

DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION

Idaho National Laboratory

SECTION A. Project Title: Electrical Power Grid Research PBF-612 Track Installation

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

To support electrical power grid research and development (R&D) testing at the Critical Infrastructure Test Range Complex (CITRC), the proposed action installs a track around PBF-612 for transporting a cart and equipment. The proposed action installs the track on asphalt, but the track crosses over a gravel area on the east side of the building (see Figure 1). Project activities include leveling the gravel area with fill material. Operation of the track supports testing activities inside and outside of the building, which requires personnel to travel by foot off the asphalt about 500 yds. A trench may be cut across the asphalt to facilitate routing cable from the building, under the track, to areas around the building. Extension cords, 12 volt batteries, or a small, portable gas-fueled generator supply power for testing activities. A subsurface survey will identify locations to drive 4-8 grounding rods off of the asphalt. The proposed location is outside of the Sage Grouse Conservation Area. If sagebrush is destroyed, it will be replaced in accordance with the Department of Energy's (DOE's) no-net-loss-of-sagebrush policy for the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Site.

Figure 1. Location of Proposed Track at PBF-612.



Each project using equipment at the facility must have its own project specific EC.

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Air Emissions

The project would use a portable generator which would be in place for less than a week. The placement of gravel may result in the generation of fugitive emissions.

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources

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Project activities have the potential to disturb biological and cultural resources.

Generating and Managing Waste

The proposed action has the potential to generate industrial waste from wire, packaging material, and scrap metal.

Releasing Contaminants

Although not anticipated, spills of maintenance products, petroleum, etc. may occur.

Five CERCLA sites are located at CITRC, but none have institutional control requirements.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

Scrap metal and used oil will be recycled to the extent practicable.

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, B1.13 "Pathways, short access roads, and rail lines" and B1.31 "Installation or relocation of machinery and equipment"

Justification: Project activities are consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D, B1.13 "Construction, acquisition, and relocation, consistent with applicable right-of-way conditions and approved land use or transportation improvement plans, of pedestrian walkways and trails, bicycle paths, small outdoor fitness areas, and short access roads and rail lines (such as branch and spur lines);" 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 Sturm, DOE-ID NEPA Compliance Officer on: 5/01/2018