

U.S. Department of Energy Cites Jefferson Science Associates, LLC for Worker Safety and Health Program Violations

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NEWS MEDIA CONTACT

- 202-586-4940
- DOENews@hq.doe.gov

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today issued a Preliminary Notice of Violation (PNOV) to Jefferson Science Associates, LLC (JSA) for violations of worker safety and health requirements. Worker safety is a priority for the Department, and DOE’s enforcement program supports this priority by holding contractors accountable for meeting regulatory requirements and maintaining a safe and healthy workplace.

The violations are associated with JSA’s implementation of DOE electrical safety program requirements and three events involving the incomplete implementation of hazardous energy controls at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility in 2019. The PNOV cites three Severity Level I violations and three Severity Level II violations of requirements enforceable under 10 C.F.R. Part 851, *Worker Safety and Health Program*. JSA is cited for violations in the areas of: (1) management responsibilities, (2) hazard identification, assessment, prevention, and abatement, (3) electrical safety, (4) laser safety, (5) training and information, and (6) emergency response.

DOE withheld \$333,639.23 in conditional payment of contract fee from JSA in fiscal year 2019 for safety and health-related deficiencies, including those associated with the three events cited in the PNOV. Therefore, in accordance with 10 C.F.R. § 851.5(c), DOE proposes no civil penalties for the violations.

Section 234C of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, authorizes the Department to pursue regulatory enforcement under 10 C.F.R. Part 851 against DOE 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.

JSA is the management and operating contractor for the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility located in Newport News, VA.