

DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION  
Idaho National Laboratory

**SECTION A. Project Title:** PBF-637 Power & Fiber Installation

**SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:**

The project will install new 96 strand single-mode fiber optic cable overhead from the CITRC substation to PBF-637 & PBF-638. The fiber optic cable will utilize existing power poles. Fiber optics will provide a reliable and permanent communications means for both of these facilities.

The project will also provide permanent power to PBF-637 field office trailer. This building is currently supplied with temporary power (ref EC INL-19-074). See conceptual drawings for details. The existing temporary power cable and traffic cable protectors will be removed. A new power pole and stepdown transformer will need to be installed in order to string the new power and fiber optic cable. All work will occur in previously disturbed areas.

Work is scheduled to be accomplished in FY21. Total project costs are estimated to be \$350K.

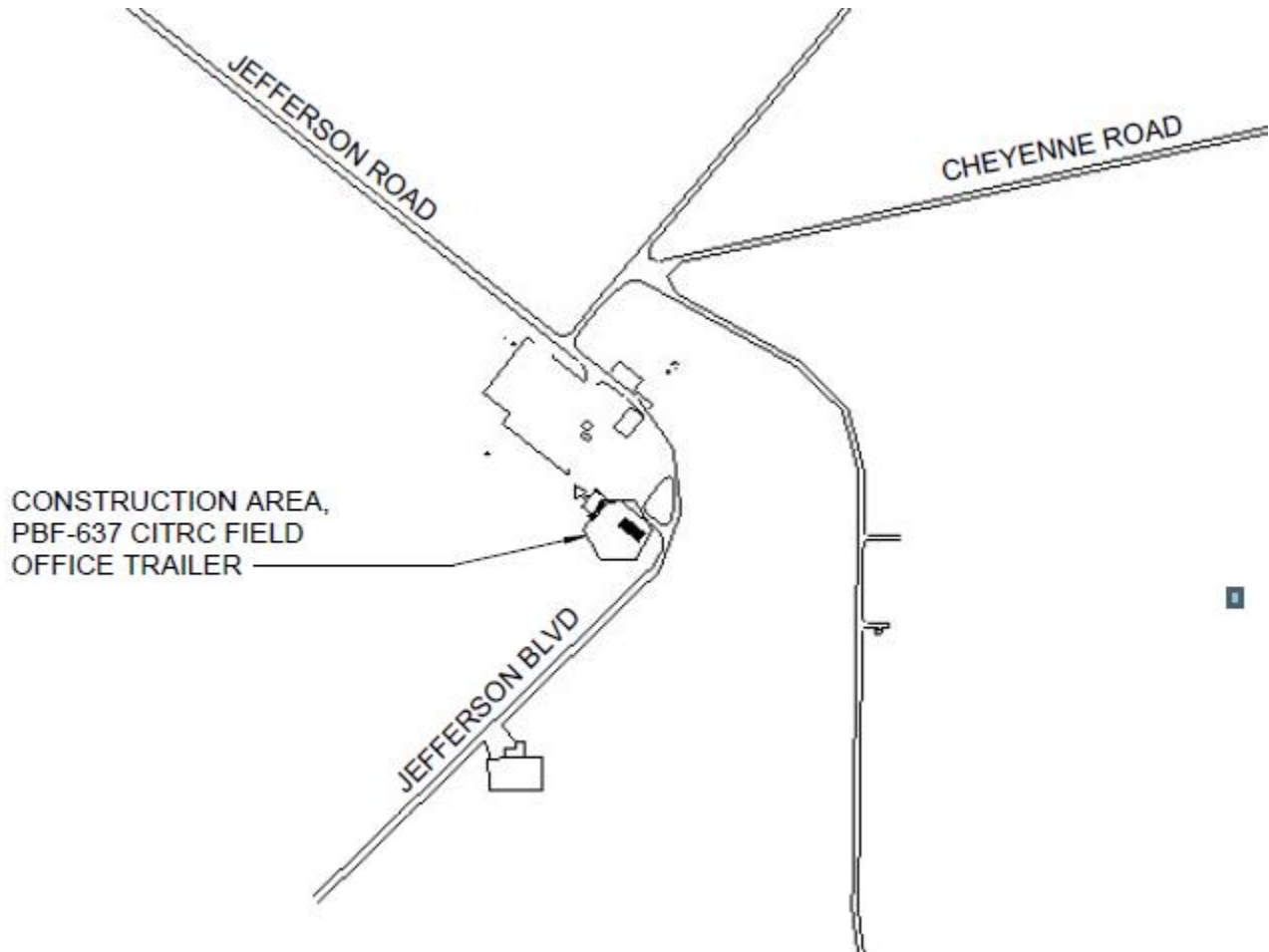


Figure 1. Construction area.

DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION  
Idaho National Laboratory

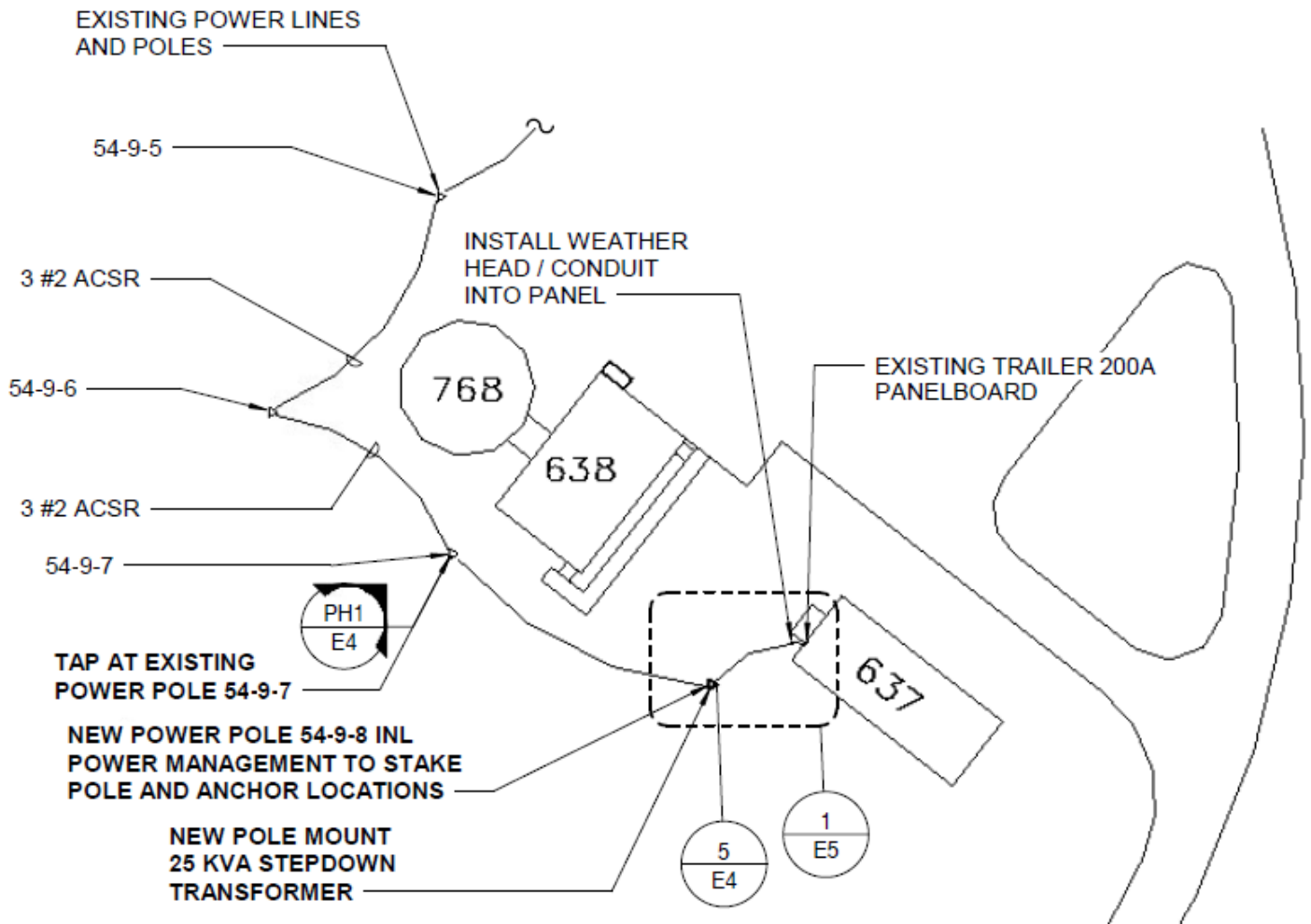


Figure 2. Power Installation Site Plan.

