



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

December 4, 2015

Mr. Edward Rosenbloom
Chief Executive Officer
Armor Tower, Inc.
P.O. Box 49779
Charlotte, North Carolina 28277

WEL-2015-06

Dear Mr. Rosenbloom:

The Office of Enterprise Assessments' Office of Enforcement has completed an investigation into an electrical shock incident involving an Armor Tower, Inc. (Armor Tower) employee at the Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). Armor Tower is a second-tier subcontractor to Brookhaven Science Associates, LLC (BSA), which is the Department of Energy's (DOE) prime contractor responsible for BNL operations. The shock occurred due to a pre-existing electrical condition in an electrical outlet while the Armor Tower employee performed structural repairs at the 220-foot elevation of a 280 foot meteorological tower. The work performed at BNL by Armor Tower was governed by DOE regulations codified at 10 C.F.R. Part 851, *Worker Safety and Health Program*. Based on this evaluation, the Office of Enforcement identified concerns that warrant management attention by Armor Tower.

The Office of Enforcement's investigation confirmed the accuracy of BSA's determination that the radio frequency (RF) transmitters on the tower were not de-energized, and that there was a potential for Armor Tower workers to be exposed to RF radiation above the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) Threshold Limit Values (TLV) (2005). The ACGIH TLV standards are invoked by Part 851 as enforceable requirements.

Armor Tower participated in the development of the work activity's Phase Hazard Analysis (PHA), as required by BSA's DOE-approved worker safety and health program, which provided that workers must wear RF monitoring devices when RF was present on the tower. The Office of Enforcement found that Armor Tower management did not ensure that workers wore the mandatory RF monitoring equipment while performing work on the tower in accordance with the PHA. As a result, it is not known whether the workers were exposed to RF in excess of the ACGIH TLVs.

The Office of Enforcement has elected to issue this Enforcement Letter to convey concerns about the potential RF exposure of workers and the noncompliances with PHA requirements. Issuance of this Enforcement Letter reflects DOE's decision to not pursue further enforcement activity against Armor Tower at this



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time. In coordination with DOE's Office of Science, the Office of Enforcement will continue to monitor Armor Tower's compliance with Part 851 safety and health requirements at DOE sites.

This letter imposes no requirements on Armor Tower, and no response is required. If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 903-7707, or your staff may contact Mr. Kevin Dressman, Director, Office of Worker Safety and Health Enforcement, at (301) 903-0100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven C. Simonson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "S" at the beginning.

Steven C. Simonson

Director

Office of Enforcement

Office of Enterprise Assessments

cc: Doon Gibbs, BSA
Charles Dimino, BSA
Frank Crescenzo, SC-BHSO