



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

**January 16, 2026  
Radiation Section**

**Licensing and Registration Activities**

<b>License Type</b>	<b>Companies</b>	<b>Sites</b>
X-Ray Registrations	20,372	26,775
Laser	4,477	5,301
Mammography	644	644

<b>Registration Completed Actions: September 2025 – November 2025</b>				
	<b>New</b>	<b>Renewal</b>	<b>Amendment</b>	<b>Termination</b>
X-Ray	910	167	955	583
Laser	448	27	126	113
Mammography	10	47	188	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,582</b>	<b>1,368</b>	<b>1,269</b>	<b>704</b>

<b>RAM Licensing actions: September 2025 – November 2025</b>				
	<b>New</b>	<b>Renewal</b>	<b>Amendment</b>	<b>Termination</b>
General License Acknowledgment	0	33	10	3
RAM	10	24	265	11
Waste Shipper/Transporter	1	9	0	0
RAM Reciprocity	1	8	0	0
Sealed Source and Device	0	0	4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>14</b>

<b>Industrial Radiographer Certification</b>	
Application for Exam	305
Trainee Application	334
Renewal Application	76
Non-Texas Radiographer	43
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>758</b>

## **Rulemaking**

- §289.228 Radiation Safety Requirements for Industrial Radiation Machines  
Internal draft review has been completed. The draft will be submitted to the HHSC Rule Coordination Office for review. In addition to following the plain language policy, the draft introduces requirements for whole-body security scanners used by detention facilities and removes the language for minimal threat machine exemptions. The public comment periods are yet to be determined.
- §289.231 General Provisions and Standards for Protection Against Machine-Produced Radiation is the next section scheduled for internal draft review.

## **Inspection Data**

Number of Inspections				
	FY25 Q2 (12/1/24 – 2/28/25)		FY25 Q3 (3/1/25 – 5/30/25)	
	# Ins	# Insp with Violations	# Ins	# Insp with Violations
RAM	175	48 (27%)	171	24 (14%)
X-Ray	640	263 (41%)	852	297 (35%)
X-Ray Remote	381	163 (43%)	154	53 (34%)
Mammography	172	41 (24%)	153	24 (16%)
Laser	7	6 (86%)	12	9 (75%)
	FY25 Q4 (6/1/25 – 8/31/25)		FY26 Q1 (9/1/2025 – 11/30/2025)	
	# Ins	# Insp with Violations	# Ins	# Insp with Violations
RAM	114	19 (17%)	155	27 (17%)
X-Ray	746	267 (36%)	809	319 (39%)
X-Ray Remote	236	88 (37%)	218	90 (41%)
Mammography	146	22 (15%)	208	40 (19%)
Laser	12	11 (92%)	14	13 (93%)

## **Technical Staff Vacancies**

Position	Location	Anticipated Fill Date	Notes
Mammography Inspector/Certification Reviewer	Tyler	TBD	To be posted
X-ray/Mammography Inspector	Amarillo	TBD	Posted
X-ray Inspector	Austin	March 1	Posted
X-ray Inspector	Beaumont/Houston	Filled	Filled 1/1/26
X-Ray Inspector	Houston	TBD	Posted
X-Ray Inspector	Houston	TBD	Posted
X-Ray Inspector	Houston	TBD	Posted
X-Ray Inspector	Arlington	Filled	Filled 1/13/2026
X-ray Inspector	Arlington	Filled	Filled 1/13/2026

Remote Inspector	X-ray	Austin	Filled	11/3/2025
Remote X-ray Inspector		Austin	TBD	Reposting. No other qualified candidates
RAM Inspector		Arlington	TBD	Interviewing
RAM Inspector		Corpus Christi	TBD	Interviewing
RAM Inspector		Houston	TBD	Interviewing
Health Physicist I (RAM Licensing)		Austin	TBD	To be posted
Medical X-ray Reviewer		Austin	TBD	To be posted
Medical X-ray Reviewer		Austin	TBD	To be posted
Medical X-ray Reviewer		Austin	TBD	To be posted
X-Ray QA Reviewer		Austin	TBD	Interviewing
RAM Rule Coordinator		Austin	TBD	To be posted

