

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH PRODUCTS DELETED
DUE TO RADIOACTIVE WASTE ISSUES**

The Council on Radionuclides and Radiopharmaceuticals (CORAR) respectfully requests that the Andrews County, Texas Low-Level-Radioactive-Waste (LLRW) Disposal Site be opened for disposal access to radwaste generators in out-of-compact States. This is needed by the Biomedical Research community and their radiochemical suppliers in States that currently have no access for disposal of most of their Class B and C and Class A biological and sealed source LLRW.

Since 1994 CORAR radiochemical manufacturers have deleted over 300 out of 1500 catalog products due to radwaste issues. These products were used for biomedical research. These deletions have contributed to restrictions on or loss of biomedical research. Examples of research that is potentially jeopardized include:

- Skin, breast and prostate cancer studies, prevention and treatment.
- Tumor formation and pain control in cancer patients.
- Metabolic deficiencies and diseases.
- Neurochemical receptor studies of the cardiovascular and central nervous system.

Both manufacturers and researchers have stopped making or using these deleted products to avoid the following radwaste issues:

- Generating mixed wastes that are difficult or costly to treat for disposal.
- Loss of access for disposal of LLRW and alternative interim storage not viable due to limited storage space, additional costs and uncertainties on final disposition and public acceptance.
- Artificially high cost of LLRW disposal for radwaste generators in most States.

Most of these issues could be resolved if the Andrews County, Texas LLRW Disposal Site was allowed to import LLRW from generators in out-of-compact States. For this to be economically feasible Federal and State regulations and policies will need to be maintained or established to ensure that any unintended consequences are avoided and radwastes from the Biomedical Community and their suppliers are not stranded indefinitely.