

National Nuclear Security Administration Fact Sheet

Preliminary Notice of Violation: High Voltage and Electrical Shock Events

On August 6, 2019, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) issued a Preliminary Notice of Violation (PNOV) to National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, (NTESS) for violations of Department of Energy (DOE) worker safety and health program requirements. NTESS is the management and operating contractor for NNSA's Sandia National Laboratories located in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The violations are associated with the implementation of the NTESS electrical safety program requirements and several electrical safety-related events at Sandia National Laboratories. The PNOV cites failures to comply with worker safety and health program requirements established at 10 C.F.R. Part 851, *Worker Safety and Health Program*. NNSA has grouped and categorized these deficiencies as four Severity Level I violations and one Severity Level II violation in the areas of: (1) management responsibilities and hazard identification and assessment, (2) electrical safety, (3) emergency response, (4) training and information, and (5) recordkeeping.

The NNSA Sandia Field Office withheld \$740,000 in contract award fee from NTESS for safety and health-related deficiencies, including those associated with the high voltage and electrical shock events cited in this PNOV.

Section 234C of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, authorizes NNSA to take regulatory actions under 10 C.F.R. Part 851 against NNSA contractors for violations of worker safety and health requirements. DOE's enforcement program encourages contractors to identify and correct worker safety and health program deficiencies at an early stage, before they contribute to, or result in, more serious safety and health events.

As a result of DOE's investigation that concluded with this PNOV, the Office of Enforcement also issued enforcement letters to two NTESS subcontractors, Applied Construction Technologies II and Marto Electric, LLC, for safety and health concerns related to an event that occurred at the Coyote Test Field on April 11, 2018.

Additional details on this and other enforcement actions are available on the DOE website at <http://energy.gov/ea/office-enterprise-assessments>.