

ATTACHMENT 3.2-2 TO RMPP 3.2, REVISION 0: RADIOLOGICAL INCIDENT RESPONSE QUESTION AND ANSWER SHEET

What is a radiological incident?

A radiological incident is an emergency involving radioactive materials. Examples of radiological incidents include situations where radioactive materials are lost, stolen, or involved in a transportation accident. In most cases, radiological incidents can be successfully resolved by emergency responders with state assistance.

What state assistance is available to respond to a radiological incident?

The Vermont Department of Health, Radioactive Materials Program (RMP), is available on a 24-hour basis to support and advise emergency responders during an incident involving radioactive materials. RMP emergency response resources include highly trained personnel and specialized radiation monitoring equipment. RMP staff can be quickly dispatched to provide on-site assistance at the scene of a radiological incident.

How are radioactive materials regulated to minimize public risk?

Radioactive materials are stringently regulated by state and federal government agencies by licensing or registration. Devices and products containing radioactive materials are required to incorporate safety features that minimize the exposure risk to the public from a radiological incident.

What should I do if involved in a radiological incident?

Remain calm. Follow instructions given by on-scene officials. Vermont Department of Health staff will quickly assess the situation and recommend any further actions. Most radiological incidents do not result in harmful levels of radiation exposure to the public.

Where can I get more information?

For more information on radiological incident response or health risk from exposure to radiation or radioactive materials, contact:

Vermont Department of Health
Radioactive Materials Program
(802) 865-7730 (normal business hours)
(802) 863-7220 (after hours)

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