



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

ARPANSA

Licence Holder Forum

12 June 2008



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

Outline of the Forum

- Morning Session:
 - What's new in regulation at ARPANSA
 - Understanding your licence – authorisation and licence conditions
 - Update on Codes and Standards
 - Code of Practice on Security of Radioactive Sources (Selva Kumar)
 - Inspections – outcomes (Jim Scott)
- Best practice in radiation safety – 15 minute presentation from Licence Holders
 - Department of Defence
 - Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
 - Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation
- Discussion panel (ARPANSA Chair)



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

Update since the last forum

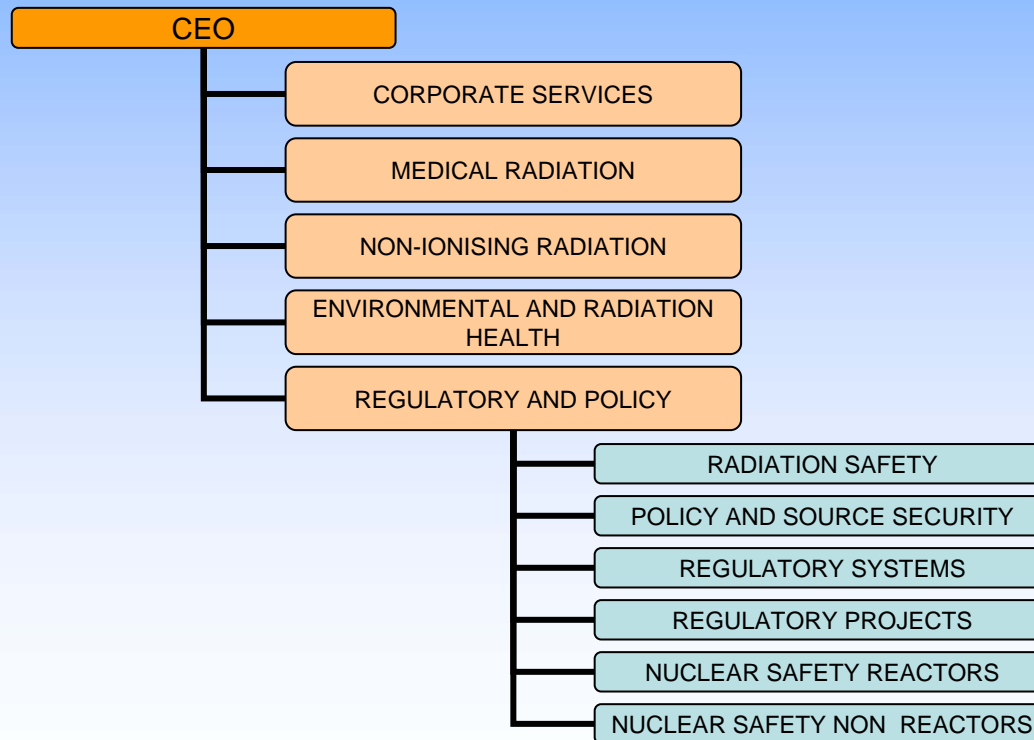
- New organisation structure for regulation
- Revised and updated our website including new guidance documents
- New workflow and tracking system to ensure we can measure our efficiency
- Centralised request system for licensee so that we can ensure consistency of advice



