



**Department of State Health Services (DSHS)
Program Report to the Texas Radiation Advisory Board (TRAB)
Consumer Protection Division**

**July 21, 2023
Radiation Section**

Licensing and Registration Activities

License Type	Companies	Sites
X-Ray Registrations	17535	22132
Laser	3641	4308

Registration Completed Actions Mar 2023 - May 2023				
	New	Renewal	Amendment	Termination
X-Ray	1046	212	962	686
Laser	260	15	86	66
Total	3321			

RAM Licensing actions April 1 – June 15, 2023				
	New	Renewal	Amendment	Termination
General License Acknowledgment	1	N/A	2	2
RAM	5	25	188	10
Waste Shipper/Transporter	1	7	2	N/A
RAM Reciprocity	5	9	2	N/A
Sealed Source and Device	0	0	6	8

Industrial Radiographer Certification	
Application for Exam	360
Trainee Application	269
Renewal Application	103
Non-Texas Radiographer	213

Rulemaking

23R011 - Radioactive Materials (ensuring compatibility with NRC RATS)

- §289.201 General Provisions for Radioactive Material
- §289.202 Standards for Protection Against Radiation from Radioactive Material
- §289.253 Radiation Safety Requirements for Well Logging Service Operations and Tracer Studies
- §289.255 Radiation Safety Requirements and Licensing and Registration Procedures for Industrial Radiography
- §289.256 Medical and Veterinary Use of Radioactive Material
- §289.257 Packaging and Transportation of Radioactive Material
- §289.258 Licensing and Radiation Safety Requirements for Irradiators.
 - DRAFT version posted on the HHSC and DSHS Radiation Control web pages from June 12 to June 26.
 - We received one comment that did not address the rule change. Some changes to the draft were suggested by staff, and those were incorporated in the rule proposal.
 - The rule proposal will be presented at the HHS Executive Council Meeting on November 16, 2023.
 - The rule proposal is expected to be published in the Texas Register on December 22, 2023, with a 31-day public comment period ending January 24, 2024. Any comments received will be reviewed and may be incorporated into the Adopted version of the rule.
 - The rule adoption is expected to be published in the Texas Register on April 19, 2024, and become effective on April 22, 2024.

32R012 - X-ray

§289.229 Radiation Safety Requirements for Accelerators, Therapeutic Radiation Machines, Simulators, and Electronic Brachytherapy Devices

- DRAFT version posted on the HHSC and DSHS Radiation Control web pages from June 21 to July 5.
- The Proposed rule will be presented to the HHS Executive Council Meeting on November 16, 2023.
- The Proposed rule is expected to be published in the Texas Register on December 22, 2023, with a 31-day public comment period ending January 22, 2024. Any comments received will be reviewed and may be incorporated into the Adopted version of the rule.
- The Adopted version is expected to be published in the Texas Register on April 19, 2024, and become effective on April 22, 2024.

32R013 - Laser

§289.301 Registration and Radiation Safety Requirements for Lasers and Intense-Pulsed Light Devices

- DRAFT version posted on the HHSC and DSHS Radiation Control web pages from June 30 to July 14.
- We expect this rule project to follow the same schedule as 23R012

Inspection Data (FY23 to date)

Number of Inspections per Fiscal Quarter with			
	QRT 1	QRT 2	QRT 3

	# Ins	# Fail	# Ins	# Fail	# Ins	# Fail
RAM	252	30 (12%)	271	24 (9%)	321	53 (17%)
X-Ray	1183	449 (38%)	1143	402 (35%)	1222	383 (31%)
Remote	164	90 (55%)	214	106 (50%)	155	38 (25%)
Mammography	158	34 (22%)	156	30 (19%)	149	27 (18%)
Laser	12	9 (75%)	3	3 (100%)	20	16 (80%)

Technical Staff Vacancies

Position	Location	Anticipated Fill Date	Notes
Mammography Inspector	El Paso	June 2024	Wait to train the new X-ray inspector
Mammography Inspector	Arlington	June 2023	Training current X-ray inspector
Mammography Inspector	Statewide	June 2023	Posted
Mammography Inspector	Amarillo	June 2023	To be posted
X-ray Inspector/Trainer	Statewide	April 2023	Position Filled
RAM Inspector	Austin	July/August 2023	Currently Posted
RAM License Reviewer	Austin	July 12, 2023	Position Filled
RAM License Reviewer	Austin	TBD	To be posted
Registration Medical Program Coordinator	Statewide	July 1, 2023	Hiring in process
Incident Investigator	Statewide	June 19, 2023	Position Filled

Staff Training

- Fourteen staff members attended the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) Mammography Educational Conference in Houston, TX, on May 6-7, 2023.
- Sixty-seven staff members attended the 55th National Conference on Radiation Control hosted by the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) from May 8-11, 2023.

