

U.S. Department of Energy Cites Stanford University for Worker Safety and Health Program Violations

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today issued a Preliminary Notice of Violation (PNOV) to Stanford University (SU) for violations of worker safety and health requirements. DOE’s enforcement program holds contractors accountable for meeting regulatory requirements and maintaining a safe and healthy workplace.

The violations are associated with a worker receiving a high-voltage electrical shock resulting in severe injuries to their hands and face while preparing an electrical substation for preventive maintenance at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory on December 27, 2022. The PNOV cites four Severity Level I violations and one Severity Level II violation of requirements enforceable under 10 C.F.R. Part 851, *Worker Safety and Health Program* and Title 8 California Code of Regulations § 3203, *Injury and Illness Prevention Program*. SU is cited for violations in the areas of: (1) management responsibilities, (2) hazard identification, assessment, prevention, and abatement, (3) electrical safety, (4) training and information, and (5) recordkeeping and reporting.

DOE administered a contract fee reduction of \$801,050.25 in fiscal year 2023 from SU, for worker safety and health performance deficiencies, which included the high-voltage electrical shock injury event. Therefore, in accordance with 10 C.F.R. § 851.5(c), DOE proposed no civil penalty for the violations identified.

Section 234C of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, authorizes the Energy 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.

SU is the contractor for management and operations at SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory located in Menlo Park, California.

Additional details on this PNOV are available on the DOE website at:
<https://www.energy.gov/ea/listings/notices-violation>