### **Staff Training and Activities**

- Two emergency planners attended the Radiation Emergency Medicine course at the Radiation Emergency Assistance Center/Training Site (REAC/TS).
- Director Joann Harthcock attended the Fall CRCPD Board of Directors Meeting.
- Two emergency planners attended the National Radiological Emergency Preparedness (NREP) Conference midyear planning meeting.
- NRC training courses scheduled for this quarter were canceled due to the government shutdown.

### **Compliance Activities**

September 2025 to December 2025:

- Orders: 109
- Administrative Penalties: \$ 256,820.00
- Revocations:
  - 12 X-ray registrations
  - 1 Laser registration

### **Mammography Branch**

- One vacancy for an MQSA inspector/certification reviewer

### **Registration Branch**

- Two vacancies for X-ray Registration Reviewers.

### **Operations Branch**

- One vacancy for an X-ray QA Reviewer
- One vacancy for a RAM Rule Coordinator

## **Emergency Response Activities**

### **South Texas Project Nuclear Power Plant (STP)**

- A Combined Functional Drill was held on September 10 with 13 Radiological Emergency Response Team (RERT) members participating. The drill also included participation by Matagorda County.
- STP conducted an Environmental Monitoring Drill on September 23 with three RERT team members participating.
- A Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-graded medical services drill was held on September 24 at Matagorda Regional Medical Center. One Level 2 finding was identified: the Matagorda County Radiological Officer did not wear personnel dosimetry. The after-action report was issued on November 21.

### **Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant (CPNPP)**

- A medical services drill dress rehearsal was held at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital, Cleburne, on October 15.
- A FEMA-graded medical services drill was held on November 13 at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital, Cleburne. The draft after-action report states that one Level 2 finding was noted and was corrected on the spot. The final report is scheduled for publication in February.

### **Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)**

- Local Briefings were conducted with representatives from Martin and Howard counties.
- The WIPP program is currently working on exchanges and calibrations of the survey instruments along the WIPP route (I-20).
- The WIPP program participated in the Technician Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training (TMERTT) on November 17, 2025. The training was in Big Spring, TX. Twenty-five participants attended this training.
- The WIPP program participated in the Modified Full-Scale Exercise, Low-Level Radioactive Waste (LLRW), which was on November 18, 2025, in Stanton, TX. Forty-nine participants attended this Full-Scale Exercise.
- A member of the WIPP team participated in a REAC/TS course in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.
- A member of the WIPP team participated in the Joint Meeting of the Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee and the Transuranic Waste Transportation Working Group on December 9-10 in Kansas City, Missouri, at the Southern States Energy Board (SSEB), where that team member co-presented on transportation training across Texas.

### **Pantex/Agreement in Principle (AIP)**

- Tim Gibson, Robin Phillips, and Shay Christian participated in a Pantex Radiological Waste tabletop exercise on October 8, 2025.
- The quarterly Agreement in Principle meeting was held on October 9, 2025.
- Tim Gibson and Shay Christian attended the Radiation Operations Support Specialist (ROSS) training on October 13-16, 2025.
- Tim Gibson and Shay Christian completed quarterly environmental sampling for Pantex on October 22, 2025.
- Training Resource Group (TRG), with assistance from Shay Christian, completed Technician Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training (TMERTT) and Hospital Radiation Contamination Training for 42 first responders and hospital emergency department staff on October 28-30, 2025.

