamination and waste disposal;

(2) The licensee has made provisions for legally enforceable institutional controls that provide reasonable assurance that the TEDE from residual radioactivity distinguishable from background to the average member of the critical group will not exceed 0.25 mSv (25 mrem) per year;

(3) The licensee has provided sufficient financial assurance to enable an independent third party, including a governmental custodian of a site, to assume and carry out responsibilities for any necessary control and maintenance of the site. Acceptable financial assurance mechanisms are those described in WAC 246-235-075(4) and, when a governmental entity is assuming custody and ownership of a site, an arrangement that is deemed acceptable by such governmental entity;

(4) The licensee has submitted a decommissioning plan or license termination plan (LTP) to the department indicating the licensee's intent to decommission in accordance with WAC 246-232-060(6), and specifying that the licensee intends to decommission by restricting use of the site. The licensee shall document in the LTP or decommissioning plan how the advice of individuals and institutions in the community who may be affected by the decommissioning has been sought and incorporated, as appropriate, following analysis of that advice;

(a) Licensees proposing to decommission by restricting use of the site shall seek advice from the affected parties regarding the following matters concerning the proposed decommissioning:

(i) Whether provisions for institutional controls proposed by the licensee:

(A) Will provide reasonable assurance that the TEDE from residual radioactivity distinguishable from background to the

average member of the critical group will not exceed 0.25 mSv (25 mrem) TEDE per year;

(B) Will be enforceable; and

(C) Will not impose undue burdens on the local community or other affected parties;

(ii) Whether the licensee has provided sufficient financial assurance to enable an independent third party, including a governmental custodian of a site, to assume and carry out responsibilities for any necessary control and maintenance of the site;

(b) In seeking advice on the issues identified in WAC 246-246-030 (4)(a), the licensee shall provide:

(i) Participation by representatives of a broad cross section of community interests who may be affected by the decommissioning;

(ii) An opportunity for a comprehensive, collective discussion on the issues by the participants represented; and

(iii) A publicly available summary of the results of all discussions, including a description of the individual viewpoints of the participants on the issues and the extent of agreement and disagreement among the participants on the issues; and

(5) Residual radioactivity at the site has been reduced so that if the institutional controls were no longer in effect, there is reasonable assurance that the TEDE from residual radioactivity distinguishable from background to the average member of the critical group is as low as reasonably achievable and would not exceed either:

(a) 1 mSv (100 mrem) per year; or

(b) 5 mSv (500 mrem) per year provided the licensee:

(i) Demonstrates that further reductions in residual radioactivity necessary to comply with the 1 mSv/y (100 mrem/y) value of (a) of this subsection are not technically achievable, would be prohibitively expensive, or would result in net public or environmental harm;

(ii) Makes provisions for durable institutional controls;

(iii) Provides sufficient financial assurance to enable a responsible government entity or independent third party, including a governmental custodian of a site, both to carry out periodic rechecks of the site no less frequently than every five years to assure that the institutional controls remain in place as necessary to meet the criteria of WAC 246-246-030(2) and to assume and carry out responsibilities for any necessary control and maintenance of those controls. Acceptable financial assurance mechanisms are those in WAC 246-235-075(4).

NEW SECTION

WAC 246-246-040 Alternate criteria for license termination. (1) The department may terminate a license using alternate criteria greater than the dose criterion of WAC 246-246-020, 246-246-030(2), and 246-246-030 (4)(a)(i)(A), if the licensee:

(a) Provides assurance that public health and safety would continue to be protected, and that it is unlikely that the dose from all man-made sources combined, other than medical, would be more than the 1 mSv/y (100 mrem/y) limit of WAC 246-221-060, by submitting an analysis of possible sources of exposure;

(b) Has employed to the extent practical restrictions on site use according to the provisions of WAC 246-246-030 in minimizing exposures at the site; and

(c) Reduces doses to ALARA levels, taking into consideration any detriments such as traffic accidents expected to potentially result from decontamination and waste disposal;

(d) Has submitted a decommissioning plan or license termination plan (LTP) to the department indicating the licensee's intent to decommission in accordance with WAC 246-232-060(6), and specifying that the licensee proposes to decommission by use of alternate criteria. The licensee shall document in the decommissioning plan or LTP how the advice of individuals and institutions in the community who may be affected by the decommissioning has been sought and addressed, as appropriate, following analysis of that advice. In seeking advice, the licensee shall provide:

(i) Participation by representatives of a broad cross section of community interests who may be affected by the decommissioning;

(ii) An opportunity for a comprehensive, collective discussion on the issues by the participants represented; and

(iii) A publicly available summary of the results of all such discussions, including a description of the individual viewpoints of the participants on the issues and the extent of agreement and disagreement among the participants on the issues;

(2) The use of alternate criteria to terminate a license requires the approval of the department after consideration of the department staff's recommendations that will address any comments provided by the environmental protection agency and any public comments submitted pursuant to WAC 246-246-050.

