

2.4 Deactivating/Reactivating a Permit

A laboratory must be free of any radioactive material (in the form of contamination, source vials, waste or stored samples) before a permit can be deactivated. Radioactive material must be properly disposed or transferred to another laboratory with an authorized permit as described in Section 4.3. Laboratory personnel should perform surveys to ensure that no contamination exists in the lab. Once surveys have shown that the laboratory is free of contamination, laboratory personnel should remove or deface radioactive labels and markings with the exception of door signs (only DRS personnel can remove door signs). Contact DRS to perform a final survey and to have the radioactive material postings removed from the laboratory entrances. The permit is deactivated when all areas have received a satisfactory final survey and postings have been removed.

A PI can simply reactivate a previously deactivated permit by contacting DRS. No additional signatures are required to reactivate a permit.

2.5 Abandoned Radioactive Materials

Unknown and/or abandoned radioactive materials and/or radioactive contamination must be properly managed and effective decontamination must occur in a timely manner.

Campus units are responsible for decontaminating facilities and equipment assigned to their unit. Additionally, campus units must identify and properly dispose of radioactive materials abandoned by their personnel.

Situations may arise in which unknown or abandoned radioactive materials and/or contamination are discovered. In such cases, the campus unit is responsible for performing detailed analyses and properly disposing of such materials and/or reducing contamination to acceptable levels as defined by regulatory limits. If a campus unit is not able to assume these responsibilities or perform these required tasks within a reasonable time frame, it may enlist the services of a qualified outside vendor or DRS on a cost-reimbursement basis.

If unknown or abandoned radioactive material or contamination is discovered, DRS will make, in writing, a request to the responsible campus unit to complete cleanup within 60 days. After 60 days, DRS may assume responsibility and proceed to complete the task unless DRS and the responsible campus unit agree otherwise. The campus unit will reimburse DRS for the costs incurred in the process. The Radiation and Laser Safety Committee will arbitrate any disputes that may arise.

Further questions concerning this policy should be directed to DRS, telephone 217-333-2755.