

**BY ORDER OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE**

AIR FORCE POLICY DIRECTIVE 40-2

19 JUNE 2019



Medical Command

**RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS (NON-
NUCLEAR WEAPONS)**

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This Air Force Policy Directive implements Department of Defense Instruction 6055.08, *Occupational Ionizing Radiation Protection Program*. This publication applies to all Air Force personnel including members of the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard who acquire or possess radioactive materials subject to this regulation. This directive establishes policy for the control of radioactive materials within the possession of the Air Force, including those radioactive materials regulated by the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission; but excludes those used in nuclear weapons or those that are otherwise exempted from regulation by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, including radioactive materials transferred from the Department of Energy to the Department of Defense as components of nuclear weapon systems, certain radioactive components of weapons systems, nuclear reactor systems components and fuel controlled under Title 42 United States Code Section 2121, *Authority of Commission*, and Department of Energy activities related to SAFE HAVEN requirements. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with Air Force Manual 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule located in the Air Force Records Information Management System. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility using the Air Force Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route AF Forms 847 from the field through the appropriate functional chain of command to the Air Force Medical Support Agency/Bioenvironmental Engineering Branch (AFMSA/SG3PB), 7700 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church, VA 22041.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This revision incorporates minor administrative changes to include clarification of roles and responsibilities, but policy has not changed.

1. POLICY. The use of radioactive materials is beneficial, and often essential to success, in medicine, research and development, and operational activities. However, there are potential hazards associated with these materials that must be controlled to protect human health and the environment. Management of materials is necessary to ensure not only safety but to meet legal requirements. To minimize hazards associated with radioactive material, which may threaten human health and the environment, the Air Force shall:

- 1.1. Limit the use of radioactive materials as much as possible.
- 1.2. Use radioactive materials only when justified.
- 1.3. Maintain radiation exposures to workers and the public below federal regulatory limits and as low as is reasonably achievable.
- 1.4. Use radioactive materials on Air Force installations only when the material has a valid permit or license (if applicable), and when approved by the installation commander.
- 1.5. Allow only individuals qualified by appropriate training and experience to use, supervise the use of, train others, and oversee radioactive material programs.
- 1.6. Maintain a formal program to manage and assess compliance with this and Department of Defense policy, provisions of the Air Force Master Materials License and with Air Force Radioactive Material Permits.

2. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

2.1. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Installations, Environment and Energy (SAF/IE) shall execute radiation safety and radioactive materials management duties as outlined in Headquarters Air Force Mission Directive 1-18, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Installations, Environment and Energy)*.

2.2. The Air Force Surgeon General (AF/SG) shall:

2.2.1. Provide policy, advocate for resources, oversee and enforce the control of radioactive materials in the Air Force, under the umbrella of the Air Force Master Materials License.

2.2.2. Interface with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) and the Defense Health Agency concerning development of Department of Defense policy and in coordination with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Manpower and Reserve Affairs (SAF/MR).

2.2.3. Manage the Air Force Radioisotope Committee, which shall:

2.2.3.1. Regulate and manage the Air Force Master Materials License, on behalf of the Secretary of the Air Force as the licensee.

2.2.3.2. Manage the Air Force use of radioactive materials by Air Force personnel, approve or deny such use, and enforce compliance with the Air Force Master Material License.

2.3. **The Inspector General (SAF/IG)** shall inspect Air Force Radioactive Material Permits and programs in a manner consistent with Nuclear Regulatory Commission policies and the Air Force Master Material License, and other radiation protection issues as required by the Radioisotope Committee.

2.4. **The Major Command Commanders (MAJCOM/CCs) shall:**

2.4.1. Utilize subordinate commanders of Air Force organizations using radioactive materials, to: comply with requirements, ensure only authorized activities are conducted, establish programs to ensure activities are safely performed, and provide resources needed to comply with this policy.

2.4.2. Utilize radiation safety officers appointed by subordinate commanders to manage radioactive material programs established by their commanders to ensure activities are safely performed, and to comply with federal regulations, the radioactive materials license or permit, and any Air Force policies and procedures associated with radioactive materials.

2.4.3. Ensure only qualified individuals work with radioactive materials.

HEATHER A. WILSON
Secretary of the Air Force

Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References

DoDI 6055.08, *Occupational Ionizing Radiation Protection Program*, 15 December 09

42 USC § 2121, *Authority of Commission*

AFMAN 33-363, *Management of Records*, 1 March 08

HAFMD 1-18, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Installations, Environment and Energy)*, 10 July 2014

Prescribed Forms

None

Adopted Forms

AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

Terms

Air Force Installation—Locations including Air Force bases, Air Force leased space, city-bases, and Air Force operations on a Department of Defense or coalition base.

Air Force Radioactive Material Permit—Written authorization from the Air Force Radioisotope Committee for Air Force organizations to receive, possess, distribute, use, transfer, or dispose of radioactive materials.

Air Force Master Materials License—The single Nuclear Regulatory Commission license issued to the Air Force and managed by the Air Force Radioisotope Committee.

Air Force Radioisotope Committee—A committee established to satisfy the requirements of the Air Force master materials license to coordinate the administrative and regulatory aspects of licensing, possessing, distributing, using, transferring, transporting and disposing of all radioactive material in the Air Force except that transferred from Department of Energy to the Department of Defense in nuclear weapon systems, certain radioactive components of weapons systems and nuclear reactor systems, components and fuel controlled under Section 91 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

As Low As is Reasonably Achievable—The principle that personnel exposures must be maintained as low as possible consistent with existing technology, cost, and operational requirements.

License—Written authorization to receive, possess, use, or transfer byproduct, source, or special nuclear material.

Permit—Shortened term for written authorization from an appropriate authority for Air Force organizations to receive, possess, distribute, use, transfer, or dispose of radioactive materials. See also Air Force Radioactive Material Permit.

Radiation Safety Officer—An individual with specific education, military training, and professional experience in radiation protection practice designated by a commander or the Radioisotope Committee to manage radiation safety programs. The term "Radiation Safety Officer" is a functional title and does not denote a commissioned status or job classification.

Radioactive Material—Material whose nuclei, because of their unstable nature, decay by emission of ionizing radiation. The radiation emitted may be alpha or beta particles, gamma or X-rays, or neutrons.

SAFE HAVEN—Temporary storage and protection provided for Department of Energy classified shipment transporters at Department of Defense facilities to ensure safety and security of nuclear material or non-nuclear classified material.