- Field team training for the Pantex November 6 exercise was completed on November 5, 2025.
- A Pantex Field Team Exercise was held on November 6, 2025, with fifteen DSHS team members participating.
- Shay Christian observed the Cleburne Hospital FEMA graded exercise on November 13, 2025, in preparation for radiation contamination training for local hospital staff in the Pantex area.
- Basic radiation detector training for Northwest Texas Hospital Emergency staff was held on November 17, 2025.
- A full-scale exercise for first responders and hospital emergency room staff led by TRG, with assistance from Tim Gibson and Shay Christian, was held on November 20, 2025.
- An Initial Nuclear Power Plant FEMA crosswalk meeting was provided for area counties by Rae Walker on December 3, 2025.
- Shay Christian participated in 2 Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation (MERRTT) training classes on December 8-12, 2025.
- Shay Christian and Jordan Coulson with the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) met with the Carson County Emergency Manager for initial work with Crosswalk for the future nuclear power plant for the area on December 17, 2025.
- Instrument calibrations were performed on 18 instruments during December 2025.
- Plans and preparations are being made with Pantex for an exercise that will include a radiation release in March 2026.
- Plans are in process for DSHS staff to complete a training session during the TDEM conference in May 2026.

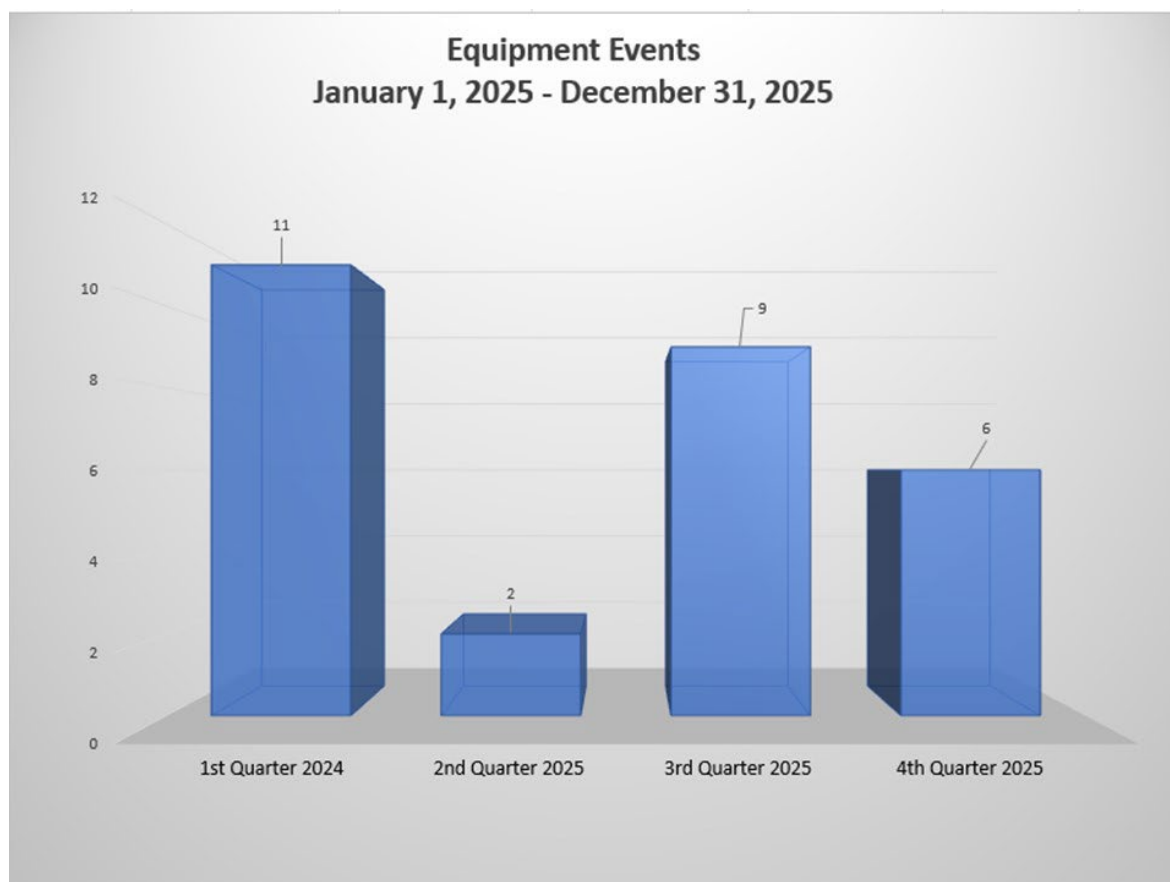
#### Counterterrorism / Radiological WMD