NEW SECTION

WAC 246-246-050 Public notification and public participation. Upon the receipt of an LTP or decommissioning plan from the licensee, or a proposal by the licensee for release of a site under WAC 246-246-030 or 246-246-040, or whenever the department deems such notice to be in the public interest, the department shall:

(1) Notify and solicit comments from:

(a) Local and state governments in the vicinity of the site and any Indian Nation or other indigenous people that have treaty or statutory rights that could be affected by the decommissioning; and

(b) The environmental protection agency for cases where the licensee proposes to release a site pursuant to WAC 246-246-040.

(2) Publish a notice in the Washington State Register and in a forum, such as local newspapers, letters to state or local organizations, or other appropriate forum, that is readily accessible to individuals in the vicinity of the site, and solicit comments from affected parties.

NEW SECTION

WAC 246-246-060 Minimization of contamination. Applicants for licenses, other than renewals, after the effective date of this rule, shall describe in the application how facility design and procedures for operation will minimize, to the extent practicable, contamination of the facility and the environment, facilitate eventual decommissioning, and minimize, to the extent practicable, the generation of radioactive waste.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 94-01-073, filed 12/9/93, effective 1/9/94)

WAC 246-221-270 Vacating premises and release of equipment. (1) Each specific licensee shall notify the department in writing of intent to vacate, (~~no less than~~) at least 30 days before vacating or relinquishing possession or control of premises which may have been contaminated with radioactive material as a result of licensed activities(~~notify the department in writing of intent to vacate~~).

(2) Each licensee shall permanently decontaminate the premise, before vacating any premise or transferring the premise, (~~shall permanently decontaminate such premise below or equal to~~) in accordance with the standards specified in (~~WAC 246-232-140~~) chapter 246-246 WAC. A survey by the licensee shall be made after (~~such~~) the decontamination and the department and the landlord or subsequent tenant or transferee shall be provided with a copy of (~~such~~) the survey no later than the date of vacating or relinquishing possession or control of the premise.

(3) No machinery, instruments, laboratory equipment or any other property used in contact with, or close proximity to radioactive material at a licensed premise shall be assigned, sold, leased, or transferred to an unlicensed person unless (~~such~~) the property has been decontaminated (~~to~~) and meets the standards specified in WAC 246-232-140. A survey shall be made after (~~such~~) the decontamination and the department and subsequent owner or transferee shall be provided with a copy of (~~such~~) the survey report.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 99-15-105, filed 7/21/99, effective 8/21/99)

WAC 246-232-060 Termination of licenses and decommissioning of sites and separate buildings or outdoor areas. (1) Each specific licensee shall immediately notify the department in writing when the licensee decides to permanently discontinue all activities involving materials authorized under the license and request termination of the license. This notification and request for termination of the license must include the reports and information specified in subsection (3)(c) and (d) of this section. The licensee is subject to the provisions of subsections (3) and (4) of this section, as applicable.

(2) No less than thirty days before the expiration date specified in a specific license, the licensee shall either:

(a) Submit an application for license renewal under WAC 246-235-050; or

(b) Notify the department in writing if the licensee decides not to renew the license.

(3) If a specific licensee does not submit an application for license renewal under WAC 246-235-050, the licensee shall on or before the expiration date specified in the license:

(a) Terminate use of radioactive material;

(b) Properly dispose of radioactive material;

(c) Submit a completed departmental form "Certificate of disposition of radioactive material" or equivalent; and

(d) Submit a radiation survey report to confirm the absence of radioactive materials or establish the levels of radioactive contamination, unless the department determines a radiation survey report is not necessary.

(i) If no radioactive contamination attributable to activities conducted under the license is detected, the licensee shall submit a certification that no detectable radioactive contamination was found. If the information submitted under this paragraph and subsection (3)(c) and (d) of this section is adequate, the department will notify the licensee in writing that the license is terminated.

