

RADIATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Minutes
June 13, 2012

Call to Order – Public Session

Paul Brown, PhD, chair, called the Radiation Advisory Committee (RAC) into public session on June 13, 2012, 10:03 a.m. in Conference Room 1E of the Portland State Office Building. Committee members and guests introduced themselves.

Members Present:

Barnett, D.M.D., Douglas
Brown, PhD, Paul
Chin, Peter-Jon
Elting, Donald

Franco, Janet
Gilbert, Theresa
Reese, PhD, Steve
Riggs, Edgar

State Members Present:

Bauman, Rich
Carpenter, Todd
Desemple, Erin
Grater, Connie
Hess, Catherine
Howe, David
Keller, Molly

Leon, Daryl
Lut, Margaret
Oberoi, Sudhir
O’Fallon, J.D., Shannon
Shibley, J.D., Gail
Sullivan, Courtney
Van Kleeck, Michelle

Guests

Bremner, Fred – Oregon Dental Association
Fletcher, Beryl – Oregon Dental Association
McLaughlin, Dave – Oregon OSHA

RPS Staffing/Budget

David Howe distributed an organizational chart for Oregon Radiation Protection Services. He noted that one health physicist, Emal Wahab, has left state employment since the February 8, 2012 RAC meeting. The new process for filling vacancies is to advertise for a job rotation as a budget neutral position that usually last 12 months. Through that process, Michelle Van Kleeck from the Drinking Water Program was chosen to fill that vacancy.

The hiring exception process will be started for the remaining vacancy in RPS.

The position will be a half-time license reviewer, quarter time electronic products inspector and quarter time radioactive materials inspector. That position will also serve as a member of the emergency response team.

Review of Minutes

Minutes from the February 8, 2012 meeting were sent to the members for their review.

Motion

Steve Reese moved and Peter-Jon Chin seconded the motion to approve the February 8, 2012 Radiation Advisory Committee minutes as written. The motion carried.

UPDATES

RPS Staff Training/Drills

Todd Carpenter reported that the first Thursday of each month is dedicated to emergency response team training. He updated the committee on training that RPS staff has participated in since the February RAC meeting.

Equipment Updates

- HSPR/ERT Equipment – Todd Carpenter reported that the Health security preparedness and response program (HSPR) program is a federally funded program in the Health Division. All of their funds for this fiscal period need to be spent by June 30, 2012. They offered other divisions in the Health Division opportunities to propose expenses for this money. RPS put in a \$90,000 equipment proposal and it was accepted.
- Reclamation fee for byproduct waste – Todd Carpenter stated that there is a 55-gallon drum in our storage area. Every once in a while we get requests to pick up radioactive sources from the area (high school science programs, etc.) and we do it at our expense. We bring the material back and put it in the drum to decay. When the drum is full, there are not dedicated funds to get rid of the waste. This subject will be researched further and addressed at a future meeting.
- Annual Licensee Dosimetry Reports – Todd Carpenter reported that some of the radioactive material license conditions require that they submit annual dosimetry reports of their staff's radiation exposure to our office. Some of the reports are quite lengthy and bulky. We would like to change that license condition to have the reports remain at the facility and made available for inspectors. The Oregon Administrative Rules will need to be

updated to change that condition.

- X-ray Field Test Equipment – Margaret Lut reported that Unfors equipment was purchased for X-ray Program inspectors. She gave an overview on the capabilities of the equipment and the highlights of the software.

Electronic Field Reporting (EFR) Project

Courtney Sullivan, Customer Account Manager for RPS, updated the committee on the progress of the EFR Project. Currently, the process involves gathering requirements and creating a design for the application. The design team consists of Rick Wendt, Margaret Lut and Rich Beauman. She presented the design process to the committee.

Electronic Licensing/Reciprocity

Todd Carpenter reviewed the current reciprocity process with the committee. Currently, a radioactive materials licensee that has a reciprocity license with Oregon notifies us via email or fax that they want to work in Oregon. We then review the request, type up an authorization form and email or fax the approval back to them. With the proposed electronic process, phase one of the process will allow them to be able to go to our website and log in. They will then be able to submit an electronic request to work in Oregon. Phase 2 of the project will have the “database review the request” and approve the request. Todd distributed Informational Bulletin 2012-05 “Online Access to Request Authorization to Perform Activities in Oregon” (Attachment 3). This notice was sent to reciprocity licensees to inform them of this process.

