

U.S. Department of Energy Cites Nuclear Waste Partnership, LLC 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 Nuclear Waste Partnership, LLC (NWP) for violations of worker safety and health requirements. Worker safety is a priority for the Department, and DOE’s enforcement program supports this priority by holding contractors accountable for meeting regulatory requirements and maintaining a safe and healthy workplace.

The violations are associated with a crush injury to the right hand of a worker during post-maintenance component testing on a Getman model A64 waste transporter at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) on May 25, 2021. The PNOV cites two Severity Level I violations and two Severity Level II violations of requirements enforceable under 10 C.F.R. Part 851, *Worker Safety and Health Program*. NWP is cited for violations in the areas of: (1) management responsibilities, (2) hazard identification and assessment, and training and information, (3) recording and reporting, (4) emergency response.

DOE administered a contract fee reduction in the amount of \$889,423 for significant failures in safety and health performance, including the matters associated with this PNOV. Therefore, in accordance with 10 C.F.R. § 851.5(c), DOE proposes no civil penalty for the violation 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.

NWP is the management and operating contractor for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant located in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

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