(ii) If detectable levels of radioactive contamination attributable to activities conducted under the license are

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found, the license continues in effect beyond the expiration date, if necessary, with respect to possession of residual radioactive material present as contamination until the licensee meets the criteria established in chapter 246-246 WAC and the department notifies the licensee in writing that the license is terminated. During this time, the licensee is subject to the provisions of subsection (4) of this section. In addition to the information submitted under subsection (3)(c) and (d) of this section, the licensee shall submit a plan for decontamination, if necessary.

(4) Each specific licensee who possesses residual radioactive material under subsection (3)(d)(ii) of this section, following the expiration of the facility and/or equipment date specified in the license, shall:

(a) Be limited to actions, involving radioactive material related to decontamination and preparation for release (~~for unrestricted use~~) in accordance with chapter 246-246 WAC; and

(b) Continue to control entry to restricted areas until (~~they~~):

(i) Such areas are suitable for release (~~for unrestricted use~~) in accordance with chapter 246-246 WAC;

(ii) Contaminated equipment complies with guidance contained in WAC 246-232-140, Schedule D; and

(iii) The department notifies the licensee in writing that the license is terminated. (~~The guidance contained in WAC 246-232-140, Schedule D, shall be used in making this determination.~~)

(5) Each general licensee licensed under the provisions of WAC 246-233-020(8), shall immediately notify the department in writing when the licensee decides to discontinue all activities involving radioactive materials authorized under the general license. Such notification shall include a description of how the generally licensed material was disposed and the results of facility surveys, if applicable, to confirm the absence of radioactive materials.

(6) Within sixty days of the occurrence of any of the following, each specific licensee shall provide notification to the department in writing of such occurrence, and either begin decommissioning its site, or any separate building or outdoor area that contains residual radioactivity so that the site, building, or outdoor area is suitable for release in accordance with (~~department requirements~~) chapter 246-246 WAC, or submit within twelve months of notification a decommissioning plan, if required by subsection (10)(a) of this section, and begin decommissioning upon approval of that plan if:

(a) The license has expired or has been revoked by the department; or

(b) The licensee has decided to permanently cease principal

activities, as defined in this section, at the entire site or in any separate building or outdoor area that contains residual radioactivity such that the site, building, or outdoor area is unsuitable for release in accordance with ~~((department requirements))~~ chapter 246-246 WAC; or

(c) No principal activities under the license have been conducted for a period of twenty-four months; or

(d) No principal activities have been conducted for a period of twenty-four months in any separate building or outdoor area that contains residual radioactivity such that the building or outdoor area is unsuitable for release in accordance with ~~((department requirements))~~ chapter 246-246 WAC.

(7) As used in this section, principal activities means activities authorized by the license which are essential to achieving the purpose(s) for which the license was issued or amended. Storage during which no licensed material is accessed for use or disposal and activities incidental to decontamination or decommissioning are not principal activities.

(8) Coincident with the notification required by subsection (6) of this section, the licensee shall maintain in effect all decommissioning financial assurances established by the licensee pursuant to WAC 246-235-075 or as required by this section. The amount of the financial assurance must be increased, or may be decreased, as appropriate, to cover the detailed cost estimate for decommissioning established pursuant to subsection (10)(d)(v) of this section. Following approval of the decommissioning plan, a licensee may reduce the amount of the financial assurance as decommissioning proceeds and radiological contamination is reduced at the site with the approval of the department.

(9) The department may grant a request to extend the time periods established in subsection (6) of this section if the department determines that this relief is not detrimental to the public health and safety and is otherwise in the public interest. The request must be submitted no later than thirty days before notification pursuant to subsection (6) of this section. The schedule for decommissioning set forth in subsection (6) of this section may not commence until the department has made a determination on the request.

(10)(a) A decommissioning plan must be submitted if required by license condition or if the procedures and activities necessary to carry out decommissioning of the site or separate building or outdoor area have not been previously approved by the department and these procedures could increase potential health and safety impacts to workers or to the public, such as in any of the following cases:

(i) Procedures would involve techniques not applied routinely during cleanup or maintenance operations;

(ii) Workers would be entering areas not normally occupied where surface contamination and radiation levels are significantly higher than routinely encountered during operation;

(iii) Procedures could result in significantly greater airborne concentrations of radioactive materials than are present during operation; or

(iv) Procedures could result in significantly greater releases of radioactive material to the environment than those associated with operation.

