

DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION

Idaho National Laboratory

SECTION A. Project Title: INL Wireless Test Bed O&M Support to GDIT/DOS

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

Idaho National Laboratory (INL) supports network engineering required to operate and maintain a viable and reliable Wireless Test Bed (WTB) Cellular Network with multiple technologies and multiple frequencies. Support includes engineering, operations, maintenance, and procurement.

This proposed action evaluates the status of the WTB system and identifies opportunities for improving infrastructure and processes. Project activities include vendor (Nokia) upgrades to hardware and software on WTB equipment located in CFA-609 and WTB Cell sites (Gate-1, EBR-1 and CFA-109). The hardware upgrades typically involve replacing cards and modules with newer versions.

The proposed action does not include specific equipment tests. The project only involves upgrading software and hardware components on currently installed cellular equipment. INL uses this equipment for testing but will prepare separate ECPs for test events.

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Air Emissions

N/A

Discharging to Surface-, Storm-, or Ground Water

N/A

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources

N/A

Generating and Managing Waste

This work is expected to generate small amounts of common trash and possibly some construction-related waste such as scrap metal (wire, conduit, etc.). All scrap metal will be recycled. Some packaging material is also anticipated. All old equipment will be excessed to the extent practicable.

Releasing Contaminants

Although not anticipated, there is a potential for spills when using chemicals.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

INL is committed to protecting the environment and human health. INL aims to comply with environmental laws, regulations, and other requirements that protect the air, water, land, and natural, archeological, and cultural resources potentially affected by routine activities. INL employs the environmental management system (EMS) modeled by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Standard 14001 to establish policy, objectives, and targets to reduce environmental impacts and increase operating efficiency through a continuing cycle of planning, implementing, evaluating, and improving processes. The INL Site Sustainability program implements strategies and practices that meet key DOE sustainability goals, including decreasing water use intensity; increasing diversion of construction and demolition waste from the landfill; and reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

INL reuses or recycles all materials where economically practicable. INL also diverts all applicable waste from disposal in the landfill where conditions allow. INL practices sustainable acquisition.

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

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“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:

10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D, B1.7 "Electronic equipment," and B1.31 "Installation or relocation of machinery and equipment."

Justification:

Project activities are consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D, B1.7 "Acquisition, installation, operation, modification, and removal of electricity transmission control and monitoring devices for grid demand and response, communication systems, data processing equipment, and similar electronic equipment" and

B1.31 "Installation or relocation and operation of machinery and equipment (including, but not limited to, laboratory equipment, electronic hardware, manufacturing machinery, maintenance equipment, and health and safety equipment), provided that uses of the installed or relocated items are consistent with the general missions of the receiving structure. Covered actions include modifications to an existing building, within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area, that are necessary for equipment installation and relocation. Such modifications would not appreciably increase the footprint or height of the existing building or have the potential to cause significant changes to the type and magnitude of environmental impacts."

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:05/12/2021