

A Proportional Response to the Transportation Misuse for Radioactive Waste in Indonesia

Radioactive waste is regulated by Government Regulation No. 61 of 2013 on Radioactive Waste Management. The Indonesian Government's policy in this matter is to return radioactive waste to its country of origin or transfer the waste to the Radioactive Waste Management Installation (IPLR BRIN). In practice, not all waste processes are carried out legally by either the sender or recipient, including during transportation.

Radioactive waste transportation in Indonesia is based on a transportation approval issued by BAPETEN to the licensee. The approval contains several terms and conditions that must be used by the licensee when carrying out waste management. One of the terms and conditions in the approval is information regarding the initial and final locations of the radioactive material. This is what licensee must pay attention to in order to carry out transportation in accordance with the approval.

In the event of information about the misuse of radioactive waste during the transportation of radioactive materials, BAPETEN, as the regulatory body, has taken the necessary steps to respond to this unexpected event. The regulatory body's response in this context is crucial due to it determines the fate of many people facing the potential risks of radiation to the human body.

In anticipation of such an incident, BAPETEN has undertaken numerous activities involving numerous stakeholders. In the context of its initial response to the discovery of radioactive waste that should have been disposed of but was actually used before the waste transportation was completed, BAPETEN was able to take immediate action, and due to its long-standing involvement, the Indonesian National Police, specifically the Chemical, Biological, Radioactive, and Nuclear Unit (Sat KBRN), was able to detect the presence and mitigate the potential risks of radioactive materials changing hands.

Coordination between BAPETEN and Sat KBRN typically training, including handling misused radioactive waste. The training is conducted both in-person and in the field through practical sessions. This approach supports the implementation of the safety-security interface principle, according to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) guidelines, which integrate safety and security aspects into supervision, including preparedness for nuclear and radiological emergencies.

After detecting and mitigating potential risks posed by radioactive materials, BAPETEN's next step is to report the matter to the police. With sufficient evidence from the field indicating suspected misuse of radioactive materials, BAPETEN hopes that the nuclear law enforcement process will receive the attention of the Indonesian National Police.

Nuclear energy law enforcement has been implemented by BAPETEN involving the National Police's Criminal Investigation Agency (Bareskrim Polri). However, several obstacles remain in the mission of building character and educating the nation's youth. BAPETEN previously conducted related activities with the involvement of the police. As a result, not only did the workshop participants appear intently engaged in listening to the speakers, but hundreds of police personnel have now participated in BAPETEN programs.

Nuclear energy law enforcement workshops are crucial, as they provide numerous insights for the police to better understand the issues surrounding the oversight of nuclear energy utilisation in Indonesia. These workshops have been conducted both in Jakarta, involving the Jakarta Metropolitan Police and its subordinates, as well as regional police forces, particularly in provinces with extensive nuclear energy utilization.

With these beneficial activities, it is hoped that the objectives of these workshops can be achieved while adhering to the established deadlines. One challenge faced after the workshops is the rapid turnover of police personnel, so such workshops should be conducted at least once every three months.

Country or International Organization

Instructions

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