

# **National Nuclear Security Administration Fact Sheet**

## **Preliminary Notice of Violation: Nuclear Safety Violations at the Y-12 National Security Complex**

On June 27, 2024, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) issued a Preliminary Notice of Violation (PNOV) to Consolidated Nuclear Security, LLC (CNS) for violations of Department of Energy (DOE) nuclear safety requirements. CNS is the management and operating contractor to DOE's NNSA Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12) located in Oak Ridge, TN.

The violations are associated with a condition in which no documented controls were available to prevent a criticality accident during demolition of a legacy machine in Building 9215 at Y-12 on April 14, 2023. The PNOV cites failures to comply with DOE nuclear safety requirements established by 10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 830, *Nuclear Safety Management*.

NNSA identified one Severity Level I violation and six Severity Level II violations in the areas of: (1) establishment of management processes, (2) training and qualification, (3) prevention and detection of quality problems, (4) identification, control, and correction of processes that do not meet established requirements, (5) development and management of documents to prescribe processes and specify requirements, (6) work processes, and (7) safety basis requirements.

NNSA substantially reduced the contract fee that was awarded to CNS in the Fiscal Year 2023 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 CFR 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>.

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