

INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR AND RADIOLOGICAL EVENT SCALE (INES)

INES Level	Name of the Events
MAJOR ACCIDENT LEVEL 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major release of radioactive material with widespread health and environmental effects requiring implementation of planned and extended countermeasures.
SERIOUS ACCIDENT LEVEL 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant release of radioactive material likely to require implementation of planned countermeasures.
ACCIDENT WITH WIDER CONSEQUENCES LEVEL 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited release of radioactive material likely to require implementation of some planned countermeasures. Several deaths from radiation. Severe damage to reactor core. Release of large quantities of radioactive material within an installation with a high probability of significant public exposure. This could arise from a major criticality accident or fire.
ACCIDENT WITH LOCAL CONSEQUENCES LEVEL 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor release of radioactive material unlikely to result in implementation of planned countermeasures other than local food controls. At least one death from radiation. Fuel melt or damage to fuel resulting in more than 0.1% release of core inventory. Release of significant quantities of radioactive material within an installation with a high probability significant public exposure.
SERIOUS INCIDENT LEVEL 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Near accident at a nuclear power plant with no safety provisions remaining. Lost or stolen highly radioactive sealed source. Misdelivered highly radioactive sealed source without adequate procedures in place to handle it. Exposure rates of more than 1 Sv/h in an operating area. Severe contamination in an area not expected by design, with a low probability of significant public exposure. Exposure in excess of ten times the statutory annual limit for workers. Non-lethal deterministic health effect (e.g., burns) from radiation.
INCIDENT LEVEL 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant failures in safety provisions but with no actual consequences. Exposure of a member of the public in excess of 10 mSv. Exposure of a worker in excess of the statutory annual limits. Radiation levels in an operating area of more than 50 mSv/h. Significant contamination within the facility into an area not expected by design. Found highly radioactive sealed orphan source, device or transport package with safety provisions intact. Inadequate packaging of a highly radioactive sealed source.
ANOMALY LEVEL 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor problems with safety components with significant defence-in-depth remaining. Overexposure of a member of the public in excess of statutory annual limits. Low activity lost or stolen radioactive source, device or transport package.
BELOW SCALE/ Level 0	No safety significance