



# NEWS

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## **DOE/NNSA Cites Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for Price Anderson Violation**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Department of Energy's (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) has issued a Preliminary Notice of Violation (PNOV) to the University of California, the contractor for the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) for the overexposure of a worker's hands to radiation and for the violation of various work procedures.

The radiation overexposure occurred in June 2002 while the worker was handling radioactive material, and the resulting dose to the worker's hand which received the higher exposure was more than twice the regulatory limit of 50 rem. No medical consequences to the worker have been identified.

No significant consequences to the general public or the environment resulted from this operational event. However, DOE/NNSA has chosen to take this action because of the deficiencies in operational radiological controls and failure to follow LLNL's established work controls to limit radiological exposures to workers. LLNL is exempt from civil penalty by statute and no civil penalty can be issued in association with the current PNOV. If not exempt, a civil penalty of \$137,500 would have been assessed, based on the significance of the violations.

The Price-Anderson Amendments Act of 1988 authorizes the Energy Department to undertake regulatory actions against contractors for violations of its nuclear safety requirements. The enforcement program encourages DOE contractors to identify and correct nuclear safety deficiencies at an early stage, before they contribute to or result in more serious events.

Additional details on this and other enforcement actions are available on the Internet at <http://www.eh.doe.gov/enforce>.

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