

National Nuclear Security Administration Fact Sheet

Preliminary Notice of Violation: Nuclear Safety Violations at Los Alamos National Laboratory

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On October 18, 2023, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) issued a Preliminary Notice of Violation (PNOV) to Triad National Security, LLC (Triad) for violations of Department of Energy (DOE) nuclear safety requirements. Triad is the management and operating contractor to DOE's NNSA Los Alamos National Laboratory located in Los Alamos, NM.

The violations are associated with a release of radioactive material from a glovebox system at the Plutonium Facility (PF-4) on January 7, 2022. The PNOV cites failures to comply with DOE nuclear safety requirements established at 10 C.F.R. Part 830, *Nuclear Safety Management*, and 10 C.F.R. Part 835, *Occupational Radiation Protection*.

NNSA identified five Severity Level II violations in the areas of: (1) hazard identification and control, (2) the unreviewed safety question (USQ) process, (3) quality improvement, (4) work processes, and (5) occupational radiation protection requirements

NNSA substantially reduced the contract fee that was awarded to Triad in the Fiscal Year 2022 performance evaluation in response to the nuclear safety violations associated with this event. As a result, NNSA has elected to exercise enforcement discretion and proposes no civil penalty for the cited violations.

Section 234A of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, authorizes the NNSA to take regulatory actions under 10 C.F.R. Part 820, *Procedural Rules for DOE Nuclear Activities*, against NNSA contractors for violations of DOE nuclear safety requirements. DOE's enforcement program encourages contractors to identify and correct nuclear safety deficiencies at an early stage, before they contribute to, or result in more serious safety events.

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