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

Structure of the Regulatory and Policy Branch

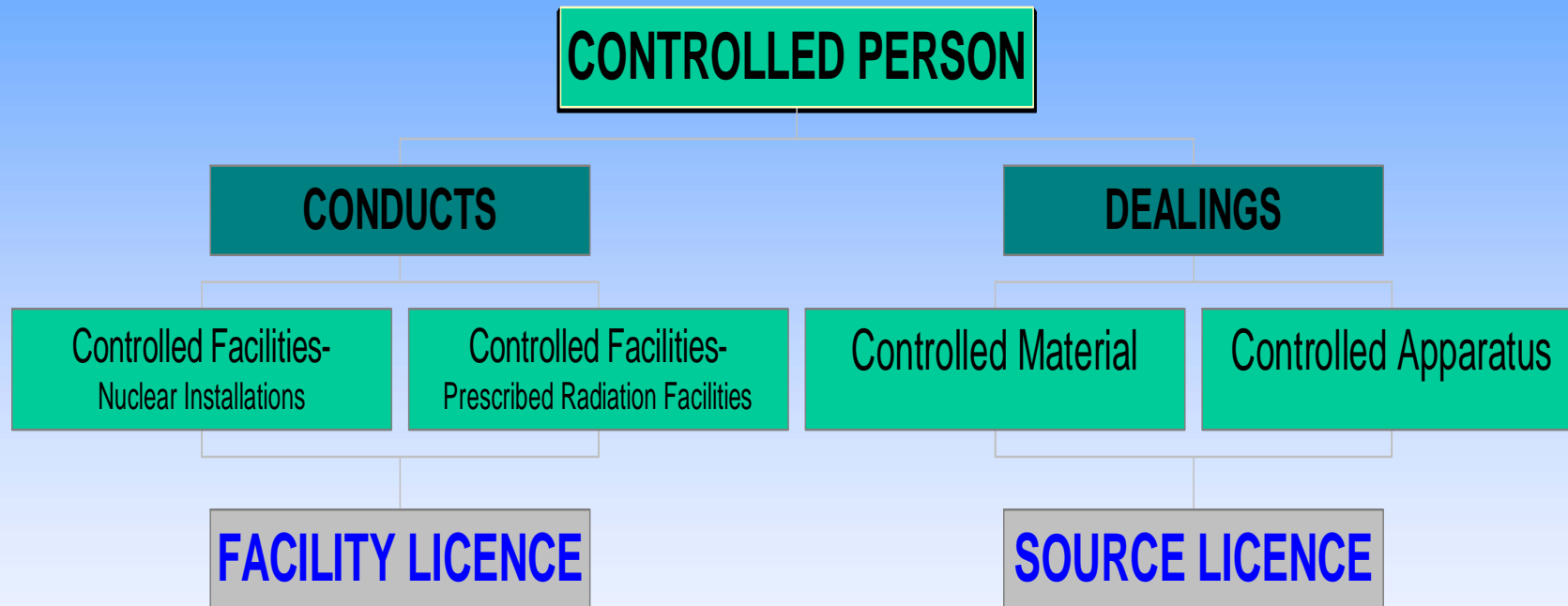




Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

Overview of Licence Requirements



A source licence or a facility licence must be obtained

(unless CEO makes decision that controlled person is exempt from from requirement for licence)



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

Licences – Source Licence

- The CEO of ARPANSA may receive an application for a source licence to authorise dealings with controlled material and controlled apparatus
- Dealings are
- To possess or have control of
- To use or operate
- To dispose of



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

Licences – Facility Licences

- The CEO may receive application for facility licence authorising the following activities in relation to prescribed radiation facilities or nuclear installations:
 - To prepare a site for the controlled facility
 - To construct the controlled facility
 - To possess or control the controlled facility
 - To operate the controlled facility
 - To dispose of decommission or abandon the controlled facility



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

Form of a Licence

- Both source and facility licences are drafted with the following information listed on the front of the licence instrument:
 - licence holder
 - stated scope of the authorisation
 - summary of the licence conditions that the licence is subject to
- Schedules attached to the licence list the controlled material and controlled apparatus or further description of the facility and also include additional licence conditions that are imposed by the CEO of ARPANSA



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

Licence Conditions

- Licence conditions are imposed by the Act; the ARPANS Regulations and in addition the CEO may impose additional licence conditions.
- Some key statutory licence conditions include:
 - Requirement that a licence holder takes all reasonable steps to prevent breaches of licence condition (reg 44)
 - Requirement that a holder of a licence take all reasonable steps to investigate and rectify breach of licence (reg 45)
 - Holder of a licence must prevent, control and minimise accidents (reg 46)
 - Compliance with the National Standard for Limiting Occupational Exposure to Ionising Radiation (reg 47)
 - Compliance with the Code of Practice for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material (reg 48)
 - Compliance with the Code of Practice for Near Surface Disposal of Radioactive Waste in Australia (reg 48)
 - Licence holder must comply with its plans and arrangements for managing safety (reg 49)
 - Licence holder must review and update its plans and arrangements at least once every 12 months and report the outcome to the CEO of ARPANSA (reg 50)
 - Licence holder must seek the CEO's prior approval to make a relevant change that will have significant implications for safety (reg 51)



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

What is a Breach of the Act?

