

May 19, 2004

Mr. Richard A. Ratliff, PE, LMP, Chief  
Bureau of Radiation Control  
Texas Department of Health  
1100 West 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin TX 78756-3189

Dear Mr. Ratliff:

We have reviewed the final changes to the Texas Regulations for Control of Radiation, 25 Texas Administrative Code, §289.260(f)(2), "*Licensing of Uranium Recovery and Byproduct Material Disposal Facilities*", received by our office on April 21, 2004 and with additional electronic material arriving on April 29, 2004. We also reviewed our February 12, 2002 letter to you that contained our comments on the proposed version of this rule. These regulations were reviewed by comparison to the equivalent NRC rules in 10 CFR Part 40. We discussed our review of the regulations with Ms. Cindy Cardwell, of your staff, on May 10, 2004.

As a result of our review, we have one comment as enclosed. Please provide an amended final version of your rules showing the location of any changes made, by the State, in response to our comment. If there are any comments which the State believes are in error, the State should identify the section of their regulations that meet the designated compatibility category. Please note that we have limited our review to regulations required for compatibility and/or health and safety. We have determined that if these regulations are adopted, incorporating our comments and without significant change, they would meet the compatibility and health and safety categories established in the Office of State and Tribal Programs (STP) Procedure SA-200.

The SRS Data Sheet summarizes our knowledge of the status of other Texas regulations. Please let us know if you note any inaccuracies or have any comments on the information contained in the SRS Data Sheet. This letter, including the SRS Data Sheet is posted on the STP website: <Http://www.hrsd.ornl.gov/nrc/rulemaking.htm>.

If you have any questions regarding the comments, the compatibility and health categories, or any of the NRC regulations used in the review, please contact me or John Zabko of my staff at 301-415-2308 or [JGZ@NRC.GOV](mailto:JGZ@NRC.GOV).

Sincerely,

***IRA By K.N.Schneider For\***

Josephine M. Piccone, Deputy Director  
Office of State and Tribal Programs

Enclosure(s):  
As stated

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Office of State and Tribal Programs

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Distribution:

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OFFICE	STP	OGC	STP:DD
NAME	JZabko	STreby	KNSchneider for JMPiccone
DATE	5/10/04*	5/19/04*	5/19/04*

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**COMMENTS ON PROPOSED TEXAS REGULATIONS  
AGAINST COMPATIBILITY AND HEALTH AND SAFETY CATEGORIES**

State Regulation	NRC Regulation	RATS ID	Category	Subject and Comments
289.260 (f)(2)	40.32(e)	None	H&S	<p><b>General requirements for issuance of specific licenses</b></p> <p>When the State incorporated the comment from the February 12, 2002 NRC letter, the State produced a contradicting paragraph concerning the requirements for the commencement of construction of a uranium mill. In the same paragraph the State has used both “shall not commence construction” and “major construction is prohibited” without defining what “major construction” is or if it differs from “construction”</p> <p>The State is urged to use 40.32 (e) as a template to construct the wording of this section and to meet the H&amp;S compatibility designation. 40.32 is shown below with the optional areas shown in <b>bold</b>.</p>

**40.32 (e)**

In the case of an application for a license for a uranium enrichment facility, or for a license to possess and use source and byproduct material for uranium milling, production of uranium hexafluoride, or for the conduct of any other activity which the **Commission** determines will significantly affect the quality of the environment, **the Director of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards or his designee**, before commencement of construction of the plant or facility in which the activity will be conducted, on the basis of information filed and evaluations made **pursuant to subpart A of part 51 of this chapter**, has concluded, after weighing the environmental, economic, technical and other benefits against environmental costs and considering available alternatives, that the action called for is the issuance of the proposed license, with any appropriate conditions to protect environmental values. Commencement of construction prior to this conclusion is grounds for denial of a license to possess and use source and byproduct material in the plant or facility. As used in this paragraph, the term "commencement of construction" means any clearing of land, excavation, or other substantial action that would adversely affect the environment of a site. The term does not mean site exploration, roads necessary for site exploration, borings to determine foundation conditions, or other preconstruction monitoring or testing to establish background information related to the suitability of the site or the protection of environmental values.

