

## Summary Report of Occurrences Reviewed From December 21 – 25, 2009

**Summary:** 19 occurrences at 16 sites reviewed during this period.

### Occurrences of Significant Interest (2)

#### **Injury – 1 occurrence at 1 site**

- **SC – Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (Significance Category 4).** On December 18, while exiting the laboratory to go home, a PPPL worker lost control of his car as he approached the exit gate at Site Protection Booth 6. The car proceeded through the security arm and collided with the steel barrier, which had begun its transit to the open state but had only moved a few feet before the collision. The car's air bag deployed. Emergency Services Officers heard the accident, responded, and found the worker in the car with a bloody nose and mouth. He indicated that he had chest pains and trouble breathing. Rescue equipment was used to extricate him from the car. He was given oxygen as a precaution. Paramedics arrived and transported the worker to Helene Fuld Medical Center Trenton where fractured ribs and a lacerated liver were diagnosed. He was later transported to Cooper Medical Center and admitted to the Trauma/ICU for further observation. The barrier sustained minor damage and the car experienced extensive front end damage. The worker later stated that his foot slipped, which was assumed to mean that he lost braking and hit the accelerator pedal. An investigation was initiated.

#### **Near Miss – 1 occurrence at 1 site**

- **EM – Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (Significance Category 3).** On November 23, while cutting open a metal vessel with a circular saw, maintenance mechanics observed a yellowish powder spill from the cut vessel. They stopped, notified a Radiological Control Technician (RCT), and exited the work zone for the remainder of the day. Personnel were wearing Powered Air-Purifying Respirators with HEPA filter cartridges and anti-contamination clothing. The following morning the RCT surveyed the area and allowed the mechanics to resume cutting the vessel. Once the cylinder was bisected, a mechanic noticed an unpleasant odor as additional yellowish powder came out of the vessel. Workers in the area started developing headaches and nausea. A Safety and Health Specialist, wearing respiratory protection, sampled the area and measured 159 ppm for volatile organic compounds. Samples of the material were sent to the on-site laboratory. Five personnel reported symptoms of exposure and were transported to the occupational medical provider for evaluation. Although there were no adverse health effects from the incident, one mechanic was sent to a specialist because of upper respiratory congestion. A fact finding meeting was convened.

**Other Occurrences (17).** See Table (Note: The Table includes the occurrence listed above).

Occurrence Category	Number of Occurrences				Number of Sites
	E&E	NNSA	SC	DOE Total	
Injury - Industrial Hygiene/Occupational Safety	0	0	1	1	1
Near Miss	3	0	1	4	4
Authorization Basis	0	0	0	0	0

Occurrence Category	Number of Occurrences				Number of Sites
	E&E	NNSA	SC	DOE Total	
Radiological Concerns	1	0	0	1	1
Environmental	0	0	0	0	0
Fire Safety	0	1	1	2	2
Shipping/Quality Assurance	0	2	0	2	2
Criticality Concerns	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial Operations	0	0	0	0	0
Conduct of Operations	2	0	1	3	3
Electrical Safety	1	0	0	1	1
Vehicle Accident	0	1	0	1	1
Equipment Failures	1	1	1	3	3
Safeguards and Security	0	0	0	0	0
Suspect & Counterfeit Parts	1	0	0	1	1
Other	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>19</b>	

ORPS Significance Categories	OE	SC1	SC2	SC3	SC4	R
Totals for the Week:	0	0	1	10	8	0

### Secretarial Office Summary

National Nuclear Security Administration	5 occurrences	(4 sites)
Office of Environmental Management	8 occurrences	(7 sites)
Office of Nuclear Energy	1 occurrence	(1 site)
Office of Science	5 occurrences	(4 sites)