

STATE OF COLORADO

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Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

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Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

MEMORANDUM

TO: Radioactive Material Licensees

FROM: Radiation Management Program

SUBJECT: Radioactive Warning Labels on Empty Containers

Radioisotopes are extensively used in medicine, industry, research and education. Label requirements for containers that contain radioactive materials are outlined in the State of Colorado Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Radiation Control, RH 4.30, "Labeling Containers and Radiation Machines" and RH 4.31, "Exemptions to Labeling Requirements".

Empty containers bearing radioactive material labels have caused alarm among uniformed persons and unnecessary problems for local health officials and waste disposal services.

It is each licensees and registrants responsibility, prior to removal or disposal of empty, uncontaminated containers to unrestricted areas, to follow the requirement in RH 4.30.2 of the Regulations which states:

"Each licensee or registrant shall, prior to removal or disposal of empty uncontaminated containers to unrestricted areas, remove or deface the radioactive material label or otherwise clearly indicate that the container no longer contains radioactive materials."