**STATE REGULATION STATUS**

**State: Texas**  
**[No amendment reviewed]**

**Tracking Ticket Number: 4-108**  
**Date: May 19, 2004**

<b>NRC Chronology Identification</b>	<b>FR Notice (State Due Date)</b>	<b>RATS ID</b>	<b>Proposed (P) Final (F)<sup>1</sup> Rule / ML #<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>NRC Review / Y, N<sup>2</sup> / Date / ML #<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>Final State Regulation<sup>1</sup> (Effective Date)</b>
Safety Requirements for Radiographic Equipment-Part 34	55 FR 843; (1/10/94)	1991-1	P	Y 1/12/99	
ASNT Certification of Radiographers-Part 34	56 FR 11504; (none)	1991-2			Not required <sup>3</sup>
Standards for Protection Against Radiation-Part 20	56 FR 23360; 56 FR 61352; 57 FR 38588; 57 FR 57877; 58 FR 67657; 59 FR 41641; 60 FR 20183; (1/1/94)	1991-3	F	N 11/6/97	9/1/93
Notification of Incidents-Parts 20, 30, 31, 34, 39, 40, 70	56 FR 64980; (10/15/94)	1991-4	P	N 11/21/97	
Quality Management Program and Misadministrations-Part 35	56 FR 34104; (1/27/95)	1992-1			
Eliminating the Recordkeeping Requirements for Departures from Manufacturer's Instructions-Parts 30, 35	57 FR 45566; (none)	1992-2			Not required <sup>3</sup>
Decommissioning Recordkeeping and License Termination: Documentation Additions [Restricted areas and spill sites]-Parts 30, 40	58 FR 39628; (10/25/96)	1993-1	P	N 11/21/97	
Licensing and Radiation Safety Requirements for Irradiators-Part 36	58 FR 7715; (7/1/96)	1993-2	P	Y 3/13/96	
Definition of Land Disposal and Waste Site QA Program-Part 61	58 FR 33886; (7/22/96)	1993-3			Part 61 not applicable to TX-DOH
Self-Guarantee as an Additional Financial Mechanism-Parts 30, 40, 70	58 FR 68726; 59 FR 1618 (none)	1994-1	P	N 11/21/97	
Uranium Mill Tailings Regulations: Conforming NRC Requirements to EPA Standards-Part 40	59 FR 28220; (7/1/97)	1994-2	P	N 11/21/97	Not applicable SECY-95-112 <sup>4</sup>
Timeliness in Decommissioning Material Facilities-Parts 30, 40, 70	59 FR 36026; (8/15/97)	1994-3	P	N 11/21/97	
Preparation, Transfer for Commercial Distribution, and Use of Byproduct Material for Medical Use-Parts 30, 32, 35	59 FR 61767; 59 FR 65243 60 FR 322; (1/1/98)	1995-1	F	N 3/17/99	
Frequency of Medical Examinations for Use of Respiratory Protection Equipment-Part 20	60 FR 7900; (3/13/98)	1995-2			

