



15 March 2013

PNRI INFORMATION NOTICE 2013-01

REVISED REGULATION: CPR PART 25, “LICENSES FOR COMMERCIAL PROVIDERS OF NUCLEAR TECHNICAL SERVICES”

ADDRESSEES

All current holders of license issued pursuant to the Code of PNRI Regulations (CPR) Part 25 “Licenses for Commercial Providers of Nuclear Technical Services”

PURPOSE

The Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) is issuing this information notice to inform addressees of the new revisions to CPR Part 25 “Licenses for Commercial Providers of Nuclear Technical Services”. The PNRI updated the CPR to strengthen regulation and be consistent with international developments in safety standards and best practices.

The PNRI expects that recipients will review the information for applicability to their facilities and consider actions, as appropriate.

REVISIONS TO THE CPR

The revisions to CPR Part 25 include but not limited to, the following changes:

- (1) Section 1 – The scope of this regulation will also cover nuclear training service providers. The requirements of CPR Part 26 “Security of Radioactive Sources” should be complied, where applicable.
- (2) Section 2 – Modification of terminologies such as the following:
 - Radiological Health and Safety Officer (RHSO) was changed to Radiation Safety Officer (RSO);
 - Assistant Radiological Health and Safety Officer (ARHSO) was changed to Assistant Radiation Safety Officer (ARSO);
 - Commercial Service Provider was changed to Commercial Provider; and
 - Organization was changed to Person.

Additional terms used in the document were defined:

- Decommissioning;
- Quality Management; and
- Training Provider.

- (2) Section 8 –The required Quality Assurance Program was changed to Quality Management Program and will be subject for approval by the PNRI.
- (3) Section 9 – The period of validity of the license will be determined by the PNRI. Provisions on possession, handling, use, import/export and/or transport of radioactive materials were included.
- (4) Section 10 – There were additional requirements pertaining to Amendment of License.
- (5) Section 15 – Radiation Protection and Safety Program was changed to Radiation Safety Program. The program must also cover all personnel who provide nuclear technical services. A new requirement was added on documentation of the review of the radiation safety program.
- (6) Section 16 – A new section on Quality Management Program was added to include the requirements for an ISO certification or its equivalent.
- (7) Section 21 – The training requirements in diagnostic radiographic/fluoroscopic facility and shielding design were removed. Subsection (e) included provisions for training of individuals.
- (8) Section 24 – Provisions for the alarm ratemeter were removed.
- (9) Section 29 – A new section entitled Emergency Procedure was added.
- (10) Section 30 – Other types of services such as nuclear laundry, personnel dosimetry service and repair, preventive maintenance and revalidation of radioactive exposure devices were added.
- (11) Section 32 – Records of Disposition of Sealed Sources was changed to Records of Disposal of Radioactive Sources.
- (12) Section 36 – The frequency of submitting records of services was changed from quarterly to annually.

DISCUSSION

The revised CPR Part 25 was published in the Official Gazette Vol. 109 No. 7 on February 18, 2013 and took effect fifteen (15) days thereafter. The CPR Part 25 requirements are applicable to all applicants and licensees as commercial providers of nuclear technical services.

One of the major additions to this regulation is the security of radioactive sources in accordance with CPR Part 26 “Security of Radioactive Sources”. Security measures shall be implemented to secure the source during its use, transport and storage. All authorized persons shall have completed the security awareness training course provided by the PNRI.

The requirements of this regulation shall also be applicable to nuclear training service providers. The Training Manager and other trainers should have adequate skills, experience and training in the principles and practices of the subject matter they present. The

appointment of the Training Manager shall be subject to approval by the PNRI. Additional provisions were given for support trainers and other staff.

The previous regulation required that the license be renewed annually. The revised regulation gives more flexibility on the validity of the license which will be determined by the PNRI depending on the performance of the licensee. Additional requirements were also given for the terms and conditions of the license which specifies that only radioactive materials listed in the license should be possessed, used, stored or transported by the licensee. The licensee is also required to amend his license when there is a change in the location or official address indicated in the license.

There are no major changes in the development of the ALARA program except for a change in the terminology from Radiation Protection and Safety Program to Radiation Safety Program to be consistent with other Code of PNRI Regulations. Other new terminologies, as specified above, were added or changed in order to harmonize with the terminologies used by the IAEA and other relevant international recommendations.

A new section entitled, "Quality Management Program" has been added to include new provisions to ensure high quality standard and management practices of the services rendered by the licensees. Under this new section, emphasis has been provided on acquiring an ISO certification or its equivalent within two years after the issuance of the first license. The licensee is therefore required to establish a written quality management program and to review and evaluate its effectiveness at least annually.

A new provision on emergency procedure is described in Section 29 which requires the licensee to prepare an emergency procedure to be implemented when an incident involving licensed activities, radioactive materials or associated devices/equipment happens.

Specific types of services provided by the commercial service providers were enumerated in Section 30. In addition to the services as specified in the previous version of CPR 25, nuclear laundry, personnel dosimetry service and repair, preventive maintenance and revalidation of radioactive exposure devices were also included. All provisions concerning these services were retained.

Records and reports of the services rendered will now be submitted to the PNRI annually. The licensee is still expected to provide accurate, detailed and readily accessible records for inspection of the PNRI.

This regulation still provides the PNRI the right to withhold or recall radioactive material when used in violation of the law or regulations of the PNRI, or in a manner other than as disclosed in the application and license approved by the PNRI.

The revised CPR Part 25 is now available and can be downloaded from the PNRI website. (www.pnri.dost.gov.ph).

REQUIRED LICENSEE RESPONSE

The revised regulation contains new and additional requirements that all current holders of license issued pursuant to the Code are required to comply.

CONTACT

If you have any questions about the information in this notice, please contact:

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APPROVED:

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Director

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