

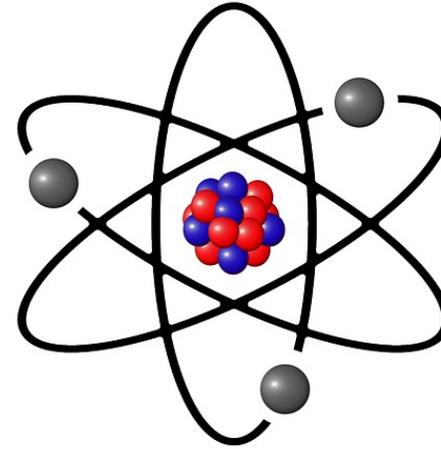
Amendments to 105 CMR 120.000:  
*Massachusetts Regulations for the Control of  
Radiation*

Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Environmental Health

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# Contents

- I. Background
- II. Proposed Amendments
- III. Next Steps
- IV. Questions



# I. Background

- In 1997, Massachusetts became an “Agreement State” with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for the purposes of radiation protection and control.
- Under this agreement, the NRC granted authority and responsibility to DPH’s Radiation Control Program to protect Massachusetts residents from certain potentially harmful sources of radiation (e.g., mammography equipment, medical x-rays, and particle accelerators).
- To maintain Massachusetts’s Agreement State status, DPH’s Radiation Control regulations must conform to the NRC’s regulations and requirements.
- In 2014, the NRC notified DPH that it had promulgated amendments to its own regulations and that DPH would need to follow suit.

## II. Proposed Amendments

Several of the proposed amendments address protecting certain categories of radioactive materials from theft or diversion. These amendments include:

- Personnel access authorization protocols;
- Background investigations for employees who will have unescorted access to radioactive materials;
- Written security plans and training procedures;
- Monitoring, detection, and assessment procedures for licensees' security zones;
- Maintenance, testing, review, and reporting requirements; and
- Requirements for the physical protection of radioactive materials while in transit.

## II. Proposed Amendments (cont'd)

The proposed amendments also provide clarification to existing requirements and mirror regulations that have already been promulgated by the NRC. These include:

- Advance notice requirements if licensees ship nuclear waste across the boundary of a Tribal reservation;
- A general license for all licensees to own and use limited quantities of tritium or promethium-147 in luminous safety devices for aircraft, subject to manufacturing requirements;
- Corrections to tabled values for radionuclides.

### III. Next Steps

- Subsequent to the initial presentation to the Public Health Council on November 18, 2015, a public hearing was held on January 5, 2016 and public comment remained open through January 8, 2016.
- No comments were received during the public comment period and no testimony was presented at the public hearing.
- We request that the Public Health Council approve amending this regulation.
- Pending final approval, the Counsel's Office will proceed with amending this regulation.

# Questions?

