Topic: Particle Accelerator Activation Products Reporting to the Radiation Control Program (RCP)

Section/Program/Contact: Karen Beckley, Manager, RCP

To: Medical, Research or Production Particle Accelerator Licensees, Registrants or Operators

Date: May 3, 2013

It has been determined that particle accelerators operating at energies of 9 MeV or greater have the potential to create activation products within the accelerator and/or surrounding materials at levels requiring a specific radioactive material license. Activation products created within these accelerators must be shipped in compliance with US Department of Transportation (DOT) requirements for radioactive materials.

Licensees, registrants and each person who controls a registered or unregistered operational medical, research or production particle accelerator capable of operating at energies of 9 MeV or greater must notify this office, the Nevada State Radiation Control Program, and indicate the maximum energy that the accelerator is capable of attaining. This notification is required to ensure that activation products potentially created by the accelerator are properly licensed and in compliance with Nevada Administrative Code 459.180. Radiation-producing machine registrants and unlicensed persons may need to apply for a radioactive materials license. If you have any questions, contact Anthony Kirkwood, Radiation Control Specialist, at (775) 687-7530 or at akirkwood@health.nv.gov or contact Adrian Howe, Radiation Control Supervisor at (775) 687-7531 or at ahowe@health.nv.gov.

Notification to the State of Nevada Health Division, Radiation Control Program is based on the capability of the particle accelerator, with energies of 9 MeV or greater, to potentially create radioactive materials. It is not based upon the operating energies used by the operators. For example, an operator who owns an accelerator capable of operating at energies of 6 MeV, 9 MeV, and 15 MeV is required to notify the Division, even if the operator only uses the accelerator at the 6 MeV setting.

May 3, 2013

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