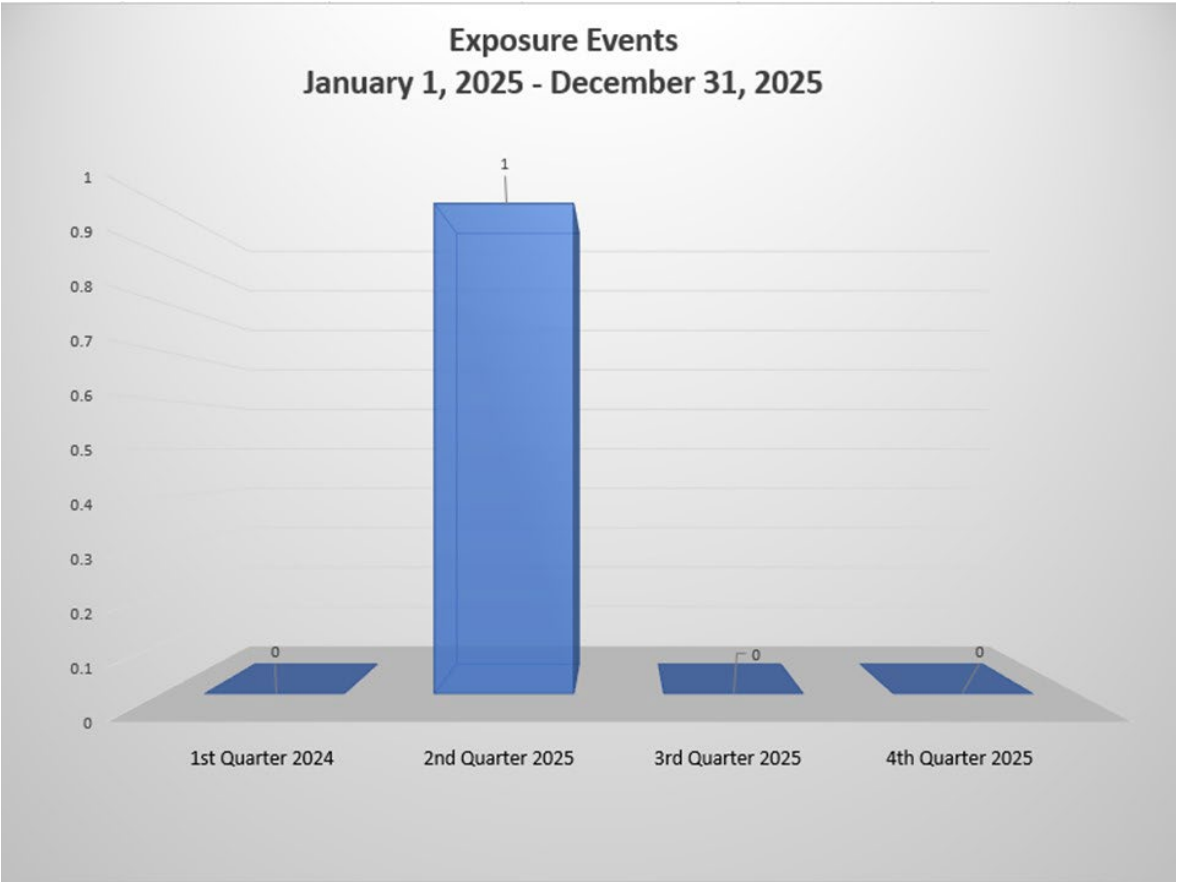
- The 2026 World Cup Soccer Event will include the Dallas/Fort Worth and Houston areas since they are designated as the Host Cities for the scheduled matches in June-July 2026. The DSHS Radiation Section is involved in providing a Radiation Response Planning Workshop for each region. The purpose of these workshops is to bolster response planning and preparedness by regional response stakeholders in the event of a radiological incident. Workshops will occur in the spring of 2026.
- The DSHS Radiation Section participated in the 3-day North Central Texas Metro X Full-Scale Exercise that occurred on October 27-29, 2025. The purpose of the North Central Texas Metro X full-scale exercise was to simulate a Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack (CCTA) scenario, which impacted multiple jurisdictions and sites within the Dallas/Fort Worth region. The DSHS Radiation Section provided radiation sources and radiological subject matter information for this multifaceted exercise.
- A review of the new 5-year Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan (HSSP) for 2026-2030 was completed. The Radiation Section was involved in revising and updating the content of the plan as it pertains to radiological Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and response. The 5-year plan provides the state's framework for establishing homeland security priorities and plans for developing and sustaining homeland security capabilities.
- The DSHS Radiation Section continues to monitor Houston's Securing the Cities (STC) Program. The STC Program seeks to reduce the risk of a successful deployment of a radiological/nuclear (R/N) terrorist weapon against a major metropolitan area in the United States by establishing a sustainable capability to detect, analyze, and report nuclear and other radioactive materials out of regulatory control within their jurisdictions. The STC grant is used to train and

