



Well Logging, Tracer and Field Flood Study Licenses



Topic Experience



Experience in well logging, tracer, and field flood study topics?

10 CFR Part 39

Published in Federal Register on April 8, 1985

Extension of comment period to October 9, 1985

Effective date - July 14, 1987

Last major revision date – April 17, 2000

NOTE: Copy of 10 CFR Part 39 provided on CD

Definitions

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Well Logging

Means all operations involving the lowering and raising of measuring devices or tools which contain licensed material or are used to detect licensed materials in wells for the purpose of obtaining information about the well formations which may be used in oil, gas, mineral, groundwater, or geological exploration.

Subsurface Tracer Study

Means the release of unsealed licensed material or a substance labeled with licensed material in a single well for the purpose of tracing the movement or position of the material or substance in the well or adjacent formation.

Field Flood Study

Means the release of unsealed licensed material or a substance labeled with licensed material in multiple well applications for enhanced recovery of oil and gas wells.

Tritium Neutron Generator Target Source

Means a tritium source used within a neutron generator tube to produce neutrons for use in well logging applications.

Radioactive Marker

Means licensed material used for depth determination or direction orientation. For purposes of this part, this term includes radioactive collar markers and radioactive iron nails.

Logging Tool

Means a device used subsurface to perform well logging.

Irretrievable Well Logging Source

Means any sealed source containing licensed material that is pulled off or not connected to the wireline that suspends the source in the well and for which all reasonable effort at recovery has been expended.

Field Station

A facility where licensed material may be stored or used and from which equipment is dispatched to temporary jobsites.

Energy Compensation Source (ECS)

Means a small sealed source, with an activity not exceed 3.7 MBq (100 microcuries) used within a logging tool, or other tool components, to provide a reference standard to maintain the tool's calibration when in use.

Uranium Sinker Bar

Means a weight containing depleted uranium used to pull a logging tool toward the bottom of a well.

Temporary Jobsite

Means a place where licensed materials are present for the purpose of performing well logging or subsurface tracer studies.

10 CFR Part 39

Regulatory requirements for well logging license.

Specific elements which the applicant must submit, as follows:

10 CFR Part 39 Divisions

- Subpart A General Provisions
- Subpart B Specific Licensing Requirements
- Subpart C Equipment
- Subpart D Radiation Safety Requirements
- Subpart E Security, Records, Notifications
- Subpart F Exemptions
- Subpart G Enforcement

Elements of an Application

Training

- Operating and Emergency procedures
- Annual job performance inspection
- Organizational structure (chart) and delegation of authority and responsibility
- Leak test procedures:
 - Leak test kit; OR
 - "In-house" by applicant/licensee



Program-specific Guidance About Well Logging, Tracer, And Field Flood Study Licenses

Action Type



- Amendment to License
- Renewal to License

Name and Mailing Address

Legal Name of corporation or legal entity

A division or department within a legal entity may not be a licensee

Individual acting in private capacity

Mailing address

Location of Use



Contact Person

Individual who can answer questions about the application.

Telephone number

- Identify each sealed source with an activity greater than 3.7 MBq (100 microcuries) by the manufacturer's name, model number, and radionuclide.
- Identify each energy compensation source with an activity less than or equal to 3.7 MBq (100 microcuries) by the manufacturer's name, model number, and radionuclide.
 - Confirm that each sealed source is registered as an approved sealed source by NRC or an Agreement State and will be possessed and used in accordance with the conditions specified in the Sealed Source and Device Registration Certificate.

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- Confirm that sealed sources not satisfying 10 CFR 39.41 performance requirements are approved by USASI N5 10-1968 standard for well logging.
- Confirm that the activity per source and maximum activity in each device will not exceed the maximum activity listed on the approved certificate of registration issued by NRC or by an Agreement State.
- Provide the license number of an NRC or Agreement State license that approves a well logging source that is not included in an SSD registration certificate.

- Identify any sealed sources and/or corresponding devices not used in well logging that contain byproduct, special nuclear, or source material and specify the manufacturer's name, model number, and radionuclide.
- Identify the manufacturer's name and model number of depleted uranium sinker bars.

