

U.S. Department of Energy Cites Mid-America Conversion Services, LLC, and Omni Services, Inc. for Worker Safety and Health Program Violations

July 30, 2025

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today issued Preliminary Notices of Violation (PNOV) to Mid-America Conversion Services, LLC (MCS), and Omni Services, Inc. (OMNI) 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 the worker toluene overexposure event at the depleted uranium hexafluoride (DUF6) conversion facility near Paducah, Kentucky on March 9, 2023. The PNOV for MCS cites two Severity Level I violations of requirements enforceable under 10 C.F.R. Part 851, *Worker Safety and Health Program*. MCS is cited for violations in the areas of (1) management responsibilities, and (2) hazard identification and assessment, hazard prevention and abatement, and permit-required confined space hazards. The PNOV for OMNI cites one Severity Level I violation in the areas of hazard identification and assessment, hazard prevention and abatement, and permit-required confined space hazards.

DOE withheld \$402,570 of earned fee from MCS in fiscal year 2023 for safety and health performance deficiencies, which included the matters associated with this PNOV. Therefore, in accordance with 10 C.F.R. § 851.5(c), DOE proposes no civil penalty for the violations identified. For OMNI, DOE proposes a civil penalty of \$29,500 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.

MCS is the management and operating contractor for the DUF6 conversion facility at DOE's former Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant located near Paducah, Kentucky. OMNI was a subcontractor to MCS.

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