Compliance Activities

April 2023 to June 2023:

- Orders: 119
- Administrative Penalties: \$286,760.00
- Revocations:
 - 10 X-ray registrations
 - 0 Radioactive Material licenses

Mammography Branch

- No updates.

Registration Branch

- On June 20th, the Registration Branch began using Versa Online Services to allow existing registrants to amend their Certificates of X-ray and Laser Registration for Equipment and Radiation/Laser Safety Officer amendments. The Branch will bring more amendment services online over the coming months.

Emergency Response Activities

South Texas Project Nuclear Power Plant

- Vanessa Danese was selected as the STP Emergency Planner, effective June 2023.
- No drills occurred during the period of review.

Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant

- April 6, 2023: Hood County Emergency Worker Graded Exercise was performed at the Hood County Decontamination Facility located at the Granbury City Pool.
- June 6, 2023: 20 individuals completed the CAMPEDE Accident Assessment Training.
- June 21, 2023: Comanche Peak Dress Rehearsal was performed. The graded FEMA exercise is scheduled for July 26, 2023.

Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)

- WIPP has continued to have quarterly meetings.
- There have been (12) WIPP shipments through the State of Texas.
- Meter exchanges and calibrations have occurred since the last report.
- Meetings with DSHS, TDEM, Reeves County EMC, Reeves Co. PD, SECO, DOE, Reeves Co. Fire, and EMS for WIPPTREX planning have been conducted in Pecos since the last report.
- Approximately 34 students have been trained in Reeves County since the last report.
- Tabletop exercise scheduled for July 18, 2023, in Reeves County.
- Roadshow scheduled for July 18, 2023, in Reeves County.
- MERRT training scheduled for July 19-July 20, 2023, in Odessa, TX.
- Retirement of WIPP Coordinator on June 30, 2023.

Pantex/Agreement In Principle (AIP)

- A quarterly AIP task III meeting was attended by DSHS staff in May. The meeting was held in Austin to allow local management to attend. Lisa Bruedigan was able to attend and gave a presentation on how the Radiation Control Program responds to such an emergency within the state. AIP participants attended a tour of the DSHS Laboratory Radiological testing section.
- Monthly local AIP meetings were attended by DSHS staff in April and May of 2023. There was no June meeting.

- Quarterly environmental sampling was performed on April 12, 2023; soil/sediment, vegetation, surface water, and drinking water were obtained and sent to the DSHS Lab for analysis. OSLs were exchanged at the sampling locations on and around the Pantex plant. Playa Lake samples were obtained on June 27, 2023, at Playas #3 and #4 on the Pantex plant property. These playas have been dry for several years, but due to recent storms and rain, they had water in them. The environmental group at Pantex coordinated and took us to the Playas, where samples were collected and co-sampled. The "Pratt Lake" Playa to the north of the plant also had water in it and was sampled as well. The samples were sent to the DSHS Lab for analysis.
- Calibrations were performed by Amarillo DSHS personnel on two of the PCM units owned by the City of Amarillo and located at the reception center; the third PCM unit was found to be non-functional, and the city of Amarillo personnel were notified so that a service call could be arranged for repair. The Tool Checker monitor located at the reception center was also calibrated. Other handheld instrument calibrations were performed during this quarter on instruments owned by DSHS and the City of Amarillo.
- Amarillo DSHS personnel traveled to the National Radiological Emergency Response conference that was held in Indianapolis, Indiana, on April 3-6, 2023. They also attended the C.R.C.P.D. conference in Houston, Texas, on May 6-12, 2023, and the TDEM Emergency Management Conference held in Fort Worth, Texas, on May 29-June 2, 2023.
- Tim Gibson attended the Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Station dress rehearsal exercise on June 21, 2023.

