



CONFERENCE OF RADIATION CONTROL PROGRAM DIRECTORS, INC.

RESOLUTION

Relating to: Disposal of Radioactive Sources

WHEREAS: Despite the best efforts of many individuals and organizations, options for disposal of orphan, unwanted or disused radioactive sealed sources (sources) or other discrete radioactive material are severely limited in most parts of the country; and

WHEREAS: The potential loss of control of sources or discrete radioactive material may endanger the nation's security; and

WHEREAS: The withdrawal of disposal access and limitations on inter-Compact transfer of sources or discrete radioactive material has eliminated disposal options for most of the country; and

WHEREAS: Options for packaging of Type B (higher activity) quantities of material for transportation, necessary for disposition under any of the available disposal options, are severely limited despite the temporary accommodation by the U.S. Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS: Recent events highlight the vulnerability of the U.S. medical community to interruptions in the supply of short half-life medical isotopes for which there is currently no domestic source of production; and

WHEREAS: State licensing programs may understandably be reluctant to license new sources or new production facilities in the absence of practical disposal options; and

WHEREAS: State and Federal programs have had to resort to complicated ad hoc arrangements to ensure the safe and secure disposition of large numbers of unwanted or disused radioactive sources; and

WHEREAS: The withdrawal of disposal access and limitations on inter-Compact transfer of unwanted or disused sources has frustrated the expectations of licensees who consigned their materials in good faith to disposal brokers who may not be able now to fulfill their contractual obligations; and

WHEREAS: Despite the current development of some new disposal facilities, it is not clear that these new facilities will provide a comprehensive solution under the current regulatory climate; and

WHEREAS: Federal agencies are severely limited in their ability to offer disposal access beyond the narrow limits of their statutory charters; and

WHEREAS: The aforementioned limitations and absences have the potential to threaten vital medical care, and academic pursuit and industrial innovation as well as the security of the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) Board of Directors will identify specific avenues and allocate resources and responsibilities to specific CRCPD parties to publicize these issues and that the best efforts of the CRCPD and its member entities be used to facilitate and inform activities to include but not be limited to:

- Continuing the CRCPD effort to examine the scope and nature of the disposal dilemma faced by users, owners, and regulators of sources and discrete radioactive material while building on data accumulated by the Global Threat Reduction Initiative Off-site Source Recovery Project and CRCPD Source Collection and Threat Reduction Program;
- Examining and identifying existing statutory or regulatory limitations on disposal of sources and discrete radioactive material to provide additional disposal options;
- Encouraging the continued support of the Federal process of developing a Greater-than-Class C waste disposal facility; and
- Identifying current storage requirements and options and “recommending best practices” for safe, secure, long-term storage prior to eventual disposal of sources and discrete radioactive material.

Approved by the CRCPD Membership April 22, 2010.

Adela Salame-Alfie

Adela Salame-Alfie, Ph.D.
CRCPD Chairperson