



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Science and Technology

**PHILIPPINE NUCLEAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE**



6 May 2021

## **PNRI INFORMATION NOTICE 2021-04**

### **NEW REGULATION: CPR PART 28, "LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR PREDISPOSAL MANAGEMENT OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES"**

#### **ADDRESSEES**

PNRI applicant/licensee involved in the predisposal management of radioactive waste and authorized radioactive waste management facility.

#### **PURPOSE**

This Information Notice is issued to inform PNRI applicant/licensee who are involved in the predisposal management of radioactive waste prior to the final disposal and authorized radioactive waste management facility on the publication of CPR Part 28, "Licensing Requirements for Predisposal Management of Radioactive Waste Facilities and Activities".

#### **DESCRIPTION OF CIRCUMSTANCES**

It has been recognized that the application of radioactive materials in various fields provide enormous benefits. However, waste that contains or is contaminated with radionuclides arises from several activities involving the use of radioactive material that includes the operation and decommissioning of nuclear facilities; the use of radionuclides in medicine, industry, agriculture, research and education; the remediation of sites affected by radioactive residues from operations of various types or from accidents; and the processing of raw material containing naturally occurring radionuclides are managed in predisposal facility. The nature of this radioactive waste is likely to be such that radiation safety considerations must be taken into account for its safe management. The importance of the predisposal management of radioactive waste for the protection of human health and the environment has long been recognized. It is important to have an established predisposal management of radioactive waste prior to disposal in a final disposal facility.

Predisposal management of radioactive waste covers all the steps in the management of radioactive waste from its generation up to its final disposal, including processing (pretreatment, treatment and conditioning), storage and transport.



The new CPR Part 28 provides the licensing requirements for the predisposal management of radioactive waste facilities and activities. Measures to prevent or restrict the generation of radioactive waste have to be put in place in the design of facilities and the planning of activities that have the potential to generate radioactive waste. Radioactive waste may be cleared from regulatory control if it meets clearance criteria, and effluents produced during operations may be discharged if this is authorized by the PNRI.

## DISCUSSION

The CPR Part 28 mainly focused on the predisposal management of radioactive waste wherein the detailed steps are described in Chapter V.

Chapter II of the regulation provides the administrative requirements which includes the establishment of a radiation safety program as well as the designation of key personnel such as the Radiation Protection Officer (RPO), Assistant (ARPO), and Radioactive Waste Management Officer (RWMO).

Chapter III provides the technical requirements which includes the development of the safety case by the applicant/licensee. The classification of work areas must be clearly described in the application. Chapter III also provides the requirements for the following:

- Personnel Monitoring;
- Survey for Contamination and Ambient Radiation Dose Rate; and
- Possession, Use, and Calibration of Radiation Detection and Measuring Instruments.

Chapter IV provides the requirements for the integrated approach to safety and security which includes the following:

- Management System;
- Transport of Radioactive Waste;
- Emergency Response Plan and Preparedness;
- Security of Predisposal Radioactive Waste Management Facility; and
- Interdependences.

Chapter V provides the requirements for the detailed steps in predisposal management of radioactive waste which includes the following:

- Control of Radioactive Waste Generation;
- Radioactive Waste Characterization and Classification;
- Radioactive Waste Categorization;
- Acceptance Criteria for Radioactive Waste;
- Processing of Radioactive Waste from Collection up to Treatment;
- Conditioning;
- Storage of Radioactive Waste;
- Recycle and Reuse;
- Discharge or Release of Radioactive Materials to the Environment; and
- Clearance and its Control.

Chapter VI provides the requirements for the development and operation of predisposal radioactive waste management facilities and activities which includes the following:

- Location and Design of Facilities;



- Construction and Commissioning of the Facilities;
- Facility Operation;
- Decommissioning; and
- Existing Situations and Past Practices.

Chapter VII. provides the requirements for the education, training and experience of personnel mentioned in Chapter II. In addition to this, a refresher course on radiation safety is also required every three (3) years.

Chapter VIII provides for the requirements for records, reports, and notifications. It is important to have an established record system for radioactive waste to keep track and update on the inventory of radioactive waste. Reports of workers exposure must also be properly documented. Furthermore, notification and reporting of incidents/accidents is essential during the operation of a predisposal management of radioactive waste facilities and activities.

Like other regulations, CPR Part 28 is also subject to inspection and enforcement as provided in Chapter IX. PNRI inspectors can enter the licensee premises at all reasonable times and perform such inspections as may be necessary, announced or unannounced, of the radioactive wastes in possession and the premises, equipment and facilities where radioactive wastes are disposed of or stored. A notice of violation is issued to any person found to have violated any rule, regulation, or order. Any license may be modified, suspended, or revoked, after due process, for any violation which the PNRI determines to adversely affect the health and safety of the workers and the public.

The CPR Part 28, "Licensing Requirements for Predisposal Management of Radioactive Waste Facilities and Activities" was published in the Official Gazette Vol. 117 No. 11 on 15 March 2021 and took effect fifteen (15) days thereafter. The provisions of this order are applicable to all addressees.

The electronic copy of the CPR is now available and can be downloaded from the PNRI website. ([www.pnri.dost.gov.ph](http://www.pnri.dost.gov.ph)).

## **REQUIRED LICENSEE RESPONSE**

The licensee must comply with the requirements of the said CPR.


## **CONTACT**

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