To: Radioactive Material Licensees, Accelerator Licensees, X-ray Registrants, General License Registrants, and other Interested Parties

From: Bernard Bevill, Section Chief
Radiation Control Section

Date: October 28, 2014

Subject: Final revisions to the Arkansas State Board of Health Rules and Regulations for Control of Sources of Ionizing Radiation

This Information Notice (IN) is to advise all licensees, registrants, and other interested parties of the adoption of revisions to the Arkansas State Board of Health Rules and Regulations for Control of Sources of Ionizing Radiation pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act as amended, Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-201 et seq., by authority of Ark. Code Ann. §§ 20-21-203 through 20-21-217. In conformance with the Administrative Procedures Act, all steps for final approval/certification have been completed.

The November 30, 2014 revision contains those regulations put out for public comment in August 2014. Drafts and a cross-reference are available upon request. A summary of the revisions is provided for your review.

The ASBH Rules and Regulations for Control of Sources of Ionizing Radiation can be accessed on the Department’s website, www.healthy.arkansas.gov, by way of the “Current Rules & Regs” link then “Control of Sources of Ionizing Radiation” link. A copy of the regulations is available upon request.

This IN requires no specific action or written response. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call Radiation Control at (501) 661-2301.
Revisions were as follows:

- Revisions to definitions of "construction" and "commencement of construction" due to NRC regulation amendment RATS 2011-2, "Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Materials Licensees"

- Revisions to Section 3, "Standards for Protection Against Radiation," concerning Appendix A to Section 3, Appendix B to Section 3, RH-1210., RH-1303., and the RH-1400's (deletion of a table and related regulations that have been superseded by other current regulations, in order to maintain compatibility with the NRC; other general clean-up)

- Removal of individual letter/number designations from definitions throughout the Regulations; general clean-up of some definitions

- Revision of current accelerator licensing and radiation safety requirement regulations including Section 6, "Particle Accelerators," and related regulations in Part I, "Radiation Safety Requirements for Industrial Radiographic Operations," and Part J, "Radiation Safety Requirements for Wireline Service Operations and Subsurface Tracer Studies," of Section 3 (general clean-up and clarification; addition of licensing requirements comparable to those used with radioactive material licenses; updating of radiation safety provisions; addition of survey meter operability and calibration requirements previously handled in licensing)

- Addition of a new Section 11, "Therapeutic Radiation Machines," that addresses therapeutic uses of x-ray machines (< 500 kV), medical accelerators (≥ 500 kV/keV), and electronic brachytherapy devices. The new Section updates and make more succinct existing requirements found in RH-1607., RH-1608., and the RH-5500's. These sections have been deleted.

- Revisions to the initial registration requirements and reporting of changes regarding registration of x-ray machines and electronic brachytherapy devices (initial registration of the machine/device, designation of a Radiation Safety Officer, notification of the Department regarding changes that render registration no longer accurate)

- Revisions regarding the contents of radiation protection survey reports based on the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements recommendations

- Revisions concerning record keeping retention periods for dosimetry system calibrations and full calibration records