

## APPENDIX O

### EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

If the source fails to return to the shielded position (e.g., as a result of being damaged, source becomes stuck below the surface) or if any other emergency or unusual situation arises (e.g., the gauge is struck by a moving vehicle, is dropped, or is in a transport vehicle involved in an accident) specific response actions must be taken.

#### **THE INDIVIDUAL AT THE ACCIDENT SCENE MUST DO THE FOLLOWING**

- **RESTRICT ACCESS** Immediately secure the area and establish a restricted area boundary. Keep individuals at least 15 feet away from the gauge until the situation is assessed and radiation levels are known. However, perform first aid for any injured individuals and remove them from the area only when medically safe to do so.
- **MAINTAIN SURVEILLANCE** Maintain constant, direct surveillance of the restricted area by an Authorized User.
- **DETAIN INDIVIDUALS** If any heavy equipment is involved, detain the equipment and operator until it is determined there is no contamination present.
- **REMAIN AT THE SCENE** Gauge users and other potentially contaminated individuals should not leave the scene except for immediate medical attention.
- **NOTIFY** Notify the persons in the order listed below of the situation:

NAME	WORK PHONE NUMBER	HOME PHONE NUMBER
_____ RSO	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Fill in with (and update, as needed) the names and telephone numbers of appropriate personnel (e.g., the Radiation Safety Officer (RSO), or other knowledgeable licensee staff, licensee's consultant, gauge manufacturer) to be contacted in case of emergency.

- **FOLLOW DIRECTIONS** Follow the directions provided by the person contacted above.

**NOTE: DO NOT HANDLE UNSHIELDED SOURCES OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL**

**THE RSO AND LICENSE MANAGEMENT MUST DO THE FOLLOWING**

- Arrange for a radiation survey to be conducted as soon as possible by a knowledgeable person using appropriate radiation detection instrumentation. This person could be a licensee employee using a survey meter located at the job site or a consultant. To accurately assess the radiation danger, it is essential that the person performing the survey be competent in the use of the survey meter.
- If gauges are used for measurements with the unshielded source extended more than 3 feet below the surface, contact persons listed on the emergency procedures need to know the steps to be followed to retrieve a stuck source and to convey those steps to the staff on site.
- Make necessary notifications to local authorities as well as the **Arkansas Department of Health, 1-800-633-1735 or 1-501-661-2136** (staffed 24 hours a day) Immediate **Department** notification is required when gauges containing radioactive material are lost or stolen, when gauges are damaged or involved in incidents, and when it becomes apparent that attempts to recover a source stuck below the surface will not be successful.
- Reports to the **Department** must be made within the reporting timeframes specified by the regulations.
- Reporting requirements are found in **Paragraphs RH-1501 and RH-1502.**
- Recovery operations and decontamination must only be attempted by properly trained and licensed individuals.

**Note: In the event of a transportation accident involving radioactive material, the Arkansas Department of Health, the Arkansas State Police and the U.S. Department of Transportation must be notified.**