

TEXAS RADIATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 23, 2014

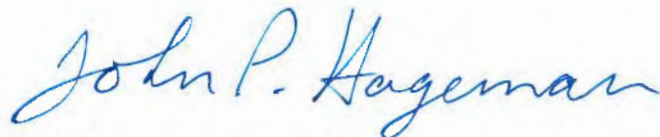
David L. Lakey, M.D.  
Commissioner  
Texas Department of State Health Services  
PO Box 149347  
Austin, Texas 78714-9347

Dear Dr. Lakey:

Attached is the Texas Radiation Advisory Board's annual report to the Commissioner covering activities of the Board for fiscal year 2013. This report is required by 25 TAC §289.130(n).

Should you have any questions about this report, please contact me.

Regards,



John P. Hageman M.S., C.H.P.  
Chairman

LRJ/lj  
Attachment

## **TEXAS RADIATION ADVISORY BOARD FISCAL YEAR 2013 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSIONER**

This report summarizes the activities of the Texas Radiation Advisory Board (TRAB or Board) Fiscal Year (FY) 2013, September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2013, as required by 25 TAC §289.130(n).

The TRAB was created by the Texas Radiation Control Act pursuant to the Texas Health and Safety Code, Section 401.015. The Board normally consists of 18 members appointed by the Governor, consisting of subject matter experts in radiation and members of the public. The Board includes a chair, a vice-chair, and a secretary who are elected by and from the TRAB's membership. Members of the Board receive no compensation for their service, except for reimbursement for travel expenses incurred in attending meetings or for engaging in authorized Board business.

The TRAB is organized and directed to review and evaluate state radiation policies and programs; to make recommendations and furnish technical advice to the following state agencies:

- the Texas Department of State Health Service (DSHS)
- the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
- the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)

any other state agencies or groups that may be involved with radiation safety, such as the: Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission

The TRAB is to review proposed rules and guidelines of any state agency relating to the regulation of sources of radiation and to recommend changes in proposed or existing rules and guidelines relating to these issues.

### Meetings

The TRAB is required, by statute, to meet at least quarterly, on dates set by the Board. Special meetings may be called by the TRAB Chairman or its committees, which consist of TRAB members. Board meetings may be held at any designated place in the state, determined by the Chairman to best serve the purpose for which the meeting is called. All meetings held during FY 2013 were held in Austin to minimize meeting expenses and to provide for the best use of staff resources from the various state agencies. The meetings held in FY 2013 are tabulated in Table 1:-TRAB Meetings.

**Table 1: TRAB Meetings** (a quorum of 10 of 18 was obtained at all FY 2013 meetings)

Meeting Date	Meetings	Attendance	
		Present	Absent
December 7, 2012	TRAB Quarterly Meeting	16	2
February 8, 2013	TRAB Quarterly Meeting	13	5
June 21, 2013	TRAB Quarterly Meeting	12	6
August 9, 2013	TRAB Quarterly Meeting	14	4

Guidelines for Board Members

Those appointed to the TRAB may not vote, deliberate, or be counted as a member in attendance at a meeting until they complete a training program. The DSHS provides members of the TRAB, information regarding the requirements for office, including information regarding a person’s responsibilities under applicable laws relating to standards of conduct for state officers. Texas Government Code prohibits a state agency from attempting to influence a legislative measure, but allows a state agency or officer to provide factual information to a legislative body.

Board Actions in FY 2013

As required by statute, the TRAB reviewed and evaluated state radiation programs regulators and policies; and provided technical advice and made recommendations to the DSHS, TCEQ, and RRC.

The TRAB elected officers at their December 7, 2012 meeting. Ms. Amy Clark was elected Secretary, Dr. Nora Janjan as Vice Chair, and, Mr. John Hageman as Chair. Also, the TRAB established a new Topic Research Committee, which is tasked to identify and clarify specific issues that should be addressed by the TRAB and/or its Committees.

Resolutions and recommendations made during this time period were:

- The DSHS was asked to inform the TRAB of their proactive actions to prevent accidents in well logging and industrial radiography, due to their increased use in oil exploration, drilling, and production in Texas.
- The TRAB reviewed and recommended that TCEQ move forward in the rule-making process for 30 TAC §336.227, Radioactive Tracers Used in the Exploration, Development or Production of Oil or Gas or Geothermal Resources.”