(b) The department may approve an alternate schedule for submittal of a decommissioning plan required pursuant to subsection (6) of this section if the department determines that the alternative schedule is necessary to the effective conduct of decommissioning operations and presents no undue risk from radiation to the public health and safety and is otherwise in the public interest.

(c) Procedures such as those listed in (a) of this subsection with potential health and safety impacts may not be carried out prior to approval of the decommissioning plan.

(d) The proposed decommissioning plan for the site or separate building or outdoor area must include:

(i) A description of the conditions of the site or separate building or outdoor area sufficient to evaluate the acceptability of the plan;

(ii) A description of planned decommissioning activities;

(iii) A description of methods used to ensure protection of workers and the environment against radiation hazards during decommissioning;

(iv) A description of the planned final radiation survey;

(v) An updated detailed cost estimate for decommissioning, comparison of that estimate with present funds set aside for decommissioning, and a plan for assuring the availability of adequate funds for completion of decommissioning;

(vi) A description of the physical security plan and material control and accounting plan provisions in place during decommissioning;

(vii) For decommissioning plans calling for completion of decommissioning later than twenty-four months after plan approval, the plan shall include a justification for the delay based on the criteria in subsection (12) of this section.

(e) The proposed decommissioning plan will be approved by the department if the information therein demonstrates that the decommissioning will be completed as soon as practicable and that the health and safety of workers and the public will be adequately protected.

(11)(a) Except as provided in subsection (12) of this section, licensees shall complete decommissioning of the site or

separate building or outdoor area as soon as practicable but no later than twenty-four months following the initiation of decommissioning.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (12) of this section, when decommissioning involves the entire site, the licensee shall request license termination as soon as practicable but no later than twenty-four months following the initiation of decommissioning.

(12) The department may approve a request for an alternative schedule for completion of decommissioning of the site or separate building or outdoor area, and license termination if appropriate, if the department determines that the alternative is warranted by consideration of the following:

(a) Whether it is technically feasible to complete decommissioning within the allotted twenty-four-month period;

(b) Whether sufficient waste disposal capacity is available to allow completion of decommissioning within the allotted twenty-four-month period;

(c) Whether a significant volume reduction in wastes requiring disposal will be achieved by allowing short-lived radionuclides to decay;

(d) Whether a significant reduction in radiation exposure to workers can be achieved by allowing short-lived radionuclides to decay; and

(e) Other site-specific factors which the department may consider appropriate on a case-by-case basis, such as the regulatory requirements of other government agencies, lawsuits, ground water treatment activities, monitored natural ground water restoration, actions that could result in more environmental harm than deferred cleanup, and other factors beyond the control of the licensee.

(13) As the final step in decommissioning, the licensee shall:

(a) Certify the disposition of all licensed material, including accumulated wastes, by submitting a completed certificate of disposition of radioactive material or equivalent information; and

(b) Conduct a radiation survey of the premises where the licensed activities were carried out and submit a report of the results of this survey, unless the licensee demonstrates in some other manner that the premises are suitable for release in ((some other manner)) accordance with the criteria for decommissioning in chapter 246-246 WAC. The licensee shall, as appropriate:

(i) Report levels of gamma radiation in units of millisieverts (microrentgen) per hour at one meter from surfaces, and report levels of radioactivity, including alpha and beta, in units of megabecquerels (disintegrations per minute

or microcuries) per one hundred square centimeters--removable and fixed--for surfaces, megabecquerels (microcuries) per milliliter for water, and becquerels (picocuries) per gram for solids such as soils or concrete; and

(ii) Specify the survey instrument(s) used and certify that each instrument is properly calibrated and tested.

(14) Specific licenses, including expired licenses, will be terminated by written notice to the licensee when the department determines that:

(a) Radioactive material has been properly disposed;

(b) Reasonable effort has been made to eliminate residual radioactive contamination, if present; and

(c)(i) A radiation survey has been performed which demonstrates that the premises are suitable for release in accordance with (~~department requirements~~) the criteria for decommissioning in chapter 246-246 WAC; or

(ii) Other information submitted by the licensee is sufficient to demonstrate that the premises are suitable for release in accordance with (~~department requirements~~) the criteria for decommissioning in chapter 246-246 WAC; and

(d) Records required by subsections (16) and (18) of this section have been received.

(15) Specific licenses for uranium and thorium milling are exempt from subsections (6)(d), (9) and (10) of this section with respect to reclamation of tailings impoundments and/or waste disposal areas.