▷ OR

Complete the table in Appendix C to support the request for byproduct, source, or special nuclear material used in well logging operations and radioactive materials used for purposes other than well logging.

- Any sealed source used for well logging > 3.7 MBq (100 microcuries) of byproduct or SNM and is used downhole in well bores of gas wells, oil wells, or in mineral deposits, must satisfy one of the following criteria:
 - Sealed sources that were manufactured before July 14, 1989, may use either the design and performance criteria from the USASI N5 10-1968 or the criteria specified in 10 CFR 39.41.
 - Sealed sources are required to satisfy the requirements of 10 CFR 39.41.

UNSEALED (TRACER) RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL - WELL LOGGING

For unsealed nonvolatile and volatile (e.g. I-125, I-131, H-3, Br-82) tracer materials:

- Specify the radionuclide.
- Identify each chemical and/or physical form requested for each type of tracer study.
- Specify the maximum amount of each radioisotope tracer material that will be possessed at any one time.
- Specify the maximum amount of each radioisotope tracer that you will use in each type of tracer study by its physical or chemical form.

Financial Assurance

Radionuclide	Activity (Curies)	
Americium-241	100	(sealed)
Hydrogen-3	1	(unsealed)
Carbon-14	0.1	(unsealed)
Silver-110m	0.001	(unsealed)

Example License Condition limitation:

The licensee shall restrict the possession of licensed material to quantities below the minimum limit specified in 10 CFR 30.35(d), 40.36(b) [40.36(b) optional if known applicant/licensee will not be using SM], and 70.25(d) for establishing financial assurance for decommissioning.

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Financial Assurance Methods



Decommissioning Records



Recordkeeping Requirements for Decommissioning

Identified location

- As-built drawings showing modifications to structures and equipment
- Sketch of rooms, buildings, or narrative description of the area
- Unusual occurrences (leaking source or other incidents that involve contamination)
- Does not apply to temporary jobsites

Purpose For Which Licensed Material Will Be Used

- Authorization to perform hazardous operations as follows:
 - Removing a sealed source from a source holder of a logging tool and maintenance on sealed sources or holders
 - Using destructive techniques to remove a stuck sealed source from a source holder
 - Opening, repairing, or modifying any sealed source
 - Knowingly injecting licensed radioactive tracer material into a fresh water aquifer
 - Using a sealed source in a well without a surface casing to protect fresh water aquifers.

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Purpose For Which Licensed Material Will Be Used

Sample format for providing information about requested radioisotopes

Radioisotope	Chemical/Physical Form	Maximum Possession Limit	Proposed Use
Americium-241	Sealed neutron source (XYZ Inc., Model 10)	Not to exceed 5 curies per source	Oil, gas, and/or mineral logging.
Cesium-137	Sealed source (Okko Inc., Model 36)	Not to exceed 3 curies per source	Oil, gas, and/or mineral logging.
Hydrogen-3	Gas, titanium tritide neutron generator tube (Cols Inc., Model 3)	Not to exceed 3 curies per tube	Neutron activation logging in oil and gas wells in downhole accelerator

Purpose For Which Licensed Material Will Be Used

Radioisotope	Chemical/Physical Form	Maximum Possession Limit	Proposed Use
Iodine-131	Gas	100 millicuries total, not to exceed 20 millicuries per injection	Subsurface Tracer Operations
Iodine-131	Liquid	50 millicuries total, not to exceed 10 millicuries per injection	Subsurface Tracer Operations
Iridium-192	"Labeled" frac sand	200 millicuries total, not to exceed 15 millicuries per injection	Subsurface Tracer Operations
Cobalt-60	Metal wire	3 millicuries total, not to exceed 1 microcurie per individual unit	Pipe Joint Collar Markers, Subsidence Markers, Depth Determination
Silver-110m	Liquid	200 millicuries total, not to exceed 20 millicuries per injection	Field Flood Tracer Studies
Depleted Uranium	Sinker Bars	225 kilograms	Sinker Weights (Concentrated Mass)
Environmental Assessment (EA)

May be needed if licensed material used in field flood studies where licensed material intentionally released into the environment.

