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Incident of Security Concern Report

Incident #	Description:	
PX23-122	Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)	
Date of Discovery:	Division:	Department:
6/25/2023	Safeguards & Security	Protective Force Operations & Training
Employee Name:	Employee Badge #:	Area:
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)		Limited Area (LA)
Supervisor Name:	Supervisor Badge #:	
(b)(6), (b)(7)		

Significance/Category:	Inquiry Official(s):	
AMI	(b)(6), (b)(7)	
IOSC Program Lead	Signature:	Date:
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)		
Non-Reportable Incident: ☐	Occurrence: ☒	Infraction: ☐

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On Sunday, June 25, 2023 at approximately 0640 hours, Protective Force personnel reported observing what was believed to be a UAS at approximately 200 feet moving in a North West trajectory across Pantex property. Following the initial report, a Protective Force patrol reported observing the potential UAS as it exited the area in the Northern sector of the Pantex site. The Carson County Sheriff's department was immediately notified, but found no activity or evidence of the UAS in the area. The reporting employee described the potential UAS as being white in color with a flashing green light visible on the underside.

This incident has been categorized as an A-Management Interest (AMI) per the Consolidated Nuclear Security Incidents of Security Concern Program Plan, E-SD-0005, Rev.5.

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May be exempt from public release under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) Exemption Number and Category: Category 7—Law Enforcement Department of Energy review required before public release.
Name/Org. (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) PX-4348 Date: 6/25/2023 Guidance: CG-SS-5, 07/2016, DOE OC

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II. CLASSIFIED MATTER DESCRIPTION

☒ The protection of information was NOT involved in this incident. Proceed to Section IV.

Disclosure Type:

- ☐ **Unsecured/Improperly Secured**
 - ☐ In Use
 - ☐ Reproduction
 - ☐ Storage
 - ☐ Destruction
- ☐ **Unclassified Computer used to process/store**
- ☐ **Improper Transmission**
 - ☐ E-Mail
 - ☐ Facsimile
 - ☐ Hand Carry
 - ☐ Mail/Shipping/Express Delivery
- ☐ **Unapproved Facility (including private residences) used to process/store**
- ☐ **Verbal**
- ☐ **Media Leak**
- ☐ **Classification Issue**
 - ☐ Failure to Receive Classification Review
 - ☐ Information Compilation
 - ☐ Guidance Issue
 - ☐ Classifier did not have Authority to Make Classification
 - ☐ Misclassification

Form(s) of Matter Involved in the Incident:

- ☐ **E-Mail** ☐ Inside Firewall ☐ Outside Firewall
- ☐ **Electronic Storage Media**
- ☐ **Hard Copy**
- ☐ **Internet**
- ☐ **Visual**

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- ☐ Multimedia
- ☐ Discussion (Audio/Verbal)
- ☐ Facsimile
- ☐ Other (Describe)

Classification Level of Matter

- ☐ Top Secret
- ☐ Secret
- ☐ Confidential
- ☐ Unclassified Controlled Nuclear Information
- ☐ Import/Export Controlled

Classification Category

- ☐ Restricted Data
- ☐ Formerly Restricted Data
- ☐ National Security Information
- ☐ Unclassified Controlled Nuclear Information

Classification Guide

N/A

III. RECIPIENTS OF THE INFORMATION

N/A

IV. NARRATIVE

At approximately 0643 hours on Sunday, June 25, 2023, Protective Force (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) reported having observed what was believed to be an Unmanned Ariel System (UAS), or drone, white in color with green blinking lights, in a hovering pattern located over the Pantex Limited Area (LA). At approximately 0643 hours, following (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) initial reporting, Protective Force personnel were directed to initiated site security UAS protocols, which included the notification of local Law enforcement. Protective Force and Law Enforcement personnel conducted an in-depth search of both inside and outside of the Pantex perimeter until approximately 0805 hours when, based on the absence of additional UAS platform sightings, the search concluded.

NOTE: Central Alarm Station (CAS) personnel reported limited visibility at the time of the initial observation due to fog / low hanging clouds.

The following statements were provided by PF personnel associated with the potential UAS sighting.

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(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

On June 25th, 2023, at approximately 0640 am while working out on the track. There was a white drone hovering over the track, it had a green blinking light underneath. It was headed in a northwest movement toward zone 4. At approximately 0643 I reported what I saw to

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) I changed out of P.T. gear and went on the perimeter to assist in the search for an operator. We never located anything else.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

At approximately 0640 am 6/25/2023 (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) advised us of a white drone sighting in the LA. He gave us a route of travel and description. At that time, myself and (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) went out on a PC. When I headed west on 293, I spotted what looked like a white drone / plane. It was north of the plant. The clouds rushed in and the item was gone. I linked up with Carson County deputy and followed directions from (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) in (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F) . I finished the PC, and came back to plant site. Carson County stayed out patrolling. No further sighting of the object was reported again.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

On June 25, 2023 I Security Police Officer (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) was notified by CAS that there was reports of a possible drone flying over the plant at a direction of northwest over zone 4. I

(b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F) observed an object flying north. I lost the object due to the thick fog. I can't positively identify if the object was a drone.

V. CONTAINMENT

Immediately following initial observation of what was believed to be a UAS platform, Protective Force personnel reported the sighting after which UAS security protocols were activated.

VI. MITIGATING/AGGRAVATING FACTORS

Mitigating Factors:

- UAS security protocols were immediately initiated.
- Local Law Enforcement notified.

Aggravating Factors:

- A potential UAS platform overflight was observed by Protective Force personnel.
- A report of foul weather potentially obstructed additional observations of the perceived UAS.

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VII. DETERMINATION OF UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| ☒ | Compromise did not Occur | Evidence is provided that there is no possibility that information was compromised. |
| ☐ | Likelihood of Compromise is Remote | Although protection and control measures are violated, the circumstances associated with the incident indicate that there is a low possibility that information was disclosed to unauthorized personnel. |
| ☐ | Suspected Compromise | Evidence is provided that there is a high probability that information was compromised. Although there is no clear indication of compromise, the circumstances associated with the incident indicate there is an obvious possibility that unauthorized disclosure did occur. |
| ☐ | Compromise | Evidence is provided that information was disclosed to an unauthorized person(s). |

Rationale for the Determination of Unauthorized Disclosure:

Unauthorized disclosure is not identified in regards to this incident.

CATEGORIZATION

Per the *Consolidated Nuclear Security Incidents of Security Concern Program Plan*, E-SD-0005, Rev.5, incidents involving confirmed Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) overflight shall meet categorization of an A, Management Interest (AMI) incident of security concern.

TIMELINE

June 25, 2023

- **0640 Hours** - (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) observes what he believes to be a white drone with green blinking lights approx. 200' AGL in the Pantex Limited Area.
- **0643 Hours** - Sighting is reported to (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) and (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) that a potential drone flew over the track heading NW toward Zone 4.
- **0644 Hours** - Patrols report drone over firing sites heading North, Northwest off plant site.
- **0645 Hours** - CAS initiates UAS mitigation activity.
- **0649 Hours** - Carson County Sheriff Office (CCSO) notified.
- **0651 Hours** - (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) advises located drone / or airplane north of site heading west.
- **0653 Hours** - CAS ceases UAS mitigation activity.
- **0805 Hours** - (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) lifted 10-17 all areas