(16) Prior to license termination, each licensee authorized to possess radioactive material with a half-life greater than one hundred twenty days, in an unsealed form, shall forward the following records to the department:

(a) Records of disposal required by WAC 246-221-230 (8)(a); and

(b) Records of results required by WAC 246-221-230 (7)(h).

(17) If licensed activities are transferred or assigned in accordance with WAC 246-232-050(2), each licensee authorized to possess radioactive material, with a half-life greater than one hundred twenty days, in an unsealed form, shall transfer the following records to the new licensee and the new licensee will be responsible for maintaining these records until the license is terminated:

(a) Records of disposal required by WAC 246-221-230 (8)(a); and

(b) Records of results required by WAC 246-221-230 (7)(h).

(18) Prior to license termination, each licensee shall forward the records required by WAC 246-235-075(6) to the department.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 70.98.050. 99-15-105, § 246-232-060,

filed 7/21/99, effective 8/21/99. Statutory Authority: RCW
70.98.050 and 70.98.080. 97-08-095, § 246-232-060, filed
4/2/97, effective 5/3/97; 91-15-112 (Order 184), § 246-232-060,
filed 7/24/91, effective 8/24/91. Statutory Authority: RCW
43.70.040. 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-232-060,
filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW
70.98.080. 83-19-050 (Order 2026), § 402-19-330, filed
9/16/83.]

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 99-15-105, filed 7/21/99, effective 8/21/99)

WAC 246-235-075 Financial assurance and recordkeeping for decommissioning. (1) Each applicant for one of the following licenses shall submit a decommissioning funding plan as described in this section:

(a) A specific license authorizing receipt of radioactive waste for the purpose of volume reduction, repackaging or interim storage.

(b) Receipt of contaminated articles, scrap material, equipment, or clothing to be decontaminated at the licensee's facility.

(c) A specific license authorizing the possession and use of radioactive material of half-life greater than one hundred twenty days and in quantities for unsealed material exceeding 10^3 times and for sealed forms exceeding 10^{10} times the applicable quantities set forth in WAC 246-221-300 Appendix B (for a combination of isotopes the unity rule applies. A decommissioning funding plan will be required if R is greater than 1, where R is defined as the sum of the ratios of the quantity for sealed and unsealed forms of each isotope compared to the applicable value derived from WAC 246-221-300).

(d) A specific license authorizing possession and use of source material in readily dispersible form and in quantities greater than 10 millicuries.

(2) Each decommissioning funding plan shall contain:

(a) A cost estimate for decommissioning facilities impacted by the activities authorized in the specific license.

(b) A description of the method of assuring funds for decommissioning.

(c) A schedule for adjusting cost estimates and associated funding levels periodically over the life of the facility or facilities.

(d) A description of methods and general procedures for performing facility decontamination, maintaining security, and performing a final radiation survey.

(e) A commitment to clean up accidental spills promptly and to begin decommissioning of the facility or facilities within twelve months of ceasing operation involving radioactive material.

(3) Each cost estimate for decommissioning shall include:

(a) A description of the facility and areas within the facility likely to require decommissioning as a result of

routine operation.

(b) Anticipated labor, equipment and material costs.

(c) Anticipated waste volume.

(d) Anticipated packaging, transportation and waste disposal costs.

(e) An assessment of costs associated with an accident involving licensed material.

(4) Each applicant shall submit a certification that financial assurance for decommissioning shall be provided by one or more of the following methods:

(a) Prepayment. Prepayment is the deposit of sufficient funds to pay decommissioning costs. Funds shall be deposited prior to the start of operation into an account segregated from licensee assets and outside the licensee's administrative control. Prepayment may be in the form of a trust, escrow account, government fund, certificate of deposit, or deposit of government securities.

(b) A surety method, insurance, or other guarantee method. These methods guarantee that decommissioning costs will be paid should the licensee default. A surety method may be in the form of a surety bond, letter of credit, or line of credit. Any surety method or insurance used to provide financial assurance for decommissioning must contain the following conditions:

(i) The surety method or insurance shall be open-ended or, if written for a specified term, such as five years, shall be renewed automatically unless ninety days or more prior to the renewal date, the issuer notifies the department, the beneficiary, and the licensee of its intention not to renew. The surety method or insurance shall also (~~provide~~) require that the full face amount be paid to the beneficiary automatically prior to the expiration without proof of forfeiture if the licensee fails to provide a replacement acceptable to the department within thirty days after receipt of notification of cancellation.