Radiation Safety Officer Well Logging

The person responsible for the radiation protection program; the key to overseeing and ensuring safe operation of the licensee's well logging, tracer, or field flood study program.

Radiation Safety Officer Qualifications

Minimum one year actual experience as a logging supervisor

Formal training in establishing and maintaining a radiation safety program (basic radiation safety course is NOT acceptable)

Radiation Safety Officer Alternate Qualifications

Certified Health Physicist

or

BS and/or MS w/1 yr experience in radiation safety program of comparable size and scope



or

Radiation Safety Officer Alternate Qualifications

Alternative information demonstrating that the proposed RSO is qualified by training and experience.

Radiation Safety Officer Effectiveness

Sufficient time & commitment from management

May delegate certain day-to-day tasks w/o delegating their responsibilities of the radiation safety program.

 Provide a copy of an organizational chart by position, demonstrating sufficient independence and direct communication with responsible management officials.

Radiation Safety Organization Chart



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RSO Duties & Responsibilities



Stop Unsafe Licensed Activities



Monitor Emergency Events











Records Maintenance



Personnel Training



Annual Worker Audits



Interaction with NRC, Other Authorities

Material Disposal







Source and/or Device Transport

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Logging Supervisor

A person who performs or personally supervises well logging operations, tracer/field flood study applications and is responsible for ensuring compliance with NRC regulations and the safe use of radioactive materials.

Appendix L

- Ensure training in 10 CFR 39.61(e) topics
- On-the-Job Training (sealed sources) 160 hrs; 3 months or 520 hrs
- On-the-Job Training (unsealed sources) 3 months or 520 hrs
- Receive copies of and instructions in NRC Regulations, the NRC license, and the licensee's operating and emergency procedures (approximately 8 hours training)
 - Applicable parts of 10 CFR 19, 20, and 30 [30.7, 30.9, & 30.10], all of 10 CFR Parts 39
 - The NRC License
 - Licensee's Operating and Emergency Procedures required by 10 CFR 39.63

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Appendix L

- Written Examination
 - 80% Minimum Passing Grade
- Receive Equipment Training
- Demonstrate understanding by passing Practical Exam
- Annual Refresher Training
- Records

Logging Assistant

An individual, who under the <u>direct supervision</u> and in the physical presence of the logging supervisor uses well logging equipment (sealed sources containing byproduct material, related handling tools, unsealed sources of byproduct material, well logging devices, and radiation survey instruments) in performing well logging operations.

Appendix L

Receive copies of and instructions in NRC Regulations and the licensee's Operating and Emergency procedures

Applicable parts of 10 CFR 19 and 20

Operating and Emergency Procedures required by 10 CFR 39.63

Appendix L

- Written or Oral Examination
 - 80% Minimum Passing Grade
- Receive Equipment Training
- Demonstrate understanding by passing
 - **Practical Exam**
- Annual Refresher Training
- Records

Facilities & Equipment

- Drawing/sketch of places of use and storage.
- Drawing/sketch of proposed tracer material storage facilities.
- Describe protective clothing, auxiliary shielding, absorbent materials, injection equipment, secondary containers for waste water storage for decon purposes, plastic bags for storing contaminated items.
- Describe proposed laundry facilities (if applicable).

Facilities & Equipment

Describe proposed decontamination facilities (if applicable).

 Describe equipment for "repackaging" gaseous, volatile, or finely divided tracer material.

Radiation Safety Program

ALARA program

- Equipment and facilities adequate to protect personnel, public, and environment
- Licensed activities are conducted only by individuals qualified by training and experience



Well logging only performed if written agreement with employing well owner or operator executed prior to the start of well logging operations.