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Low-Level Waste Shipment Manifest Information and Reporting-Parts 20, 61	60 FR 15649; 60 FR 25983 (3/1/98)	1995-3	P	N 11/8/96	Part 61 not applicable to TX-DOH
Performance Requirements for Radiography Equipment-Part 34	60 FR 28323; (6/30/98)	1995-4	P	Y 1/22/99	
Radiation Protection Requirements: Amended Definitions and Criteria-Parts 19, 20	60 FR 36038; (8/14/98)	1995-5	F	N 3/17/99	
Clarification of Decommissioning Funding Requirements-Parts 30, 40, 70	60 FR 38235; (11/24/98)	1995-6	P	N 11/21/97	
Medical Administration of Radiation and Radioactive Materials-Parts 20, 35	60 FR 48623; (10/20/98)	1995-7			
10 CFR Part 71: Compatibility with the International Atomic Energy Agency-Part 71	60 FR 50248; 61 FR 28724 (4/1/99)	1996-1	P	Y 11/21/97	
One Time Extension of Certain Byproduct, Source and Special Nuclear Materials Licenses-Parts 30, 40, 70	61 FR 1109; (none)	1996-2			Not required <sup>3</sup>
Termination or Transfer of Licensed Activities: Recordkeeping Requirements-Parts 20, 30, 40, 61, 70	61 FR 24669; (6/17/99)	1996-3	P (Part 30)	N 11/8/96	Part 61 not applicable to TX-DOH
Resolution of Dual Regulation of Airborne Effluents of Radioactive Materials; Clean Air Act-Part 20	61 FR 65120; (1/9/00)	1997-1	F	N 7/7/00	10/1/00
Recognition of Agreement State Licenses in Areas Under Exclusive Federal Jurisdiction Within an Agreement State-Part 150	62 FR 1662; (2/27/00)	1997-2			
Criteria for the Release of Individuals Administered Radioactive Material-Parts 20, 35	62 FR 4120; (5/29/00)	1997-3	F	N 7/7/00	10/1/00
Fissile Material Shipments and Exemptions-Part 71	62 FR 5907; (none)	1997-4			Not required <sup>3</sup>
Licenses for Industrial Radiography and Radiation Safety Requirements for Industrial Radiography Operations-Parts 30, 34, 71, 150	62 FR 28947; (6/27/00)	1997-5	F	N 7/7/00	3/30/00
Radiological Criteria for License Termination-Parts 20, 30, 40, 70	62 FR 39057; (8/20/00)	1997-6	F	N 7/7/00	10/1/00
Exempt Distribution of a Radioactive Drug Containing One Microcurie of Carbon-14 Urea-Part 30	62 FR 63634; (1/02/01)	1997-7			
Deliberate Misconduct by Unlicensed Persons-Parts 30, 40, 61, 70, 71, 150	63 FR 1890; 63 FR 13773 (2/12/01)	1998-1			
Self-Guarantee of Decommissioning Funding by Nonprofit and Non-Bond-Issuing Licensees- Parts 30, 40, 70	63 FR 29535; (none)	1998-2			Not required <sup>3</sup>
License Term for Medical Use Licenses-Part 35	63 FR 31604; (none)	1998-3			Not required <sup>3</sup>

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Licenses for Industrial Radiography and Radiation Safety Requirements for Industrial Radiographic Operations-Part 34	63 FR 37059; (7/9/01)	1998-4	P	Y 1/12/99	
Minor Corrections, Clarifying Changes, and a Minor Policy Change-Parts 20, 35, 36	63 FR 39477; 63 FR 45393 (10/26/01)	1998-5	F	N 7/7/00	10/1/00
Transfer for Disposal and Manifests: Minor Technical Conforming Amendment-Part 20	63 FR 50127; (11/20/01)	1998-6	F	N 7/7/00	10/1/00
Radiological Criteria for License Termination of Uranium Recovery Facilities-Part 40	64 FR 17506; (6/11/02)	1999-1			
Requirements for Those Who Possess Certain Industrial Devices Containing Byproduct Material to Provide Requested Information-Part 31	64 FR 42269; (none)	1999-2			Not required <sup>3</sup>
Respiratory Protection and Controls to Restrict Internal Exposure-Part 20	64 FR 54543; 64 FR 55524 (2/2/03)	1999-3			
Energy Compensation Sources for Well Logging and Other Regulatory Clarifications-Part 39	65 FR 20337; (5/17/03)	2000-1	P ML023040140	Y 1/9/03 ML030210400	
New Dosimetry Technology-Parts 34, 36, 39	65 FR 63750; (1/8/04)	2000-2	P ML023040140	N 1/9/03 ML030210400	
Requirements for Certain Generally Licensed Industrial Devices Containing Byproduct Material - Parts 30, 31, 32	65 FR 79162; (2/16/04)	2001-1	P ML040640989	Y 4/02/04 ML040930285	
Revision of the Skin Dose Limit -Part 20	67 FR 16298; (4/5/05)	2002-1			
Medical Use of Byproduct Material-Parts 20, 32, and 35	67 FR 20249; (4/24/05)	2002-2			
Financial Assurance for Materials Licensees – Parts 30, 40, 70	68 FR 57327 12/3/06	2003-1			

1. Or other generic Legally Binding Requirements.
2. (Y/N) Y means “Yes,” there are comments in the review letter that the State needs to address. N means “No,” there are no comments in the review letter.
3. Not required means these regulations are not required for purposes of compatibility.
4. A State need not adopt a specific regulation if the State has no licensees that would be subject to that regulation. See: “Final Policy Statement on Adequacy and Compatibility of Agreement State Programs,” III.1. Time Frame for Adoption of Compatible State Regulations, p. 6, SECY-95-112, May 3, 1995.
5. ADAMS ML Number