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Incident of Security Concern Report

Incident #	Description:	
PX22-112	(U) Low Flying Aircraft; UAS	
Date of Discovery:	Division:	Department:
May 26, 2022	Pantex Operations	Nuclear Safety / Action Office
Employee Name:	Employee Badge #:	Area:
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)		JCDC
Supervisor Name:	Supervisor Badge #:	
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)		

Significance/Category:	Inquiry Official(s):	
Non	(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)	
IOSC Program Lead	Signature:	Date:
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)	(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)	6-27-22
Non-Reportable Incident: ☒	Occurrence: ☐	Infraction: ☐

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On Thursday, May 26, 2022, at approximately 2315 hours, Pantex employee (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) reported observing a UAS hovering over Department of Energy Property near the John C. Drummond Center (JCDC). (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) stated that while in the JCDC parking lot, he observed what appeared to be a drone near the parking lot, north of the JCDC in the Property Protection Area bordering county road FM2373. The Protective Force was notified and responded but saw no evidence of the UAS.

After it was determined through FAA concurrence that no unmanned aircraft system (UAS) activity had occurred in the area within the timeframe of the UAS sighting, but did confirm that air traffic was occurring near but not in Pantex airspace this has been categorized as a non-incident.

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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: <u>Category 7-Law Enforcement</u> Department of Energy review required before public release.	
Name/Org. (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)	PX-4348 Date: 06/20/2022 Guidance: CG-SS-5

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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

On May 26, 2022, the Pantex Incidents of Security Concern (IOSC) office was notified that an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) had been sighted flying near the John C. Drummond Center (JCDC) in the parking lot area by Pantex Operations employee (b)(6), (b)(7)(C). Based on the height and distances of other structures in the area, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) estimated the UAS was approximately 50 to 60 feet above ground and around 125 feet west of FM 2373 near the north driveway entrance, which is inside of the Pantex property line. (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) believes that the UAS was around two to three feet in diameter with at least two rotors and a single yellow light, which was underneath the main UAS body. Before leaving the JCDC parking lot, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) said that he looked around the area, searching for anyone who could potentially be operating the UAS but saw no one in the area. While speaking with (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) he said that he had no doubt the UAS was over government property. This due to seeing the UAS both as he was leaving the JCDC parking lot to the south of its location, his moving onto FM 2373 to the East of it and ultimately to the North of it as he approached Station 709 (East Gate). As he made his way around the UAS, while it did adjust slightly, remained mostly fixed in place for several minutes.

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The on duty Protective Force shift commander (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) stated that after being notified of the UAS, they responded in accordance with "SSPLN-0042 Shift Commander Response Checklist." While an exact timeline was not recorded (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) reported that no issues, anomalies or additional UAS sightings were reported to the Central Alarm Station (CAS).

After video footage was found by Physical Security Systems around the time (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) reported the UAS sighting (Video-02-22213-05-26-2022 Extended) it appears as though there were two (2) aircraft within view on May 26th. These were later confirmed by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as aircraft flying in approved airspace, and not unmanned aircraft system's (UAS). The UAS that (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) reported could not be confirmed by on site detection systems nor by the FAA.

V. CONTAINMENT

Because the sighting of the UAS could not be confirmed to be on site, nor by the FAA who believed it could have been nearby aircraft. Government assets and information were not compromised.

VI. MITIGATING/AGGRAVATING FACTORS

Mitigating Factors:

- FAA reported that they detected no UAS activity in the area
- On sight detection systems detected no UAS activity

Aggravating Factors:

- Pantex employee reported that he had spotted a drone flying over Pantex property

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). |

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Rationale for the Determination of Unauthorized Disclosure:

Because the sighting of the UAS could not be confirmed to be on site, nor by the FAA who believed it could have been nearby aircraft. Government assets and information were not compromised.

Property Protection Area (PPA):

The PPA is a security area that is established to protect employees and Government buildings, facilities and property. The PPA is configured to protect Government owned property and equipment against damage, destruction, or theft provides a means to control public access. Protection includes physical barriers, access control systems, biometric systems, Protective Force personnel, intrusion detection systems, locks and keys, etc.

Limited Area (LA):

The LA is a security area inside the PPA and is designated for the protection of classified matter and Category III and higher quantities of SNM and serves as a concentric layer of protection for the Protection Area. The LA boundaries are defined by physical barriers encompassing the designated space with access controls to ensure that only appropriately cleared and authorized personnel are permitted unescorted access to the LA. Access is based on an individual's need to know to perform official duties, validation of the individual's security clearance, and the presentation of a DOE security badge. Protection includes physical barriers, access control systems, biometric systems, Protective Force personnel, intrusion detection systems, locks and keys, etc.

Protection Area (PA):

The PA is located within the LA and are established to protect Category II or greater quantities of SNM and may also contain classified matter. The PA serves as a concentric layer of security for the Material Access Area. In addition to meeting LA requirements, the PA also has its own requirements. The PA is encompassed by physical barriers that identify the boundaries, surrounded by a perimeter intrusion detection and assessment system (PIDAS), and equipped with access controls that ensure only authorized personnel are allowed to enter and exit. Access control is administered by armed PF personnel and automated access control systems. An inspection program ensures prohibited and controlled articles are detected before being brought into PA facilities. All personnel, vehicles, packages, and hand carried articles are subject to inspection before entry into a security area. Likewise, the inspections ensure safeguards and security interests are not removed. Access requires a personal identification number (PIN) and biometric passage.

Material Access Area (MAA):

The MAA is a security area that is established to protect Category I quantities of Special Nuclear Material. In addition to requirements for a PA, the MAA has its own requirements. The MAA is located within the PA and is defined with boundaries with barriers that provide sufficient delay time to impede, control, or deter unauthorized access. Access control is administered by armed PF personnel and automated access control systems. An inspection program ensures prohibited and controlled

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articles are detected before being brought into PA facilities. All personnel, vehicles, packages, and hand carried articles are subject to inspection before entry into a security area. Likewise, the inspections ensure safeguards and security interests are not removed. Access requires a personal identification number (PIN) and biometric passage.

VIII. CATEGORIZATION

After it was determined through FAA concurrence that no unmanned aircraft system (UAS) activity had occurred in the area within the timeframe of the UAS sighting, but did confirm that air traffic was occurring near but not in Pantex airspace this has been categorized as a non-incident.

TIMELINE

May 26, 2022

- **2318 hours** – Unmanned aerial vehicle spotted by a plant employee at the JCDC parking area

May 27, 2022

- **0006 hours** – Pantex Operations Center (OC) notified Incident of Security Concerns
- **1842 hours** – Protective Force reported they responded as directed by SSPLN-0042