



EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

ISLAMABAD, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2025

PART II

Statutory Notification (S.R.O.)

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

PAKISTAN NUCLEAR REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NOTIFICATION

Islamabad, the 31st December, 2025

S.R.O. 2511(I)/2025.– In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 16(2)(b) read with Section 17 of the Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority Ordinance, 2001 (III of 2001), Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority (PNRA) is pleased to make and promulgate the following policy:-

1. Short Title, Extent, Applicability and Commencement.– (1) This policy may be called the “National Policy on Safe Management of Radioactive Waste, Decommissioning and Spent Nuclear Fuel in Islamic Republic of Pakistan - (RWP-01/18), 2025”.

(2) This policy extends to the whole of Pakistan.

(3) This policy shall be applicable to stakeholders involved in safe management of radioactive waste, nuclear and other radioactive material out of regulatory control, decommissioning of nuclear installations and radiation facilities and spent nuclear fuel.

(4) This policy shall come into force at once.

2. Policy Statement.– The Government of Pakistan is committed to ensure safe management of radioactive waste, nuclear and other radioactive material out of regulatory control, decommissioning of nuclear installations and radiation facilities and spent nuclear fuel to protect the public, the workers and the environment from the harmful effects of ionizing radiations through an effective and sustainable regulatory mechanism.

3. Objective.– This policy intends to establish clear roles and responsibilities of relevant stakeholders to ensure safe management of radioactive waste, nuclear and other radioactive material out of regulatory control, decommissioning of nuclear installations and radiation facilities and spent nuclear fuel in Pakistan.

4. General.– (1) All relevant stakeholders must adhere to the following principles and subsequent strategies to achieve the commitment of the Government. The Government of Pakistan shall ensure the implementation of this policy through PNRA.

(2) The Government of Pakistan is committed to achieve the objective of this policy in such a manner as to:

- (a) ensure an acceptable level of protection for human health and environment from harmful effects of ionizing radiation;
- (b) avoid imposing undue burdens on future generations taking into account socio-economic considerations.

(3) The Government of Pakistan shall support the overall development of technical, physical and regulatory infrastructure for the safe management of radioactive waste, nuclear and other radioactive material out of regulatory control, decommissioning of nuclear installations and radiation facilities and spent nuclear fuel.

(4) The Government of Pakistan, where necessary, shall provide funds for implementation of this policy.

(5) PNRA shall regulate safe management of radioactive waste including Disused Sealed Radioactive Sources (DSRS), nuclear and other radioactive material out of regulatory control, decommissioning activities of nuclear installations and radiation facilities and spent nuclear fuel.

(6) Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) shall formulate national strategies on safe management of radioactive waste including DSRS, decommissioning of nuclear installations and radiation facilities and spent nuclear fuel for the implementation of this policy.

5. Radioactive Waste Management.– (1) The generation of radioactive waste shall be minimized at design, operation and decommissioning of nuclear installations and radiation facilities.

(2) The generator of radioactive waste shall be responsible for safe and secure management of its radioactive waste including DSRS in accordance with the relevant PNRA regulations. The generator shall handover its radioactive waste including DSRS to designated radioactive waste storage or disposal facilities of PAEC in accordance with approved waste acceptance criteria. The generator shall pay the cost to PAEC for the safe disposal.

(3) PAEC shall establish radioactive waste disposal facilities at national level for all types of radioactive waste generated in the country. PAEC shall also manage DSRS which could not be returned to the supplier, nuclear and other radioactive material out of regulatory control including orphan radioactive sources and ownerless radioactive waste.

(4) Radioactive waste generated from the nuclear installations shall be managed through Radioactive Waste Management Fund (RWMF) established and maintained by the licensee and endorsed by PNRA.

(5) Radioactive waste shall neither be imported nor exported until and unless specifically permitted by the Government of Pakistan except for DSRS which shall be returned to the supplier as per relevant PNRA regulations.

6. Control of Nuclear and other Radioactive Material out of Regulatory Control.– (1) The ownerless, smuggled or illicit trafficked, nuclear or other radioactive material, shall be controlled at the Points of Entry and Exit (POEs) and within the country under National Nuclear Detection Architecture (NNDA) framework, and such material while detected or intercepted, shall be dealt as per NNDA framework.

(2) The metal recycling industries within the country shall be responsible for the monitoring of metal scrap or any other metal products, to detect, identify and manage any nuclear and other radioactive material out of regulatory control.

(3) The Government of Pakistan shall bear the expenditures for radioactive waste management of any nuclear and other radioactive material out of regulatory control including orphan sources, ownerless radioactive waste and DSRS for which clearance authorization has been issued by PNRA.

7. Decommissioning of Nuclear Installations and Radiation Facilities.– (1) Every nuclear installation shall adopt decommissioning strategy as deemed appropriate considering various aspects and shall complete decommissioning within due course of time whereas, radiation facilities shall adopt immediate decommissioning as the preferred strategy after permanent shutdown or cessation of operation.

(2) Each nuclear installation shall be responsible to establish and maintain its own decommissioning fund. If a nuclear installation fails to manage financial resources for decommissioning, in case of premature shutdown, the Government of Pakistan shall be ultimately responsible for the provisions of adequate financial and human resources to cover the costs associated with safe decommissioning.

8. Spent Nuclear Fuel.– (1) The decision regarding the ultimate utilization and disposal of spent nuclear fuel will be made by the Government of Pakistan.

(2) PAEC shall be responsible for the safe and secure management of spent nuclear fuel.

9. Repeal.– The “National Policy on Safe Management of Radioactive Waste, Decommissioning and Spent Nuclear Fuel in Islamic Republic of Pakistan - (RWP-01/2018)” notified vide S.R.O. 1236(I)/2018 dated 9th October, 2018 is hereby repealed.

MOHAMMAD QAYYUM, S.I.
Member (Corporate).