



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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**PR 20 and 32
(71FR34024)**

July 27, 2006

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Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Washington, DC 20555-0001
ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff

July 28, 2006 (8:48am)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

Subject: RIN 3150-AH48 Basis for Establishing a
National Source Tracking System

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The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) submits the following comments supporting the proposed change for the National Source Tracking System (NSTS) rulemaking for Category 1 and 2 radioactive sources.

DSHS supports the issuance of this rulemaking under Category B, Public Health and Safety compatibility designation for the following reasons:

1. This change would eliminate the dual regulation of Agreement State licensees under this rule.
2. As an Agreement State, DSHS' Radiation Control Program has demonstrated its ability to work cooperatively with radioactive materials licensees in Texas and this relationship will assure the validity of source accountability under the NSTS rules.
3. Accountability of radioactive sources is a function of health and safety.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed rulemaking.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Ratliff, P.E., L.M.P.
Radiation Program Officer
Division for Regulatory Services
Texas Department of State Health Services

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Subject: RIN 3150-AH48

Comments on RIN 3150-AH48 are attached.

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