- There are two main ways that a licensee may be in breach of the Act:
 - Undertaking an activity that is prohibited unless it is authorised by a source of facility licence or subject to exemption (s30(1) and 31(1))
 - Failing to comply with a condition of licence (s30(2) and 31(2))



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

What happens if a Licensee or a Controlled Person is found to be Breach of the Act

- It must be reported to Parliament in our quarterly report and in addition our Parliamentary Secretary writes to the Minister of the Licensee
- CEO must consider whether or not to take enforcement action.
- Enforcement options include education/awareness raising, imposition of additional licence conditions, a formal direction, suspension of licence, cancellation of licence, prosecution.
- ARPANSA's policy is to have a graded approach to enforcement.
- The health and safety of people and the protection of the environment is of primary consideration when determining the most effective action to take to assist the regulated community maintain its compliance status.
- ARPANSA's approach to compliance is underpinned by the ARPANSA Regulatory Principles being outcome-focused, risk-based, consistent, transparent, accountable and responsive.
- A risk based compliance strategy means that ARPANSA acts in a proportionate manner, targeting those activities that pose the greatest threat to the radiological safety of people and the environment.



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

ARPANSA Radiation Protection Series

- Current Documents most relevant to ARPANSA licensees
 - RPS No. 1 – Recommendations for Limiting Exposure to Ionizing Radiation (1995) and National Standard for Limiting Occupational Exposure to Ionizing Radiation (republished 2002)
 - RPS No. 2 – Code of Practice for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material (2008 Edition)
 - RPS No. 3 – Radiation Protection Standard for Maximum Exposure Levels to Radiofrequency Fields - 3 kHz to 300 GHz (2002)
 - RPS No. 5 – Code of Practice and Safety Guide for Portable Density/Moisture Gauges Containing Radioactive Sources (2004)
 - RPS No. 6 – National Directory for Radiation Protection, Edition 1.0 (2004)
 - RPS No. 7 – Recommendations for Intervention in Emergency Situations Involving Radiation Exposure (2004)
 - RPS No. 10 – Code of Practice and Safety Guide for Radiation Protection in Dentistry (2005)
 - RPS No. 11 – Code of Practice for the Security of Radioactive Sources (2007)
 - RPS No. 13 – Code of Practice and Safety Guide for Safe Use of Fixed Radiation Gauges (2007)
 - RPS No. 14 – Code of Practice for Radiation Protection in the Medical Applications of Ionizing Radiation (2008)



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

ARPANSA

Radiation Protection Series

- Publications expected in 2008
 - Safety Guide to accompany the Transport Code
 - Pre-Disposal Management of Radioactive Waste
 - Safe use of x-ray analysis equipment



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

Code of Practice for the Security of Radioactive Sources

- To decrease the likelihood of the unauthorised access to or acquisition of radioactive sources by persons with malicious intent.
- Applies to persons dealing with sealed radioactive sources.
- Published in 2007 by ARPANSA following agreement by all jurisdictions
- Endorsed by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG)
- General condition of licence in the ARPANS Regulations by December 2008 for full implementation from 1 July 2009
- Security requirements vary according to source category



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

Code of Practice for the Security of Radioactive Sources

- Requirements for Category 4 and 5 (lower risk) sources
 - keep records of sources and notify any security breach to authorities
- Requirements for Category 1,2 and 3 (higher risk) sources
 - Source Security Plans and Source Transport Security Plans
 - physical security measures ranging from simple prevention of unauthorised access to intrusion detection for immediate response
 - security background checks and identity checks
 - regulatory approvals before the transfer or disposal of a source
 - procedural security measures such as audits, reviews, briefings and entry controls according to the threat level (negligible to extreme) for a radiological attack set by the Australian Government.