

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
Office of the Commissioner

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION
FROM: Katherine Keith
Deputy Commissioner

DATE: June 18, 2026
PHONE NO: (907) 465-3900
SUBJECT: **CORRECTED DIRECTION:**
Portable Nuclear Gauge Operations

Effective immediately, this memorandum supersedes and withdraws a June 17, 2026 memorandum titled “Mandatory Order: Complete Suspension of Portable Nuclear Gauge Operations” issued by Daniel W. Smith. Staff should not act on the withdrawn memorandum.

The withdrawn memorandum was not issued through authorized departmental decision-making channels and is not a valid Department directive. It does not amend DOT&PF’s United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) materials license, suspend license-authorized activities, or alter the Department’s radiation safety chain of command.

DOT&PF remains responsible for compliance with NRC Materials License No. 50-14102-01, applicable license conditions, and NRC requirements. Amber Shumpert is a fully qualified Radiation Safety Officer (RSO), and the Department is submitting the required RSO amendment paperwork. The amendment is being submitted under 10 CFR 30.38, which governs applications to amend NRC materials licenses. The Department is proceeding within the applicable 30-day amendment-submittal window following the change in named RSO.

Portable nuclear gauge operations are not suspended. Operations may continue only in accordance with the NRC license, approved radiation safety procedures, and authorized supervisory direction. This includes compliance with 10 CFR 30.34(c), which limits possession and use of byproduct material to the locations and purposes authorized in the license; 10 CFR 30.34(i), which requires two independent physical controls for portable gauges when not under the licensee’s control and constant surveillance; 10 CFR 20.1801, which requires security of stored licensed material; and 10 CFR 20.1802, which requires control and constant surveillance of licensed material that is not in storage.

All gauge users, custodians, and regional RSOs shall continue to follow existing requirements for use, transport, storage, security, inventory, custody control, leak-test and inspection documentation, and reportable-event escalation. This memorandum does not waive or modify any license condition, NRC requirement, Department procedure, or regional RSO direction.

No recall, shutdown, transfer, operational restriction, or suspension shall be implemented based on the withdrawn memorandum. Any future statewide operational restriction involving portable nuclear gauges must be issued by the Commissioner’s Office.

Questions regarding compliance status, RSO authority, gauge custody, storage, or field operations shall be elevated through the appropriate chain of command to the Department’s Statewide Safety Systems Manager and/or the Deputy Commissioner. Please distribute this corrected direction to all staff who received the withdrawn memorandum.

AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES:

10 CFR 30.38 – Application for amendment of licenses and registration certificates.

“Keep Alaska Moving.”

10 CFR 30.34(c) – Possession and use limited to licensed locations and purposes.
10 CFR 30.34(i) – Security requirements for portable gauges.
10 CFR 20.1801 – Security of stored licensed material.
10 CFR 20.1802 – Control of licensed material not in storage.
NRC NUREG-1556, Volume 1, Revision 2 – Program-specific guidance for portable gauge licenses.

DISTRIBUTION:

Chris Riekema, Central Region Radiation Safety Officer
David Frary, Southcoast Region Radiation Safety Officer
Jason Groves, Northern Region Radiation Safety Officer
Amber Shumpert, Statewide Safety Systems Manager
Regional Directors
Regional Construction Engineers