

## **luminescence**

Spontaneous emission of radiation from an electronically or vibrationally excited species not in thermal equilibrium with its environment.

See also *bioluminescence, chemiluminescence, electro-generated chemiluminescence, fluorescence, phosphorescence, photoluminescence, radioluminescence, sonoluminescence, thermoluminescence, triboluminescence*.

1996, 68, 2252; 1994, 66, 2522; see also O.B. 184, 231; 1990, 62, 2200