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LDEQ accepted delivery of Mobile Sources Trailer

BATON ROUGE -- The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) accepted delivery of a \$96,049-Mobile Source Trailer donated to LDEQ by the Department of Energy's Sandia National Laboratory.

"The trailer will be a huge resource for us to train and educate both the general public and responding agencies about radiation effects, safety and applications," LDEQ Secretary Dr. Chuck Carr Brown said while taking delivery of the trailer at the Governor's Office of Homeland Security (GOHSEP) Wednesday, Jan. 11.

Jerry Lang, LDEQ Administrator for Emergency Response and Radiation, said the trailer will be used for radiation outreach to educate the general public and responding agencies about basic radiation, effects of radiation, safety and even jobs that involve radioactive material. "The trailer will also be used to train radiation inspectors and license writers. New LDEQ radiation employees with be able to have hands-on training outside of normal inspections," Lang said. "Trainings using the mobile trailer will provide participatory experience on how radiation is used in the field. Having these assets will allow the radiation section to conduct mock inspections and incidents to benefit all inspectors, new and old. The industrial radiography camera will be extremely useful in reenactments of certain incidents to see how and why certain exposures or failures happened."

The trailer is equipped with a mock Instrotek soil moisture density gauge, a mock QSA industrial radiography camera with crank-out and tubing, mock Cs-137 source, mock Co-60 pencil source, mock pigtail sources, mock encapsulated sources, mock personnel radiation detector (PRD) kit, simulated source detection kit, two large monitors, laptop, digital projector, and enough tables and chairs to support a 20-person class.

All of the equipment simulates devices with sealed radiation sources that are routinely deployed in construction, industrial and medical applications. Soil moisture density gauges are used in soil density and compaction studies for road or building construction, industrial radiography cameras are used for X-raying the integrity of welds on pipe and are widely used in the oil and gas industry and in chemical and refining plants. All the different types of sealed sources are used in medical therapy procedures, portable and fixed gauges, industrial cameras and well logging activities.