Radiological Operational Support Specialists (ROSS)

- One DSHS staff member completed all requirements to be certified as a ROSS Type 1, and two non-DSHS personnel completed all requirements to be certified as a ROSS Type 3. The DSHS Radiation Section Director has signed off their qualification booklets and sent them to FEMA headquarters.
- Three ROSS personnel participated and supported the DSHS Radiation Emergency Response Team during the June 2023 Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant Dress Rehearsal.
- Fifty-six staff members attended the ROSS 2023 Nuclear Detonation Workshop Drill held at the 55th National Conference on Radiation Control hosted by the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) on May 7, 2023.

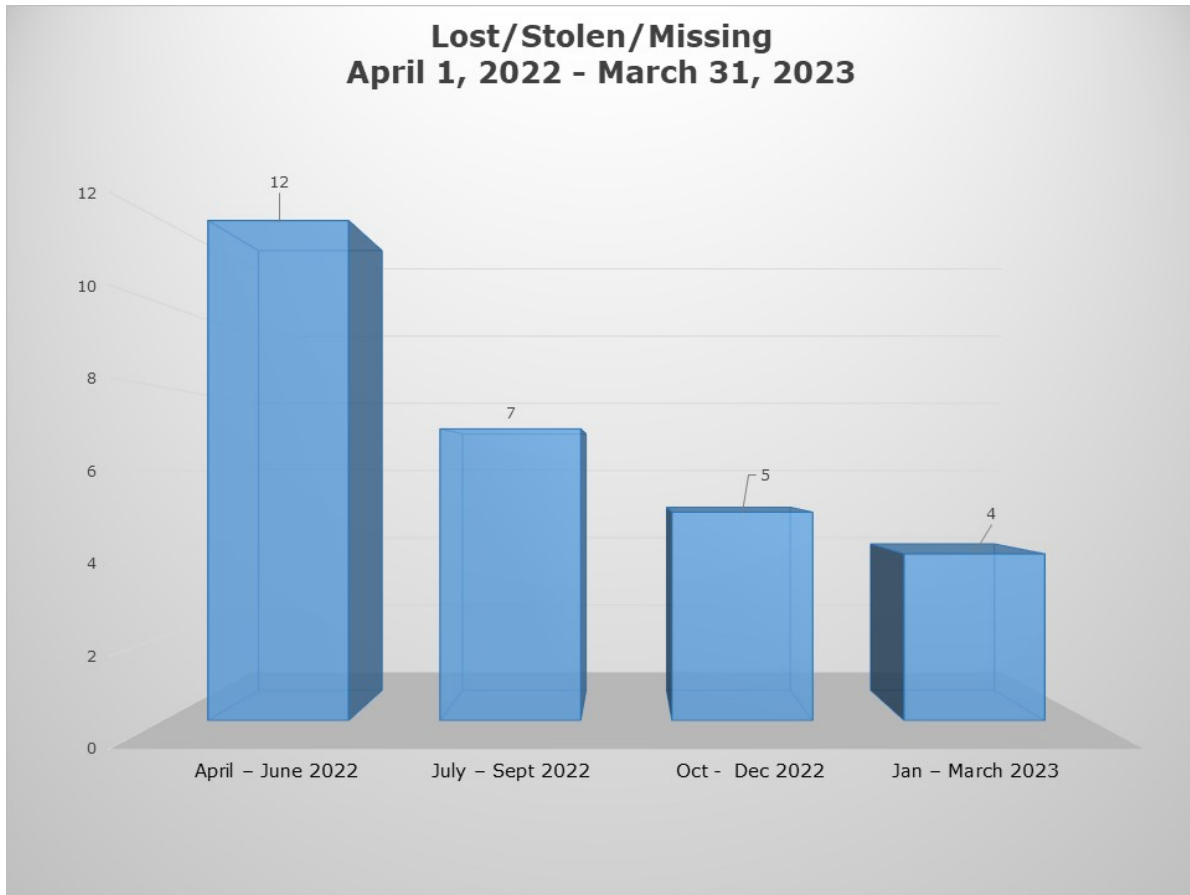
Staff Activities

Eight staff members attended the 2023 Texas Emergency Management Conference in Fort Worth, TX, from May 30 – June 2, 2023. They also had an

