

## UNIVERSITY RULE

### 24.01.01.M5

### **Radiological Safety**

*Approved December 7, 1998*

*Revised March 1, 2004*

*Revised July 2, 2004*

*Revised August 26, 2008*

*Revised March 25, 2011*

*Revised June 9, 2015*

*Next scheduled review: June 9, 2020*

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#### **Rule statement**

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It is our intention to provide guidance to develop controls in the use, acquisition, storage, and disposal of radioactive materials, radiation producing devices and lasers.

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#### **Official Rule**

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1. TAMU at QATAR – RADIOLOGICAL SAFETY PROGRAM
  - 1.1 The radiological safety program at Texas A&M University at Qatar (TAMUQ) incorporates many of the same requirements for Radiological Safety as TAMU. However, the responsibility for implementing the radiological safety program at TAMUQ lies with the TAMUQ Health, Security, Safety and Environment (HSSE) Office. In addition to the requirements set out in this document, TAMUQ is obligated to follow applicable requirements of the Qatar Foundation and the State of Qatar. A copy of the TAMUQ Radiological Safety Program can be requested at [safety@qatar.tamu.edu](mailto:safety@qatar.tamu.edu).
  - 1.2 TAMUQ HSSE Office should be substituted for EHS and Radiation Protection Officer (RPO) should be substituted for Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) in this document when applying these requirements to the TAMUQ campus.
2. GENERAL
  - 2.1 Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) is responsible for administering University radiological safety programs. All colleges, departments or units that acquire or use sources of radiation (ionizing or non-ionizing) must comply with established University procedures. The Radiological Safety Program Manual

may be accessed via the EHS homepage at <http://ehsd.tamu.edu>.

### 3. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 University Licensing. Texas A&M University is licensed by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to possess a wide variety of radioactive materials, radiation producing devices (x-ray machines, electron microscopes, accelerators, etc.), and lasers, hereafter referred to as radiation sources. Possession and use are authorized on the campus in College Station, at specific University and Texas A&M University System sites throughout Texas, and in State of Texas and Federal waters. Texas A&M University at Qatar is licensed by the Qatar Ministry of Environment.
- 3.2 Radiological Safety Committee (RSC). The RSC is a standing committee appointed by the Vice President for Finance and Administration and CFO, and is comprised principally of faculty from the colleges in which radiation-related research and teaching is conducted. The Radiological Safety Committee:
  - 3.2.1 establishes and approves University radiation safety procedures;
  - 3.2.2 approves the use of ionizing radiation and lasers;
  - 3.2.3 takes action to suspend unsafe or noncompliant operations and activities;
  - 3.2.4 advises the TAMU Radiological Safety Officer regarding radiation safety related matters.
  - 3.2.5 The TAMUQ Safety Council advises the TAMUQ Radiation Protection Officer regarding radiation safety matters.
- 3.3 Radiological Safety Officer (RSO) and Laser Safety Officer (LSO). EHS is responsible for establishing a Radiation Safety Program, including an RSO, LSO and staff, as necessary to support and monitor the safe use of radiation sources at TAMU. Specifically, the RSO/LSO is responsible for:
  - 3.3.1 maintaining the University's federal and state licenses and registrations for use of radiation sources;
  - 3.3.2 monitoring and minimizing radiation doses to employees, students and the public;
  - 3.3.3 maintaining accurate inventories of radiation sources, including approval for the acquisition of all licensed radioactive materials;
  - 3.3.4 disposing of, and/or approving the disposition of radiation sources;

- 3.3.5 providing radiation safety training as required for University employees, students, and visitors;
  - 3.3.6 monitoring regulatory compliance;
  - 3.3.7 stopping or restricting work or activities as necessary to protect University personnel, the public, or the environment or to ensure regulatory compliance; and
  - 3.3.8 responding to radiological emergencies.
- 3.4 Permitted Users:
- 3.4.1 University faculty and staff must apply for authorization to possess and use radiation sources including radioactive materials, radiation-producing devices and Class IIIb (medium-power) and Class IV (high-power) lasers.
  - 3.4.2 Applicants are required to show proof of adequate training and/or attend appropriate EHS training.
  - 3.4.3 Applicants must commit, in writing, to comply with all approved procedures of the Radiation Safety Program.
  - 3.4.4 Permitted users are responsible for providing assistance and information during inspections performed by federal, state, Qatari Officials, and/or University personnel.
  - 3.4.5 Permitted users are required to seek approval from EHS prior to obtaining radioactive materials and must report to EHS the acquisition of radiation-producing devices and Class IIIb and IV lasers, within 14 days of receipt and prior to usage.
- 3.5 Employees, visitors and students shall only work with radiation sources under the authority and supervision of a permitted user. Further, they shall comply with approved University Rules and Standard Administrative Procedures.
- 3.6 At TAMUQ, the State of Qatar requires all employees involved with radiation work be approved by the Ministry of Environment to perform such work.

#### 4. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT OF SPECIFIED ITEMS

- 4.1 For reasons of regulatory compliance and limitation of potential liability, the disposal, transfer and/or surplus of radiation sources must be approved through EHS.

- 4.2 Unless written permission has been granted by the RSO the disposal of radioactive materials must be performed by EHS. Under no circumstances may radioactive materials be sent to Surplus. Any device being sent to Surplus that contains, or at one time contained, radioactive materials must have a tag affixed indicating it has been inspected by EHS.
- 4.3 For the transfer/disposal/surplus of radiation-producing devices, Class IIIb and Class IV laser devices:
- 4.3.1 All devices shall be rendered inoperable by EHS unless:
- (a) The device is being transferred to another TAMU permitted user;
    - At TAMUQ, if a device is being transferred to another registrant, approval must be granted by the Qatar Ministry of Environment.
  - (b) The device is being returned to a manufacturer as part of a trade-in; or
  - (c) The device is being transferred to another registrant with the DSHS or other Agreement State with which the NRC has entered into an effective agreement under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.
- 4.3.2 No device shall be accepted by Surplus, unless it has an EHS affixed tag indicating it has been rendered inoperable.
- 4.3.3 Certain devices containing hazardous substances may require disposal as hazardous waste through EHS.

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**Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements**

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*Supplements [System Policy 24.01](#) and [System Regulation 24.01.01](#)*

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**Contact Office**

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TAMU - [Environmental Health and Safety](#)

TAMUQ – Office of Health, Safety, Security, Environment at 974-4423-0032