

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. DRS personnel should then be contacted to perform a final survey and remove the radioactive material postings 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

Campus units are responsible for decontaminating facilities and for identification and proper disposal 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 disposing of such materials and/or reducing contamination to acceptable levels as stipulated by regulatory agencies. 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 request the responsible campus unit in writing to effect 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.