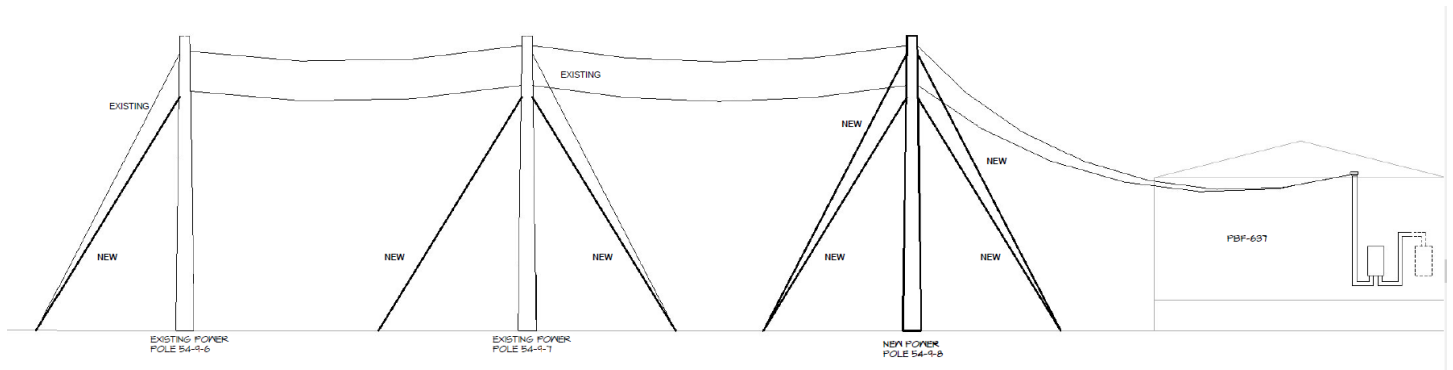


Figure 3. Installation of guy wires on existing and the new power pole.

# DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION Idaho National Laboratory

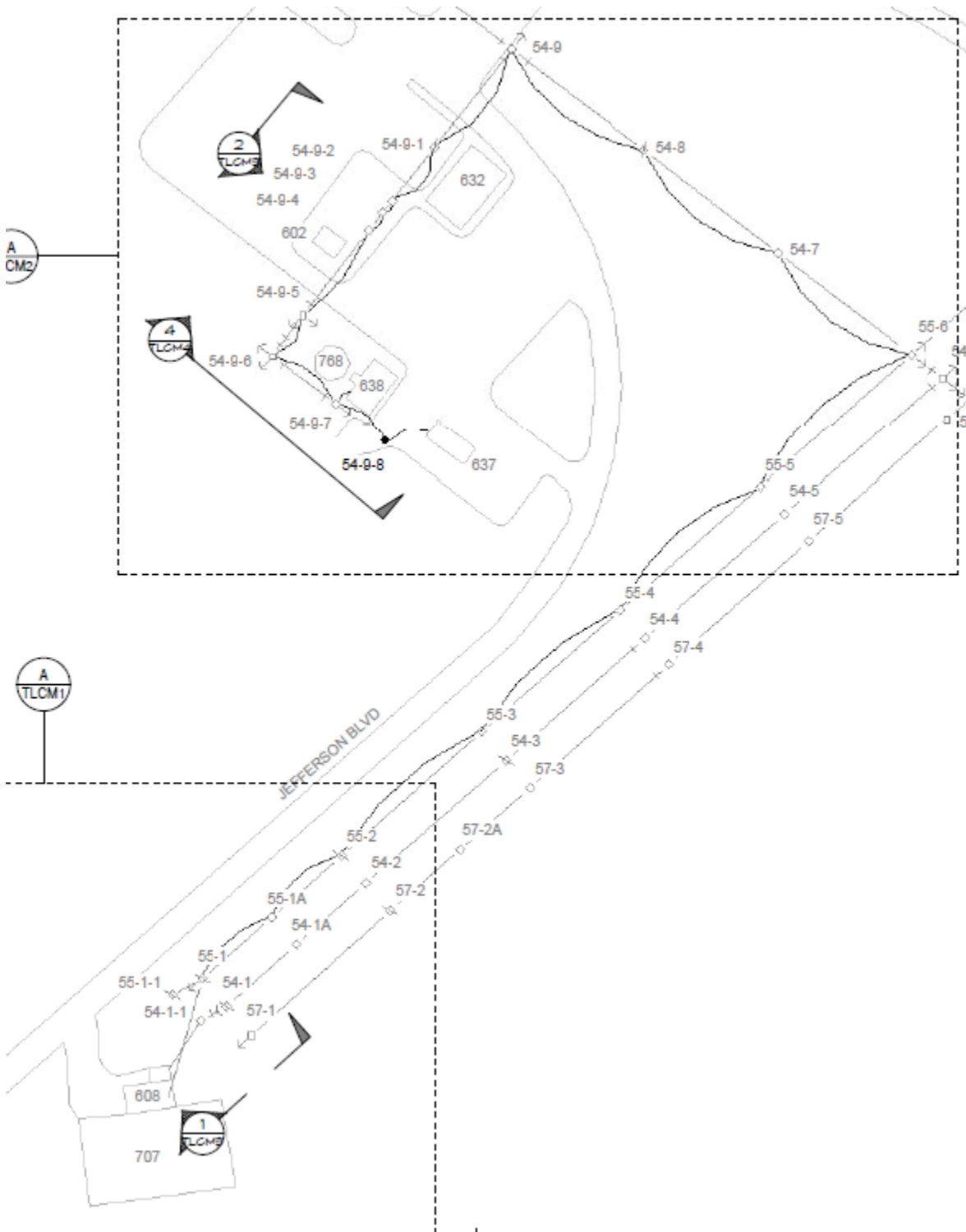


Figure 4. Routing of Fiber Optic Cable.

**DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION  
Idaho National Laboratory**

**SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:**

**Air Emissions**

Digging may result in the generation of fugitive dust. Mobile equipment will result in some air emissions. These emissions are not regulated.

**Discharging to Surface-, Storm-, or Ground Water**

N/A

**Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources**

Digging will occur in the CITRC area which has been known to be a culturally sensitive area.

**Generating and Managing Waste**

Some wire, conduit and scrap fiber optic cable may be generated along with some other industrial waste. Scrap metal will be reused, excessed or recycled.

**Releasing Contaminants**

When chemicals are used, there is the potential to spill to air, water, or soil.

**Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources**

Material will be recycled to the extent practicable. All applicable waste will be diverted from disposal in the landfill when possible. Project personnel will use every opportunity to recycle, reuse, and recover materials and divert waste from the landfill when possible. The project will practice sustainable acquisition, as appropriate and practicable, by procuring construction materials that are energy efficient, water efficient, are bio-based in content, environmentally preferable, non-ozone depleting, have recycled content, and are non-toxic or less-toxic alternatives. New equipment will meet either the Energy Star or SNAP requirements as appropriate (see <http://www.sftool.gov/GreenProcurement>).

**SECTION D. Determine Recommended Level of Environmental Review, Identify Reference(s), and State Justification:** Identify the applicable categorical exclusion from 10 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 1021, Appendix B, give the appropriate justification, and the approval date.

For Categorical Exclusions (CXs), the proposed action must not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environmental, safety, and health, or similar requirements of Department of Energy (DOE) or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources (see 10 CFR 1021). In addition, no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal exist that would affect the significance of the action. In addition, the action is not "connected" to other action actions (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)) and is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1608.27(b)(7)).

**References:**

This EC references the Categorical Exclusion B4.7 "Fiber optic cable," B4.6 "Additions and modifications to transmission facilities," and B4.12 "Construction of powerlines."

**Justification:**

Project activities in this EC are consistent with 10 CFR 1021 Appendix B to Subpart D, B4.7 Adding fiber optic cables to transmission facilities or burying fiber optic cable in existing powerline or pipeline rights-of-way. Covered actions may include associated vaults and pulling and tensioning sites outside of rights-of-way in nearby previously disturbed or developed areas,

B4.6 Additions or modifications to electric power transmission facilities within a previously disturbed or developed facility area. Covered activities include, but are not limited to, switchyard rock grounding upgrades, secondary containment projects, paving projects, seismic upgrading, tower modifications, load shaping projects (such as the installation and use of flywheels and battery arrays), changing insulators, and replacement of poles, circuit breakers, conductors, transformers, and crossarms, and

**DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION**  
**Idaho National Laboratory**

B4.12 Construction of electric powerlines approximately 10 miles in length or less, or approximately 20 miles in length or less within previously disturbed or developed powerline or pipeline rights-of-way.

Is the project funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act)     Yes     No

Approved by Jason Anderson, DOE-ID NEPA Compliance Officer on: 05/10/2021