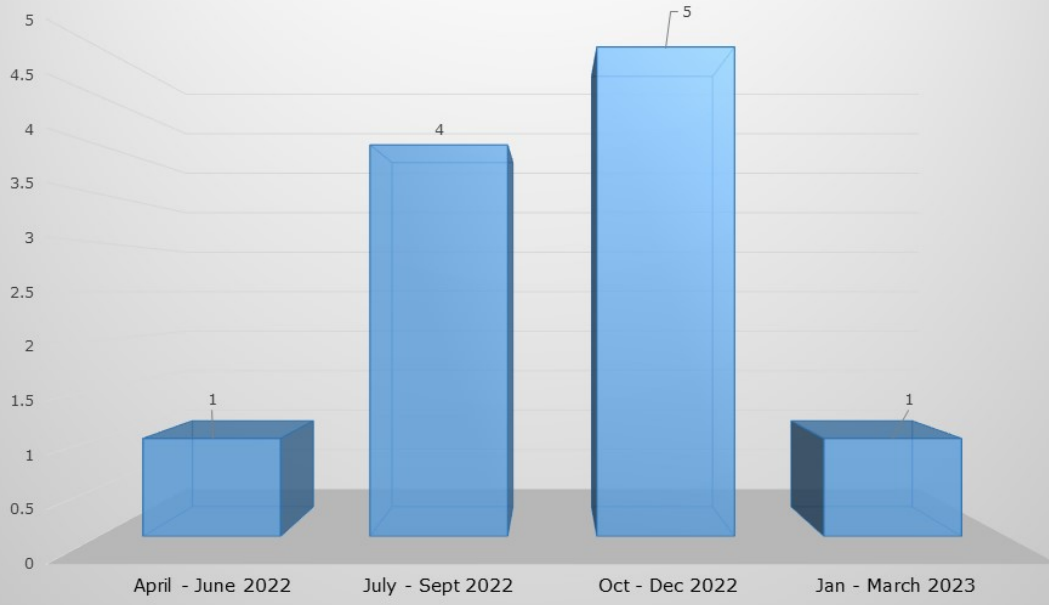
information booth to answer questions regarding our emergency response program.

Incident Investigations

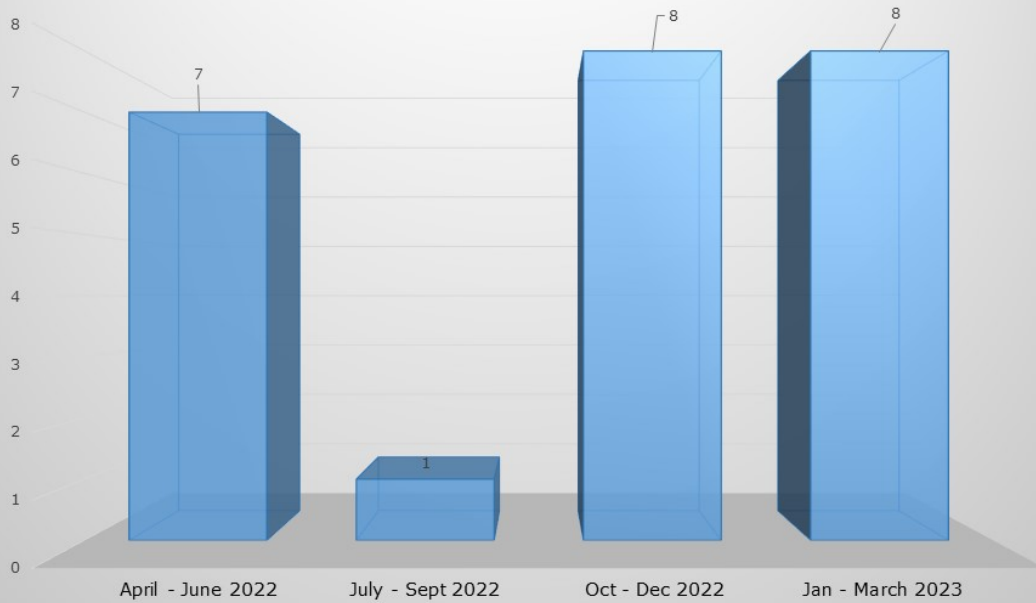
The graphs below reflect the numbers and categories of incidents received during this reporting period.