RULE UPDATES

X-ray Operator Rule Revision

Molly Keller reported that we are considering a rule revision for training requirements for X-ray operators. The proposal includes revising the time dependency piece and make it a topic-based requirement. The proposed rule revision will be presented for approval at a future RAC meeting.

Civil Penalty Process Revision Proposal

Molly Keller reported there is a civil penalty process for inspections conducted in the Tanning Program. If a facility fails to respond to inspection violation(s), they enter the civil penalty process. Since the inception of enforcing Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 333, Division 124, there has been a decrease in violations each year, thus less civil penalty action. RPS is now going to start training X-ray and radioactive material license inspectors on the civil penalty

process.

Sanitizer Proposed Rule Change

Erin DeSemples distributed proposed changes to OAR 333-119-0040 (Attachment 1) because of sanitizers recommended in the past are no longer available. The rule change would clarify that the facility is being sanitized properly.

Infrared Tanning Beds

Molly Keller gave an update on the status of infrared tanning beds. She stated that RPS distributed Enforcement Bulletin 2012-13, "Use of red light therapy (633nm) lamps in tanning devices" on February 15, 2012 (Attachment 2). This bulletin was issued to inform tanning registrants that replacing UV tanning lamps with red light therapy lamps is not allowed.

HEALTH DIVISION UPDATE

Public Health Division Reorganization Update

Gail Shibley, Office of Environmental Public Health Administrator, distributed organizational charts showing the reorganization of the Oregon Public Health Division. The reorganization involves regrouping from five "offices" to three "centers". There will be the Center for Health Protection, Center for Public Health Practice and the Center for Prevention and Health Promotion under the Office of the State Public Health Director. Radiation Protection Services will be in the Center for Health Protection, headed up by Gail Shibley.

UPDATES (Continued)

Fukushima Debris Update

Daryl Leon reported that during March and April, debris from the Fukushima incident started to show up. During April, an RPS employee was involved in a series of meetings with other agencies to inform the residents of the coastal community on what to expect from the marine debris. RPS was involved to allay the radiation fear.

The Aurora Uranium Mining Project

Daryl Leon reported that an Australian company, Energy Adventures, Ltd. with an Oregon subsidiary company plans to operate uranium mining in southeastern Oregon at the Aurora mining site. US NRC has jurisdiction of the processing mill on that site. RPS has no jurisdiction for this project under our current rules.

Therapy Inspection Update

Catherine Hess reported that RPS was going to continue inspecting facilities with linear accelerators machines in Oregon. There are 25 facilities in Oregon with these machines and 18 of those facilities were inspected in 2010. One of the facilities was inspected recently with the next inspection scheduled for August. Most of what the inspection consists of is checking documents and records. Catherine noted she has updated inspection forms to include these facilities. She also plans to review the current rules relating to these facilities to ensure they are current.

MQSA Program/Contract

David Howe reported that we have a contract with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to conduct inspections on the 96 mammography facilities in the state. Margaret Lut and Molly Keller are the two certified mammography inspectors for RPS. We just started a five year contract with FDA on April 1, 2012.

Handheld X-ray Device Update

David Howe distributed the Information Bulletin 2012-04 “Important Information Aribex-Manufactured Hand-Held Dental X-ray Unit Revised Exemption for General Dentistry and Dental Care at Locations for Underserved Populations” (Attachment 4). Originally, operators of the hand-held dental X-ray units were required to wear a protective full body apron and thyroid collar and there were dosimetry requirements. Now, after many discussions, the process for exemptions in the mentioned bulletin has been adopted.

OLD BUSINESS

Member Recruitment for Subcommittee for CT Rules

Margaret Lut reported that members for the Subcommittee for CT Rules have been recruited and include RPS managers and staff, CT technicians, representative from Health Physics Northwest, instructors, etc.

Goals for the subcommittee include review and update administrative rules for CT as needed, look at inspection procedures, and focus on equipment. She stated she has contacted other states on their CT rules and sent out a questionnaire to committee members.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

The next meeting for the Radiation Advisory Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, October 10, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie J. Grater