

Arkansas Department of Health

4815 West Markham Street • Little Rock. Arkansas 72205-3867 • Telephone (501) 661-2000

Governor Mike Beebe

Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Director and State Health Officer

ARKANSAS INFORMATION NOTICE 14-01

To: All Radiopharmacy, Academic, and Medical Radioactive Material Licensees

From: Jared Thompson, Program Manager

Radioactive Materials Program

Date: February 7, 2014

Subject: Sealed Source Disposals

The Arkansas Department of Health, Radioactive Materials Program is issuing this Information Notice (IN) to provide radiopharmacy, academic, and medical licensees additional information regarding the sealed source disposal requirements.

RH-8410 of the Arkansas State Board of Health <u>Rules and Regulations for Control of Sources of Ionizing Radiation</u> states that a licensee may hold radioactive material with a physical half-life of less than or equal to 120 days for decay-in-storage before disposal. Therefore, radioactive material with a physical half-life of greater than 120 days must be disposed of in accordance with RH-1400 or RH-1401.

Please note that RH-1401 allows licensees to submit a proposed procedure to the Department, requesting alternate disposal methods other than those included in Section 3 of the Rules and Regulations. The Department is aware that disposal of certain sealed sources may be a common issue for some licensees. Therefore, this IN informs licensees that they can request to dispose of sealed sources with a half-life greater than 120 days by decay-in-storage. The proposed procedures must include the following:

- Survey requirements in accordance with RH-8410.a.1. and RH-8712
- Removal and obliteration of radiation labels in accordance with RH-8410.a.2.
- Inventory requirements
- Security of the radioactive material; and
- Current leak test

Disposal documentation must be maintained in accordance with RH-600.a.3.

Furthermore, please note that a sealed source that is originally manufactured as licensed material <u>shall not</u> be disposed of as an exempt quantity, even when the source decays to the amount of an exempt quantity, as described in RH-305.

This IN requires no specific action or written response. If you have any questions about this information notice, please contact the Radioactive Materials Program Staff at (501) 661-2173 or adh.ram@arkansas.gov.