

IRSRA Instruction for the Abandonment of RS in Oil Well – 2019

- 1.** Well logging companies that work with RSs (Radioactive Sources) shall present a PLAN for the Abandonment of RSs in case they were stuck in the oil well. This PLAN shall be a prerequisite and an essential requirement to grant regulatory authorization to conduct well logging activities,
- 2.** The presented Abandonment PLAN shall be reviewed by IRSRA and subsequently approved if it met all technical requirements,
- 3.** The party that is responsible for the execution of RS desertion operation(s) shall be explicitly defined. It shall be held accountable by IRSRA to perform the job in accordance with internationally recognized best practices and criteria adopted in this instruction, and as one of the regulatory requirements to grant the authorization,
- 4.** Appropriate record keeping system shall be organized for scheduled maintenance for well logging equipment. It shall include details of calibration and maintenance operation and be kept for (at least) three years, this record is also a requirement for authorization,
- 5.** IRSRA shall be notified ASAP in case of any stuck RS through (RPO) or the authorized personnel,
- 6.** The license holder shall agree with IRSRA on fishing arrangements to try to recover stuck equipment and, in case of failure, proceed to carry out the previously approved Abandonment Plan and notify IRSRA with operation timing.
- 7.** Reasonable efforts shall be exercised to recover the stuck RS and equipment in a safe manner that shall not render the RS damaged,
- 8.** Carrying out radiological monitoring for water and mud extracted from the well during fishing operations, and also for the retrieved equipment and RS to verify the integrity of the RS. Another field radiological survey shall be conducted by IRSRA inspectors,
- 9.** When all possible efforts fail to retrieve the stuck RS, arrangements shall be taken to immobilize RS secure in its abandoned place in the well ASAP for safety and security considerations,
- 10.** Immobilization of abandoned RS and equipment securely in its location shall be carried out in accordance with presented (Plan) in a procedure suitable with RS location, depth of the production zone.
- 11.** Detailed reports shall be presented to IRSRA on all fishing operation and related efforts to retrieve the RS, as well as detailed reports on subsequent affixation and abandonment operations,

12. When RSs are abandoned in well, the licensee shall affix identification plaque that cannot be removed, made from long-lasting materials like stainless steel, as is depicted in (Fig-1) below. This sign shall contain the following information inscribed or engraved on the surface:

- a. The word "CAUTION" in English and "تحذير" in Arabic,
- b. Radiation symbol without traditional coloring,
- c. Date of abandonment,
- d. Well operator or owner,
- e. Well name and ID number or any other annotation relevant to the well,
- f. Isotope name and symbol and its radioactivity,
- g. Depth to the RS and depth to upper cement plug in meters,
- h. "Never re-use or re-drill the abandoned well before contacting IRSRA or well owner" statement.

13. Proceed to (Deregistration of Abandoned RS - *DARS*) by applying for *DARS* appeal and filling *DARS* form (attached below) and providing required documents as is published on IRSRA web site (www.irsra.gov.iq) .

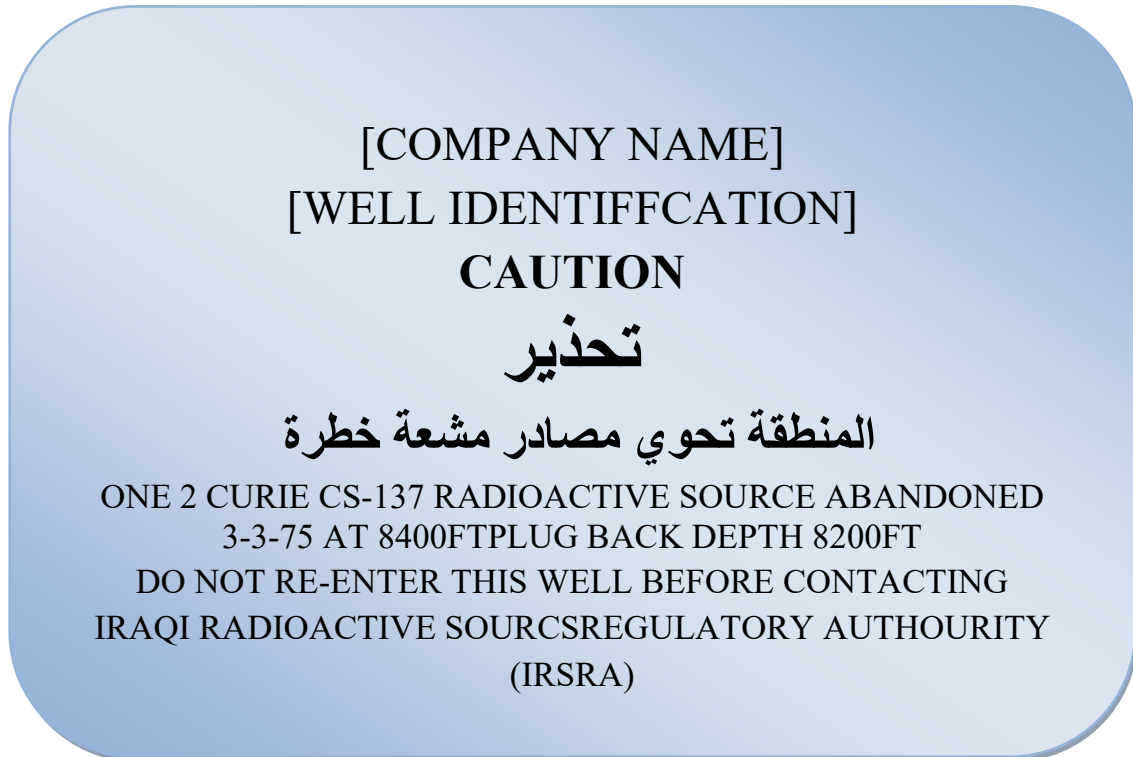


Fig. (1) identification plaque for abandoned RS