



Radiological Protection Notice 2001-01

Detection and Handling of Radioactive Sources at Scrap Metal Facilities

Issued under authority of Part 135 of 1978 PA 368

Addressees

Date: September 5, 2001

All scrap metal yards and processing sites in Michigan.

Purpose

This informational notice is to update you on some recent developments related to radioactive material in scrap metal.

Information

1. Attached is a copy of the revised U.S. Department of Transportation exemption DOT-E 10656 to use for portal radiation alarms of scrap metal shipments. If you have an alarm trip, please contact us with the information in the first, second, and fourth sections of the Shipment Approval Form. We will make the necessary contacts and fax a copy of the completed form to you. Please give a copy of the completed shipment approval form and DOT exemption to the vehicle driver.
2. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued a summary of their current position on handling and disposition of depleted uranium contained in aircraft counterweights (see attached copy). For your information, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has some concerns relative to the potential disposal of depleted uranium in Michigan landfills. Please contact us if you detect any depleted uranium for information and advice on proper disposition.
3. The DEQ supports the guidance of the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries and the national Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors concerning procedures for the detection of radioactive material in scrap metal. In particular, we recommend:
 - a. Monitor all incoming vehicles and materials for radioactivity.
 - b. Set the radiation alarm set point just enough above background to avoid false alarms.
 - c. Establish a procedure for response to radioactive material detection events, including prompt notification of this office.

Response

No specific response to this notice is required. Should you have any questions or concerns about this information, please contact us.

MAILING ADDRESS	CONTACT	NUMBERS
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Waste and Hazardous Materials Division P.O. Box 30241 Lansing, Michigan 48909-7741	Radiological Protection Section	Telephone: 517-335-2690 (8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., M-F) PEAS 1-800-292-4706 (24 hours) FAX: 517-373-4797

Attachments