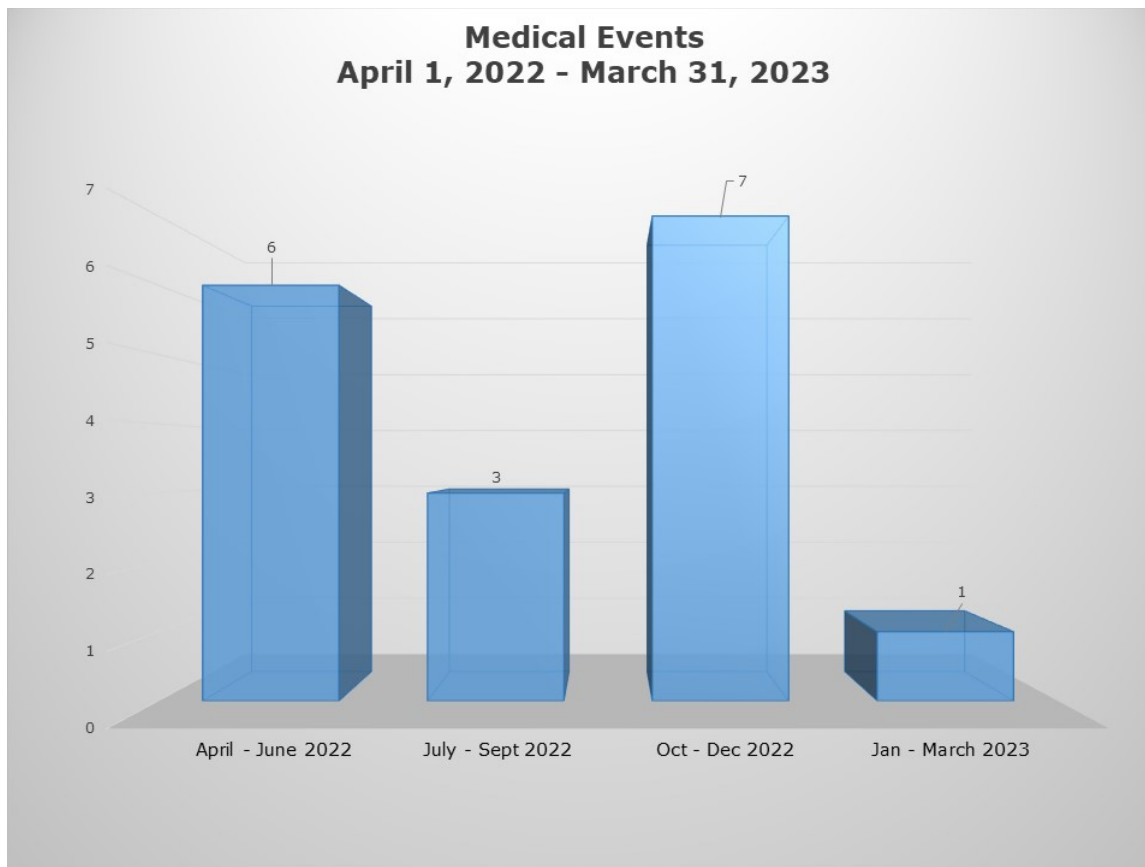


Exposure Events April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023



Equipment Events April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023





Medical Event Summaries:

I-9965 - Medical Event - Houston, TX

On November 23, 2022, the Department was notified of a medical incident involving yttrium-90 Sir-Spheres microspheres. A procedure was performed on November 22, 2022, with an intended activity of 13.4 mCi to be administered to a tumor within the patient's liver. After the procedure, it was determined that only 8.26 mCi, or 61.6% of the intended activity, had actually been delivered. The rest of the microspheres were determined to still be in the Sir-Sphere delivery system and not contaminating the room or towels. Both the prescribing physician and the patient were notified within 24 hours. Licensee reports that this incident did not cause an immediate harmful effect and does not know if there will be a long-term effect. The patient did not intervene in the procedure.

The cause is not known, but a survey of the assembly revealed that most of the spheres were still in the catheter. The licensee reported that they did not deviate from the Sir-Sphere procedure. The Sir-Sphere assembly was used without any substitution of parts. The catheter used was not part of the Sir-Sphere assembly but was considered standard. The manufacturer suggested the cause might be a premature air phase. Licensee reports that re-education of authorized users will be performed. No violations cited.

File Closed.