§ 36.63 Pool water purity.

(a) Pool water purification system must be run sufficiently to maintain the conductivity of the pool water below 20 microsiemens per centimeter under normal circumstances. If pool water conductivity rises above 20 microsiemens per centimeter, the licensee shall take prompt actions to lower the pool water conductivity and shall take corrective actions to prevent future recurrences.

(b) The licensee shall measure the pool water conductivity frequently enough, but no less than weekly, to assure that the conductivity remains below 20 microsiemens per centimeter. Conductivity meters must be calibrated at least annually.

§ 36.65 Attendance during operation.

(a) Both an irradiator operator and at least one other individual, who is trained on how to respond and prepared to promptly render or summon assistance if the access control alarm sounds, shall be present onsite:

(1) Whenever the irradiator is operated using an automatic product conveyor system; and

(2) Whenever the product is moved into or out of the radiation room when the irradiator is operated in a batch mode.

(b) At a panoramic irradiator at which static irradiations (no movement of the product) are occurring, a person who has received the training on how to respond to alarms described in § 36.51(g) must be onsite.

(c) At an underwater irradiator, an irradiator operator must be present at the facility whenever the product is moved into or out of the pool. Individuals who move the product into or out of the pool of an underwater irradiator need not be qualified as irradiator operators; however, they must have received the training described in § 36.51(f) and (g). Static irradiations may be performed without a person present at the facility.

§ 36.67 Entering and leaving the radiation room.

(a) Upon first entering the radiation room of a panoramic irradiator after an irradiation, the irradiator operator shall use a survey meter to determine that the source has returned to its fully shielded position. The operator shall check the functioning of the survey meter with a radiation check source prior to entry.

(b) Before exiting from and locking the door to the radiation room of a panoramic irradiator prior to a planned irradiation, the irradiator operator shall:

(1) Visually inspect the entire radiation room to verify that no one else is in it; and

(2) Activate a control in the radiation room that permits the sources to be moved from the shielded position only if the door to the radiation room is locked within a preset time after setting the control.

(c) During a power failure, the area around the pool of an underwater irradiator may not be entered without using an operable and calibrated radiation survey meter unless the over-the-pool monitor required by § 36.29(b) is operating with backup power.

§ 36.69 Irradiation of explosive or flammable materials.

(a) Irradiation of explosive material is prohibited unless the licensee has received prior written authorization from the Commission. Authorization will not be granted unless the licensee can demonstrate that detonation of the explosive would not rupture the sealed sources, injure personnel, damage safety systems, or cause radiation overexposures of personnel.

(b) Irradiation of more than small quantities of flammable material (flash
point below 140 °F) is prohibited in panoramic irradiators unless the licensee has received prior written authorization from the Commission. Authorization will not be granted unless the licensee can demonstrate that a fire in the radiation room could be controlled without damage to sealed sources or safety systems and without radiation overexposures of personnel.

Subpart E—Records

§ 36.81 Records and retention periods.

The licensee shall maintain the following records at the irradiator for the periods specified.

(a) A copy of the license, license conditions, documents incorporated into a license by reference, and amendments thereto until superseded by new documents or until the Commission terminates the license for documents not superseded.

(b) Records of each individual’s training, tests, and safety reviews provided to meet the requirements of §36.51(a), (b), (c), (d), (f), and (g) until 3 years after the individual terminates work.

(c) Records of the annual evaluations of the safety performance of irradiator operators required by §36.51(e) for 3 years after the evaluation.

(d) A copy of the current operating and emergency procedures required by §36.53 until superseded or the Commission terminates the license. Records of the radiation safety officer’s review and approval of changes in procedures as required by §36.53(c)(3) retained for 3 years from the date of the change.

(e) Evaluations of personnel dosimeters required by §36.55 until the Commission terminates the license.

(f) Records of radiation surveys required by §36.57 for 3 years from the date of the survey.

(g) Records of radiation survey meter calibrations required by §36.57 and pool water conductivity meter calibrations required by §36.63(b) until 3 years from the date of calibration.

(h) Records of the results of leak tests required by §36.59(a) and the results of contamination checks required by §36.59(b) for 3 years from the date of each test.

(i) Records of inspection and maintenance checks required by §36.61 for 3 years.

(j) Records of major malfunctions, significant defects, operating difficulties or irregularities, and major operating problems that involve required radiation safety equipment for 3 years after repairs are completed.

(k) Records of the receipt, transfer and disposal, of all licensed sealed sources as required by §§30.51 and 30.41.

(l) Records on the design checks required by §36.39 and the construction control checks as required by §36.41 until the license is terminated. The records must be signed and dated. The title or qualification of the person signing must be included.

(m) Records related to decommissioning of the irradiator as required by §30.35(g).


§ 36.83 Reports.

(a) In addition to the reporting requirements in other parts of NRC regulations, the licensee shall report the following events if not reported under other parts of NRC regulations:

(1) Source stuck in an unshielded position.

(2) Any fire or explosion in a radiation room.

(3) Damage to the source racks.

(4) Failure of the cable or drive mechanism used to move the source racks.

(5) Inoperability of the access control system.

(6) Detection of radiation source by the product exit monitor.

(7) Detection of radioactive contamination attributable to licensed radioactive material.

(8) Structural damage to the pool liner or walls.

(9) Abnormal water loss or leakage from the source storage pool.

(10) Pool water conductivity exceeding 100 microsiemens per centimeter.

(b) The report must include a telephone report within 24 hours as described in §30.50(c)(1), and a written report within 30 days as described in §30.50(c)(2).