



Arkansas Department of Health

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Governor Mike Beebe

Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Director and State Health Officer

ARKANSAS INFORMATION NOTICE 13-05

To: Scrapyards and steel mills

From: Bernard Bevill, Section Chief
Radiation Control Section

Date: September 3, 2013

Subject: Being aware of radioactive scrap

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bernard Bevill".

This Information Notice (IN) is to advise Arkansas scrap yards and steel mills of the need to properly recognize, and then notify the Department of, potentially radioactive items found in scrap.

The poster included with this IN contains a few examples of items that contain radioactive material. If items such as these are found, promptly secure the area then contact the Arkansas Department of Health, Radiation Control at (501) 661-2301 during business hours or at (800) 633-1735 after hours for further instructions. Be mindful that some radioactive items may not be labeled, or the radiation warning symbol may be covered by dirt, oil, paint, or rust.

If radioactive scrap finds its way into scrap handling facilities, this could result in contamination of those facilities and radiation exposure to the workers and/or members of the public. Radiation monitors can be used to check incoming scrap for radioactive material; however, they cannot always detect radioactive material that may be carried in a load or otherwise shielded from the radiation monitor. Also, keep in mind that items that are not normally radioactive can set off radiation monitors if radioactive contamination is present in or on the surface of the items.

This IN requires no specific action or written response. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Bernie Bevill, Radiation Control Section Chief, at (501) 661-2301.

Enclosure