

Fact Sheet

Preliminary Notice of Violation: Four Hazardous Energy Control Events at LANL

On October 17, 2012, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) issued a Preliminary Notice of Violation (PNOV) to Los Alamos National Security, LLC (LANS) for violations of Department of Energy (DOE) worker safety and health program requirements. LANS is the management and operating contractor for NNSA's Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), located in Los Alamos, New Mexico.

The PNOV cites four violations of DOE worker safety and health regulations associated with four electrical safety-related events at LANL that occurred between October 2010 and January 2011. Two events, a high voltage electrical shock during maintenance on a power supply and a near miss during work on a lighting inverter, involved work by LANS subcontractors. For the two other events – core drilling on a manhole and repair work on a malfunctioning crane disconnect switch – the work was performed by LANS workers. These incidents exposed workers to serious shock, thermal burn, and arc-flash hazards

After a thorough investigation by DOE, NNSA cited LANS for multiple failures to comply with 10 C.F.R. Part 851, *Worker Safety and Health Program*. The violations involved deficiencies in general requirements, hazard identification and assessment, hazard prevention and abatement, and worker training and information. Following the incidents, LANS performed a comprehensive review of LANL's integrated work management processes and identified systemic problems affecting work executed by both LANS and subcontractors at LANL. LANS is implementing a corrective action plan that addresses the violations cited in the PNOV.

The Bob Stump National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003 authorizes the Department to take regulatory actions against contractors for violations of its worker safety and health requirements under 10 C.F.R. Part 851. DOE's enforcement program encourages contractors to identify and correct worker safety and health deficiencies at an early stage, before the deficiencies contribute to or result in more serious events.

Additional details on this and other enforcement actions are available on the DOE website at www.hss.doe.gov/enforce.