

# Appendix B -

## NDA Group – Summary of events confirmed as INES1 or higher during 2017/18

Site	Event Description	Final rating and duty holders comments on the event
<b>INES 1 events</b>		
Sellafield P4	An operator dropped a polythene bottle containing depleted Uranium Trioxide (UO <sub>3</sub> ) powder, spilling some of its contents onto the floor of a controlled area laboratory.	There was minimal spread of contamination, and no activity in air alarms after the spill. The operator was unharmed. However, the spilled quantity exceeded the limit for radioactivity specified in regulations.
Sellafield P7	Operators discovered two different types of proprietary chemical stored in an active laboratory. Both chemicals were solvents, had been in storage for some time, and had the potential to degrade into an unstable form.	At Sellafield's request, Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal attended site, and safely destroyed the chemicals. The INES1 rating reflects the safety implications of long-term storage of degraded chemicals in a facility handling radioactive materials.
Springfields Fuels Ltd P8	A corrosive reagent leaked from a plant handling uranium residues.	The quantity of uranium spilled exceeded the limit specified in regulations.
Sellafield P11	An operator posted radioactive waste from a glovebox into an unsealed bag. The waste fell through the unsealed bag onto the floor of the cell. Activity in air alarms sounded, and the operator left the cell.	The operator was not injured, and received no dose. Normal operations were quickly resumed, as significant defense in depth remained. The INES1 rating reflects procedural issues found by Sellafield's investigation.
Sellafield P12	A raw water leak occurred on an overhead pipe bridge. The water ran through the basement of a contaminated building, and carried radioactivity into the environment.	Subsequent Health Physics surveys of the area found no detectable change in radiological conditions and there were no dose implications. However, the spilled quantity exceeded the limit for radioactivity specified in regulations.

### Process notes

- It is the businesses duty to report and investigate events on the site, to take action to control risks, and prevent recurrence. However, NDA takes the safety of people working with radiation seriously and we have, working with the businesses concerned, reviewed all of the above. We were content that businesses had carried out a proper investigation, and learned from what had happened.
- Events are given a provisional INES rating by the businesses.
- The provisionally rated event is referred to the National Officer (an ONR Inspector), who decides the final rating reported to IAEA.
- The latest information on INES events can be found at <https://www-news.iaea.org/>.