(ii) The surety method or insurance shall be payable to a trust established for decommissioning costs. The trustee and trust shall be acceptable to the department. Acceptable trustees include an appropriate state or federal government agency or an entity which has the authority to act as a trustee and whose trust operations are regulated and examined by a federal or state agency.

(iii) The surety method or insurance must remain in effect until the department has terminated the license.

(c) An external sinking fund in which deposits are made at least annually, coupled with a surety method or insurance, the value of which may decrease by the amount being accumulated in the sinking fund. An external sinking fund is a fund established and maintained by setting aside funds periodically in an account segregated from licensee assets and outside the

licensee's administrative control. The total amount of funds in the external sinking fund shall be sufficient to pay decommissioning costs at the time termination of operation is expected. An external sinking fund may be in the form of a trust, escrow account, government fund, certificate of deposit, or deposit of government securities. The surety or insurance provisions shall be as stated in subsection (4)(b) of this section.

(d) Statement of intent. In the case of state or local government licensees, a statement of intent containing a cost estimate for decommissioning and indicating that funds for decommissioning will be obtained when necessary.

(e) Other methods of financial assurance as approved by the department. The department may approve other financial mechanisms submitted by the applicant or licensee (~~provided~~) if the alternate method meets, at a minimum, the requirements of 10 C.F.R. 30.35 and associated U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission guidance.

(5)(a) The department shall review each decommissioning funding plan prior to license issuance and prior to license renewal.

(b) The applicant or licensee shall incorporate department comments into its cost estimate and shall revise its financial surety accordingly.

(c) Applicants shall obtain the appropriate financial assurance as approved by the department prior to receipt of licensed material. The department may issue a new license if the applicant agrees to comply with the decommissioning funding plan as approved. If the applicant defers execution of the financial instrument until after the license has been issued, a signed original of the financial instrument obtained to satisfy the requirements of this section shall be submitted to the department before receipt of licensed material.

(d) Holders of licenses issued on or before the effective date of this rule shall submit a decommissioning funding plan to the department by April 1, 1993. Licensees shall implement the financial assurance requirements within thirty days of receiving department approval of the decommissioning funding plan. Licensees shall submit copies of the financial surety within thirty days of securing the surety and annually thereafter.

(6) Each person licensed under this chapter shall keep records of information important to the safe and effective decommissioning of the facility in an identified location until the site is released for unrestricted use. Before licensed activities are transferred or assigned in accordance with WAC 246-232-050(2), licensees shall transfer all records described in this subsection to the new licensee. In this case, the new licensee will be responsible for maintaining these records until the license is terminated by the department. If records of

relevant information are kept for other purposes, reference to these records and their locations may be used. Information the department considers important to decommissioning consists of:

(a) Records of spills or other unusual occurrences involving the spread of contamination in and around the facility, equipment, or site. These records may be limited to instances when contamination remains after any cleanup procedures or when there is reasonable likelihood that contaminants may have spread to inaccessible areas as in the case of possible seepage into porous materials such as concrete. These records shall include any known information on identification of involved nuclides, quantities, forms, and concentrations.

(b) As-built drawings and modifications of structures and equipment in restricted areas where radioactive materials are used and/or stored, and of locations of possible inaccessible contamination such as buried pipes which may be subject to contamination. If required drawings are referenced, each relevant document need not be indexed individually. If drawings are not available, the licensee shall substitute appropriate records of available information concerning these areas and locations.

(c) Except for areas containing only sealed sources (provided the sources have not leaked or no contamination remains after any leak) or depleted uranium used only for shielding or as penetrators in unused munitions, or radioactive materials having only half-lives of less than sixty-five days, a list contained in a single document and updated every two years, of the following:

(i) All areas designated and formerly designated as restricted areas as defined under WAC 246-220-010;

(ii) All areas outside of restricted areas that require documentation under (a) of this subsection;

(iii) All areas outside of restricted areas where current and previous wastes have been buried as documented under WAC 246-221-230 (8)(a); and

(iv) All areas outside of restricted areas which contain material such that, if the license expired, the licensee would be required to either decontaminate the area to (~~unrestricted release levels~~) meet the criteria for decommissioning in chapter 246-246 WAC or apply for approval for disposal under WAC 246-221-180. Records of the cost estimate performed for the decommissioning funding plan or of the amount certified for decommissioning, and records of the funding method used for assuring funds if either a funding plan or certification is used.