

# DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION

## Idaho National Laboratory

### SECTION A. Project Title: IRC Xeriscaping

### SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

The proposed project xeriscapes portions of the landscape at the INL Research Center (IRC) on the Research and Education Campus (REC) in Idaho Falls. The project replaces existing vegetation with weed barriers, pavers, rock, and boulders on the NE and NW side of IF-602 and the SE and SW side of IF-603. The activity would be completed by a subcontractor at a cost of approximately \$60 K during FY-2019.

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

#### Air Emissions

Project activities have the potential to generate fugitive dust.

#### Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources

Soil disturbing activities and work during the nesting season (4/1 - 9/1) have the potential to disturb cultural or biological resources.

#### Generating and Managing Waste

Typical construction/landscape debris (e.g., rock, soil, sprinkler components) have the potential to be generated during the project.

#### Releasing Contaminants

Although not expected, chemical use (e.g., equipment lubricants, fuels) have the potential for spills and releases.

#### Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

Activities addressed by this EC have the potential for use, reuse, and conservation of natural resources by:

- Consuming potable, industrial, or irrigation water
- Generating landfill waste or construction and demolition waste
- Generating recyclable materials
- Engaging in sustainable acquisition practices.

### 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:** 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D item B5.1, "Actions to conserve energy or water".

**Justification:** : Project activities are consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D item B5.1 "(a) Actions to conserve energy or water, demonstrate potential energy or water conservation, and promote energy efficiency that would not have the potential to cause significant changes in the indoor or outdoor concentrations of potentially harmful substances. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, manufacturers, and designers), organizations (such as utilities), and governments (such as state, local, and tribal). Covered actions include, but are not limited to...development of energy-efficient manufacturing, industrial, or building practices; and small-scale energy efficiency and conservation research and development and small-scale pilot projects. Covered actions include building renovations or new structures, provided that they occur in a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions could involve commercial, residential, agricultural, academic, institutional, or industrial sectors. Covered actions do not include rulemakings, standard settings, or proposed DOE legislation, except for those actions listed in B5.1(b) of this appendix.

(b) Covered actions include rulemakings that establish energy conservation standards for consumer products and industrial equipment, provided that the actions would not: (1) Have the potential to cause a significant change in the manufacturing infrastructure (such as construction of new manufacturing plants with considerable associated ground disturbance); (2) involve significant unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (such as

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rare or limited raw materials); (3) have the potential to result in a significant increase in the disposal of materials posing significant risks to human health and the environment (such as RCRA hazardous wastes); or (4) have the potential to cause a significant increase in energy consumption in a state or region."

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

Approved by Jason Sturm, DOE-ID NEPA Compliance Officer on: 10/29/2018