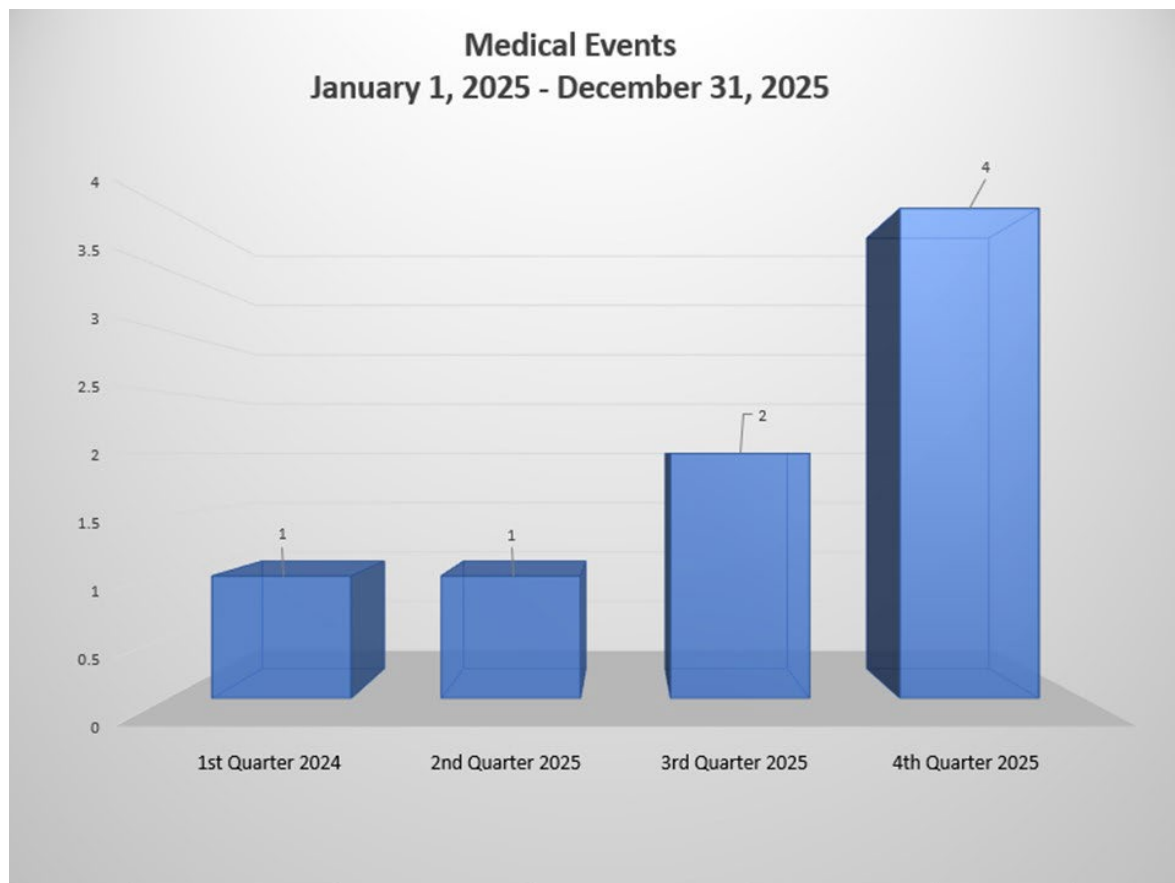
equip personnel to be proficient in the use of R/N detection equipment and guided by detection and response protocols. This program is now state-wide, working with the Texas Department of Public Safety, local law enforcement, and first responders to train and equip personnel on Preventative Radiological/Nuclear Detection (PRND) issued equipment. Clint Taylor and Rae Walker monitor this program and participate in monthly meetings, scheduled training, and exercises.

