



SCOTT A. THOMPSON
Executive Director

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

KEVIN STITT
Governor

March 31, 2020

Dear Licensee:

With the state of emergency declared by the President and the Governor, the need to flatten the curve by working from home has impacted our operations at DEQ just as it has the rest of the state. We continue to operate and carry out our radiation management responsibilities, but our buildings are closed to visitors and most of our work is being done from home. These changes impact our ability to perform our licensing and permitting activities as quickly as we would like.

We recognize this is a difficult time and many of you are operating under a heavy burden. Due to disruptions, potential absences, and distraction of workers; special attention to radiation safety is more important than ever. The radiation rules continue to be in effect, and you continue to be responsible for the safe use of radiation in a way that protects workers and the public. In order to reduce the regulatory burden and the possibility of a virus transmission during this difficult time, we intend to take a more relaxed approach and allow deferring or delaying some required routine checks and audits.

These include, but are not limited to, audit requirements, leak tests, various dose-calibrator tests, etc. In order to be eligible for this discretion, the activity must not have immediate safety significance and licensees need to briefly document what activities are being delayed, also documenting their reasoning and any mitigating measures taken. Radiation Safety Committee meetings may be held remotely or postponed. Note, that all reportable incidents still need to be disclosed, as usual.

Please be patient with us during this time. If you have an urgent need for an amendment, especially if you are a medical facility, please advise us as early as possible and we will expedite the review. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us by phone or email. A contact sheet with phone numbers and email addresses is enclosed with this letter.



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We will continue to work with you in this difficult time towards our common goal of ensuring safe use of radiation in Oklahoma.

Thank you for your cooperation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Broderick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mike Broderick
Environmental Programs Manager
Radiation Management Section
Land Protection Division

MB/ba

Enclosures: as noted