



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Science and Technology



PHILIPPINE NUCLEAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE

16 May 2023

PNRI INFORMATION NOTICE 2023-01

Publication of Code of PNRI Regulations (CPR) Part 15, Rev. 02: “Regulations for the Design and Safe Operation of Gamma Irradiation Facilities”

ADDRESSEES

All PNRI license holders and applicants of License to Operate for gamma irradiation facilities.

PURPOSE

The Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) issues this Information Notice to inform current license holders and applicants of the publication of the Code of PNRI Regulations (CPR) Part 15, Rev. 02: “Regulations for the Design and Safe Operation of Gamma Irradiation Facilities” in the Official Gazette Vol. 119 No. 12 on 20 March 2023. The revision of CPR Part 15 reflects the licensing process and administrative requirements of the revised CPR Part 2, “Licensing of Radioactive Materials and Radiation Facilities” - Rev. 02, which was published on September 12, 2022.

DISCUSSION

Much of the Philippines’ agricultural products industry today relies on the country’s only gamma irradiator for microbiological decontamination, but the facility at the Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) can no longer cope with the growing demand for the irradiation services. The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) has been pushing private sectors to build and operate full-scale commercial irradiation facilities in the Philippines, ensuring that science and technology-based industries will keep up with its neighboring countries.

The revised CPR provides for requirements on the safe design and operation of gamma irradiation facilities that are kept simple, understandable, easily implemented, and aligned with the standards recommended by the IAEA. The PNRI believes that encouraging private sector investment in the irradiation service industry is crucial, and that achieving this balance requires empowering this innovation while also protecting people from its potential harmful effects without imposing excessive regulatory constraints.

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The development of CPR Part 15 underwent a thorough review process through series of consultations and discussions prior to its approval. In general, the revision has updated the requirements on the safe design and operation of these facilities and aligned with the IAEA guidelines, and other international standards and best practices.

The Code of PNRI Regulations (CPR) Part 15, Rev. 02: "Regulations for the Design and Safe Operation of Gamma Irradiation Facilities" is now available and can be downloaded from the PNRI website (www.pnri.dost.gov.ph).

REQUIRED LICENSEE RESPONSE

All current holders of License to Operate for the gamma irradiation facilities are directed to review the regulation and to make necessary revisions in its Radiation Protection and Safety Program, as appropriate and applicable, and reflect the changes and additional requirements necessary for compliance.

CONTACT

If you have any question about the information in this Notice, please contact:

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