Written agreements:

- Identify a responsible party
- Ensure the following steps, if source becomes lodged in a hole:
 - Reasonable effort to recover the source
 - Not attempt to recover a lodged sealed source that could result in rupture

- Ensure the following steps if source becomes lodged in a hole (cont'd):
 - Continuously monitor the circulating fluids in the well bore during recovery efforts
 - Decontaminate contaminated equipment, personnel, or environment prior to release

- If sealed source classified as irretrievable, implement the following within 30 days:
 - Immobilize source and seal in place with cement plug
 - Provide a means to prevent inadvertent intrusion on the source
 - Install a permanent identification plaque at the surface of the well
 - Notify the appropriate NRC Regional Office by telephone

Submit copy of abandonment report within 30 days

Features of a Typical Source Abandonment



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- Written agreement not required if the licensee and well owner or operator are part of the same corporate structure or similarly affiliated.
- All other requirements must still be met.

Annual Radiation Safety Audit

10 CFR 20.1101(c)

- The licensee shall periodically (at least annually) review the radiation protection program content and implementation
- Guidance may be found in Appendix G of NUREG-1556, Volume 14
- No response is required during the licensing phase

Radiation Monitoring Instruments

Describe the instrumentation used to perform required surveys

Calibration performed by NRC or Agreement State Licensee

In-house calibration in accordance with Appendix N or describe alternative procedures

Material Receipt & Accountability

"Cradle to Grave" Accountability



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Material Receipt & Accountability

Maintain records of receipt, transfer, and disposal of licensed material.

Conduct physical inventories at least every
6 months to account for all sealed sources, tracer materials, and depleted uranium.





Public Dose

10 CFR 20.1301

- Ensure that licensed material will be used, transported, stored, and disposed of in such a way that members of the public will not receive more than 100 mrem in any one year, and the dose in any unrestricted area will not exceed 2 mrem in any one hour
- Control and maintain constant surveillance when in use.
- Secure stored licensed material from access, removal, or use by unauthorized personnel.

Public Dose

Examples of methods to demonstrate compliance may be found in Appendix P of NUREG-1556, Volume 14

No response is required during the licensing phase

Public Dose



Elements must include important items outlined in 10 CFR 39.63:

- Handling and using licensed materials without surface casing for protecting fresh water aquifers
- Maintaining security during storage and transportation
- Keep licensed material under control and immediate surveillance during use
- Keep radiation exposures ALARA
 - Maintain accountability during use

Elements must include important items outlined in 10 CFR 39.63:

- Control access to work sites
- Emergency contact
- Use of remote handling tools
- Methods and occasions for conducting radiation surveys
- Procedures to minimize personnel exposure during routine use and in the event of an incident

- Elements must include important items outlined in 10 CFR 39.63:
 - Methods and occasions for locking and securing stored license materials
 - Use of personnel monitoring equipment, including bioassays
 - Transportation of licensed materials
 - Procedures for picking up, receiving, and opening packages

- Elements must include important items outlined in 10 CFR 39.63:
 - Use of tracer materials including decontamination procedures
 - Maintaining records
 - Use, inspection, and maintenance as required by 10 CFR 39.43
 - Identifying and reporting to NRC defects and noncompliance
Operating & Emergency Procedures

- Elements must include important items outlined in 10 CFR 39.63:
 - Actions to be taken if sealed source lodged in well
 - Actions to be taken if sealed source ruptures
 - Proper storage and disposal of radioactive waste
 - Laundering and decontaminating
 - Uncontrolled release of radioactive tracer material to the environment

Leak Test

- Performed by organization authorized by NRC or Agreement State to perform this service OR
- Use of leak test kit provided by an organization licensed by NRC or an Agreement State OR
- In house by applicant using procedures in Appendix R or describe alternatives

Authorized by License Condition

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Daily Maintenance of Well Logging Equipment

Submit a description of procedure(s) for conducting daily visual inspection

OR

Commit to statement

Semi-Annual Visual Inspection and Routine Maintenance

Submit a description of procedure(s) for conducting semiannual inspections and routine maintenance

OR

Commit to statement

Maintenance Requiring Special Authorization

Prohibited activities:

- Removing a sealed source from a source holder or logging tool
- Preventive maintenance activities (i.e. O ring removal or replacement)
- Removing a sealed source stuck in a source holder or logging tool
- Use of sealed sources or neutron generators in fresh water aquifers

Written procedures for above must be reviewed and approved by NRC



Transportation



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Transportation

Compliance with NRC and DOT regulations

No response is required during the licensing phase



Submit in house procedures to perform major decontamination activities

Drill To Stop (DTS) Well Logging Operations

- Require that all drilling operations cease and that parts of the drilling apparatus, be removed to provide access to the well bore.
- Submit O & E procedures for conducting DTS well logging operations

OR

Submit an outline or summary that addresses important radiation safety aspects of O & E procedures when conducting DTS well logging operations

Measurement While Drilling (MWD) Logging While Drilling (LWD)

- Occur during the drilling of the well bore and do not require that the drills stem or other equipment be removed from the well.
- Can be conducted at the same time drilling operations are occurring.
- Submit O & E procedures for conducting MWD and LWD well logging activities

OR

Submit an outline or summary that addresses important radiation safety aspects of O & E procedures when conducting MWD and LWD well logging activities.

Energy Compensation Sources (ECSs)

- Low-activity special form singly or doubly encapsulated sources containing less than or equal to 3.7 MBq (100 microcuries) of byproduct material.
- Used as reference or calibration standards
- Not considered well logging sealed sources; not required to satisfy the requirement for well logging sealed sources.

Energy Compensation Sources (ECSs) - Exemptions

Leak testing

Abandonment requirements

Performance requirements

Monitoring requirements



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Energy Compensation Sources (ECSs) - Exemptions

- Most requirements in 10 CFR Part 39
 - Exceptions physical inventory & records of use
- Requirements in other parts of NRC regulations still apply



Energy Compensation Sources (ECSs)

- Submit O & E procedures for using and handling ECSs OR
- Submit an outline or summary that addresses important radiation safety aspects of O & E procedures when using or handling ECS.
 - Instructions for testing ECSs requiring leak tests
 - Instructions for conducting physical inventories of ECSs
 - Record system for maintaining inventory records

Energy Compensation Sources (ECSs)

Submit an outline or summary that addresses important radiation safety aspects of O & E procedures when using or handling ECS.

Record system for maintaining records of use for ECSs

OR

Submit alternative procedures for NRC review

Use of Sealed Sources or Neutron Generators in Fresh Water Aquifers

- Prohibited activity
- Authorization requires that O & E procedures include the following:
 - Obtaining specific knowledge of the borehole conditions from the drilling team or company
 - First running a caliper log to show the hole is open or to find problem areas
 - First running a tool without a radioactive source to show it can be freely removed
 - Placing a temporary casing in sections of the hole giving problems.

Tracer Studies in

Single Well Applications

- O & E procedures should address the following concerns:
 - Methods and occasions for conducting radiation surveys
 - Methods and occasions for locking and securing tracer materials
 - Personnel monitoring/personnel monitoring equipment
 - Transportation to temporary job sites and field stations
 - Procedures for minimizing exposure to members of the public and occupationally exposed individuals in the event of an accident
 - Maintenance of records at field stations and temporary job sites

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Tracer Studies in Single Well Applications

- O & E procedures should address the following concerns:
 - Use, inspection, and maintenance of equipment
 - Procedures to be used for picking up, receiving, and opening packages
 - Decontamination of the environment, equipment, and personnel
 - Notifications of proper personnel in the event of an accident

Field Flood and Secondary Recovery Applications

The following should be addressed:

- Agreement with well operator or owner
- Field flood study project design
- Pre-injection phase of the field flood project
- Injection phase
- Post-injection phase
- Emergency procedures
- Reporting and record keeping requirements
- Waste management
- Methods and occasions for conducting radiation surveys

Field Flood and Secondary Recovery Applications

The following should be addressed:

- Methods and occasions for locking and securing tracer materials
- Personnel monitoring and the use of personnel monitoring equipment
- Transportation to temporary job sites and field stations
- Procedures for minimizing exposure to members of the public and occupationally exposed individuals
- Maintenance of records at field stations and temporary job sites
- Use, inspection and maintenance of equipment

Field Flood and Secondary Recovery Applications

The following should be addressed:

- Procedures to be used for picking up, receiving, and opening packages containing radioactive material
- Decontamination of the environment, equipment, and personnel

Notifications of proper personnel in the event of an accident

Authorization specifically by license condition

Tracer Studies in Fresh Water Aquifers

Prohibited activity in accordance with 10 CFR 39.45(b)

Specific authorization by the NRC

Radioactive Collar and Subsidence or Depth Control Markers

- Only used when quantities do not exceed the quantities identified in 10 CFR 30.71, Schedule B.
- Physical inventory at intervals not to exceed 6 months.

Neutron Accelerators Using Licensed Material

Used as a source of neutrons (~ 14 MeV neutron)

Contain less than 30 Curies of tritium

Not considered well logging sealed sources; not required to satisfy the requirement for well logging sealed sources.

Neutron Generator Tubes Exemptions



- Leak test requirements
- Performance requirements



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Neutron Generator Tubes Not Exempt

Tritium neutron generator for target source is > 30 Curies

Used in a well without a surface casing to protect fresh water aquifers.

Depleted Uranium Sinker Bars

- Both generally and specifically licensed.
- General license
 - Acquired under 10 CFR 40.25
 - File Form NRC 244
 - Not introduce uranium sinker bars into a chemical, physical or metallurgical treatment or process
 - Not abandon uranium sinker bars
 - Transfer only to individuals authorized under 10 CFR 40.51
 - Notify NRC within 30 days of the transfer of depleted uranium sinker bars

Depleted Uranium Sinker Bars

Specific license –

- Physically inventory the uranium sinker bars at intervals not to exceed 6 months
- Visually inspect before use for proper labeling and at intervals not to exceed 6 months
- Visually inspect for physical damage and conduct routine maintenance at intervals not to exceed 6 months
- Remove bars from use if found defective, until repaired or disposed
- Record information specified in 10 CFR 39.43(b).

Increased Controls

- Issued November 14, 2005.
- Implementation by May 13, 2006 1st set of orders sent out.
- Implementation by June 20, 2006 2nd set of orders sent out.
- Orders are <u>Publicly Available</u> except the list of licensees who received the orders.
- Well logging licensees received the orders.

Increased Controls

- Ensure new well logging licensees receive the Order, until Part 73 is updated, and complete implementation before taking possession of the Table 1 Quantities of Concern.
- Must attend Security Training to inspect the licensees who received Increased Controls (ICs).

Quantities of Concern

Radionuclide	Activity (Curies)
Am-241	16
Cs-137	27
Pu-238	16

The aggregate activity of multiple, co-located sources (unity rule) can not exceed one.

Breaching one common physical security barrier to allow access to the material ~ then all material in that one location is considered co-located.

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Waste Management

Tracer Material with T $_{1/2} \leq 120$ d:

- Decay-in-storage (DIS)
- Transfer to authorized recipient
- Release into sanitary sewerage
- Obtaining prior approval of NRC of any alternate method
- Release in effluents to unrestricted areas, other than into sanitary sewerage
- Incineration

Waste Management

Tracer Material with T $_{1/2} \ge 120$ d:

- Transfer to authorized recipient
- Release into sanitary sewerage
- Extended interim storage
- Obtaining prior approval of NRC of any alternate method
- Release in effluents to unrestricted areas, other than into sanitary sewerage
- Incineration

Waste Management

Sealed sources with T_{1/2} <120 d:</p>

Transfer to an authorized recipient
DIS

Extended interim storage

Sealed sources with $T_{1/2} \ge 120$ d:

Transfer to an authorized recipient

Transfer of Control

> 10 CFR 30.34(b)

- Mergers
- Contractual Agreements
- Buyouts
- Majority Stock Transfer
- NUREG 1556, Vol. 15, Appendix F

THE END

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