### **Incident Investigations**

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







### **Medical Event Summaries:**

- On October 3, 2025, the Agency received notification from the licensee regarding a treatment error during stereotactic radiosurgery with the Gamma Knife system for a patient with a brain arteriovenous malformation (AVM). The licensee stated that the patient was prescribed a total dose of 12Gy per fraction, delivered over six weekly sessions. The stages were selected due to the patient's AVM being too large to treat in a single session using a stereotactic frame, and so, treatment was planned to use a thermoplastic mask to reduce the risk of injury to normal tissue. On October 2, 2025, just before the patient had commenced the fourth treatment session, the treating physician discovered that the three previous treatment sessions conducted on September 11, 2025, September 17, 2025, and September 25, 2025, had missed the AVM target and radiation had been delivered to a part of normal brain tissue. The licensee reported that a software anomaly had unexpectedly unlinked co-registration between the planning Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and treatment ConeBeam Computed Tomography (CT), resulting in the patient being treated as if he were immobilized in a stereotactic frame rather than the intended thermoplastic mask. The licensee stated that the Gamma Knife manufacturer, Elekta Ltd, was notified of the event and confirmed the potential issue with switching coordinate systems. The referring physician and the patient were notified on October 2, 2025, and a meeting with the patient to discuss the potential effects of the event and mitigation strategies to prevent adverse effects was held on October 6, 2025. On October 3, the licensee imposed a moratorium on all staged AVM treatments until further safeguards are in place to prevent a repeat incident. The licensee has identified areas in the therapy process for improvement to prevent the issue from recurring.



