

## COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

## SEPTEMBER 24, 2015 NOTICE REGARDING USE OF URANIUM ABLATION TECHNOLOGIES

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division Radiation Management Program (Department) issues this notice pursuant to the Department's regulatory and enforcement authority over radioactive materials under the Colorado Radiation Control Act. §§ 25-11-103 and 25-11-107, C.R.S.

At this time the Department is conducting an evaluation of the applicability of the Colorado Radiation Control Act to uranium ablation technologies. This is a first step before any licensing for the use of ablation technologies, if needed, would take place. This evaluation has or will include requests for additional information from uranium ablation proponents and a public stakeholder process. Please contact Jennifer Opila (jennifer.opila@state.co.us), the Radiation Program Manager, for more information about this process and how to participate. The Department expects to announce a decision regarding the applicability of the Colorado Radiation Control Act to uranium ablation technologies in 2016.

The Colorado Radiation Control Act bars anyone from acquiring, owning, possessing, or using any radioactive material without a license except as allowed by the Department's regulations. § 25-11-107(1)(a), C.R.S.; see also 6 CCR 1007-1, Part 3, 3.1.3.2. The Department has not yet determined whether its regulations and the Colorado Radiation Control Act allow for uranium ablation without a license. Until the Department determines whether its regulations and the Colorado Radiation Control Act allow for uranium ablation without a license, no one may conduct a uranium ablation activity in Colorado unless the total quantity of source material used and possessed as part of and resulting from the activity meets the qualifications for a source material general license to use and transfer not more than 6.82 kg (15 pounds) of source material at any one time. See 6 CCR 1007-1, Part 3, 3.5.1. No other general license may be used for ablation activities at this time, including the general license for the possession of source material involved in mining operations, 6 CCR 1007-1, Part 3, 3.5.4, because the Department has not yet determined whether these general licenses apply to uranium ablation activities.

Conducting uranium ablation activities which involve the use or possession of source material in excess of the quantities prescribed in 6 CCR 1007-1, Part 3, 3.5.1 for the 15 pound general source material license will be considered the use of radioactive materials without a license, an act subject to civil and criminal penalties under the Colorado Radiation Control Act. § 25-11-107, C.R.S.

This Notice is temporary and will cease to apply when the Department issues a public determination regarding the applicability of the Colorado Radiation Control Act to uranium ablation technologies.

## FOR THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT:

Jennifer 7. Opila	9/24/15
Jennifer T. Opila, MPA	Date
Radiation Program Manager	
Hazardous Materials & Waste	
Management Division	
Department of Public Health	

and Environment

4300 Cherry Creek Drive South Denver, Colorado 80246-1530