- Formed and appointed officers and members to a new Topic Research Committee, which is tasked to identify radiation-protection topics that require review and action by the Board's Medical Committee or Industrial, Nuclear Power, Uranium and Waste Committee and the full Board, in order to further improve the State's radiation safety policies and regulations.
- The TRAB unanimously endorsed a resolution commending the DSHS and the TCEQ for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Texas being an Agreement State with the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
- The TRAB unanimously endorsed a resolution commending Ms. Alice Rogers' for her 30 years of service to the State of Texas.

Other activities for the TRAB were:

- Dr. Moreira provided a PowerPoint presentation on food irradiation.
- Mr. Harris presented a PowerPoint presentation on First Responders Emergency Response to radiological incidents.
- Mr. Lucas presented a PowerPoint presentation titled Nuclear Power Overview.
- Dr. Metter presented a PowerPoint presentation titled *What is Nuclear Medicine?*
- Mr. Free provided a PowerPoint presentation on incidents and overexposures related to oil and gas production.
- Mr. Free gave a PowerPoint presentation on emergency response.

Activities planned to be undertaken in FY 2014

The focus of the Board for FY 2014 will be on the following areas:

- Continued discussion and review of proposed radiation dose registries/diaries for medical patient exposures
- Continued discussion and review of linear accelerator issues regarding Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT)
- Review and comment on the potential storage and/or disposal of high-level nuclear waste in Texas.
- Review and comment on radioactive material releases from the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), used for disposal of transuranic radioactive material, in New Mexico.

- Review and comment on radioactive material security, especially related to the theft of a high-activity cobalt-60 source in Mexico.
- Review and comment on the potential for new nuclear power plants in Texas.
- Follow the incorporation of the most current American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards Z136.1 to Z136.9, dealing with the *Safe Use of Lasers* in various facilities (e.g., medical facilities, research facilities, etc.) into the Texas regulations, 25 TAC §289.301, Registration and Radiation Safety Requirements for Lasers and Intense-Pulsed Light.
- TRAB's Medical Committee will continue to review and comment on any regulations dealing with radiation used in the healing arts.
- TRAB's Industrial, Nuclear Power, Uranium and Waste Committee will continue to review and comment on regulations and policies within their scope. Emphasis will especially be on assurance that nuclear reactors, radioactive waste disposals, and drinking water supplies remains as safe as is as reasonably possible for the State of Texas.
- Work with the Governor's office to renew or replace Board members with expired or expiring appointment terms.

#### TRAB Membership

The TRAB consists of the following 18 members, which was updated in early 2014. A quorum of 10 of 18 is required for the TRAB; and it has formed three Committees to improve the focus of the TRAB in addressing the diverse radiation protection issues in Texas. These Committees are:

#### Medical Committee, quorum 6 of 10:

Darlene Metter, Nuclear Medicine (2019), Committee Chair

Mark Silberman, Pathology (2017), Committee Vice Chair

Robert Emery, Hospital Administration (2017)

Nora Janjan, Nuclear Physics in Medicine (2015), TRAB Vice Chair

Ian Hamilton, Radioactive Waste (2015)

Melanie Marshall, Dentistry (2015)

Dave Nichols, Radiology (2015)

Bill Campbell, Insurance (2019)

Mark Pittman, Public Representative (2017)

John Johnson, Agriculture (2017)

Industrial, Nuclear Power, Uranium and Waste Committee, quorum 5 of 9:

Kevin Raabe, Uranium Mining (2017), Committee Chair

Mitch Lucas, Nuclear Utilities (2019), Committee Vice Chair

Amy Clark, Public Representative (2015), TRAB Secretary

John Hageman, Health Physicist (2017), TRAB Chair

Ian Hamilton, Radioactive Waste (2015)

Stephen Harris, Labor Representative (2019)

Ken Krieger, Industry (2015)

Judith M. "Judy" Raab, Petroleum Well Service (2019)

Darshan Sachde, Public Representative (2019)

Topic Research Committee, quorum 3 of 5:

Ian Hamilton, Radioactive Waste (2015), Committee Chair

Robert Emery, Hospital Administration (2017), Committee Vice Chair

Amy Clark, Public Representative (2015), TRAB Secretary

Nora Janjan, Nuclear Physics in Medicine (2015), TRAB Vice Chair

John Hageman, Health Physicist (2017), TRAB Chair

TRAB Expenses for FY 2013

The total expenses incurred for TRAB meetings, for FY 2013, were \$22,246. This consisted of TRAB members' reimbursements for travel and per diem, for \$11,515, and DSHS staff salaries expended in direct support of TRAB, for \$10,731.