- On October 6, 2025, the Agency received notification from the licensee regarding a treatment error during stereotactic radiosurgery with the Gamma Knife system for a patient with a brain arteriovenous malformation (AVM). The patient was prescribed 2 treatment sessions of 12 Gy each. The licensee stated that an error during the transfer from the frame coordinate system to the mask coordinate system resulted in radiation being delivered to an incorrect site in the brain. As a result, the dose delivered to the treatment site was less than the prescribed dose. The licensee stated that the event occurred in February 2025 and was discovered by the radiation oncology team during an internal review exercise of all AVM treatments provided by the licensee since 2016. This review was initiated following a similar incident involving the same procedure, which the licensee had previously discovered on October 2, 2025, and reported to the Agency on October 3, 2025. The licensee conducted this review to determine whether other patients had been affected by the same system error. According to the licensee, out of all cases reviewed, only this one met the criteria to be classified as a reportable event.
- On November 4, 2025, the department was notified by the registrant that one fraction of a patient's treatment was >20 percent lower than prescribed. The RSO stated the patient was to receive four fractions to total 805 centigray (cGy) to one treatment site using four different orientations, all during the same visit. The treatment in question occurred on October 31, 2025. The registrant determined that the underexposure occurred when the treatment was reviewed on November 3, 2025. The review found that the patient only received three of the fractions; therefore, the patient only received 652cGy total (reported as 21 % low). The registrant stated that the patient was difficult to work with due to their physical disabilities, and the allotted time had expired prior to the final fraction being delivered, so the patient's last treatment was not completed. The registrant provided additional training to its staff on its procedures. Also, additional policies have been implemented to prevent this from occurring in the future.
- On November 6, 2025, the department received a report from the licensee's radiation safety officer (RSO) stating that they had discovered four under-exposure events had occurred to three patients using Y-90 TheraSphere beads. The events were discovered during a review of the procedures conducted by a new manager. The events occurred on September 11, 18, and 22, 2025. In the September 11 event, the patient was prescribed to receive 34.3 millicuries (mCi) but only received 20.0 mCi. In the September 18 event, the patient was prescribed two separate procedures of 34.3 and 48.9 mCi but received 23.6 and 31.8 mCi. In the September 22 event, the patient was prescribed 35.7 mCi but received 26.4 mCi. The final dose calculations were based on the recorded radiation readings taken on the delivery devices after the procedures. On November 20, 2025, the licensee reported that after further review, they had found that the individual who performed the post-procedure survey had done so incorrectly and therefore the assigned dose was much lower than the actual dose received. The licensee's investigation found that in three of the cases, it was determined that the patient had received greater than 90 percent of the prescribed dose. In the September 11, 2025, case, the patient received 75.5 percent of the prescribed dose. The licensee has provided additional training on the proper performance of dose calculations for this type of procedure. No violations were cited.

## **List of Acronyms**

ACU	Abilene Christian University
AIP	Agreement in Principle
CCTA	Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack
CMERRTT	Compressed Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training
CPNPP	Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant
CRCPD	Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors
CST	Civil Support Team
CT	Computed Tomography
DSHS	Department of State Health Services
EOC	Emergency Management Center
EPZ	Emergency Planning Zone
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
HHSC	Health and Human Services Commission
HSSP	Homeland Security Strategic Plan
LLRW	Low-Level Radioactive Waste
MERTT	Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training
MQSA	Mammography Quality Standards Act
MSRR	Molten Salt Research Reactor
NEXT	Nuclear Energy eXperimental Testing Lab
NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
OSL	Optically Stimulated Luminescence
PET/CT	Positron Emission Tomography-Computed Tomography
PRND	Preventative Radiological/Nuclear Detection
RAM	Radioactive Material
RAP	Radiological Assistance Program
RAPTER	Radiological Assistance Program Training for Emergency Response
RDD	Radiological Dispersal Device
REAC/TS	Radiation Emergency Assistance Center/Training Site
RERT	Radiological Emergency Response Team
R/N	Radiological/Nuclear
ROSS	Radiation Operations Support Specialist
RSI	Radiological Solutions Inc.
RSO	Radiation Safety Officer
RUL	Right Upper Lobe
SSEB	Southern States Energy Board
STC	Securing the Cities
STP	South Texas Project Nuclear Power Plant
TAC	Texas Administrative Code
TDEM	Texas Division of Emergency Management
TMERTT	Technician Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training
TRAB	Texas Radiation Advisory Board
TRG	Training Resource Group
TTX	Tabletop Exercise
URAD	Ultra Radiac
WCTEPC	West Central Texas Emergency Preparedness Conference

WIPP	Waste Isolation Pilot Plant
WMD	Weapon of Mass Destruction