

DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION

Idaho National Laboratory

SECTION A. Project Title: WSCComm

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

Idaho National Laboratory (INL) leases a facility at 505 Wakara Way in Salt Lake City, Utah within the University of Utah Research Park. The proposed action is to outfit the facility with office furnishings (e.g., desks, cubicle panels, microwave, refrigerator, etc.) and research equipment. The facility is used by a project researching WSCComm (Wireless Spectrum Communications) technology. WSCComm technology is being developed to provide wireless communication for emergency first responders, Department of Defense, and other government agencies. The research at the Salt Lake City facility is to create and simulate new wireless algorithms tested with off-the-shelf or custom software defined radio hardware. The custom hardware is assembled at the Energy Innovations Laboratory in Idaho Falls, then delivered to Salt Lake City for use. Therefore, there will not be any printed circuit boards or chemical residues at the Salt Lake City office.

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Generating and Managing Waste

This facility will generate office waste. Office waste is handled through the lease agreement.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

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: 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to subpart D, items B1.24 "Property transfers" and B3.6 "Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects."

Justification: Project activities described in this EC are consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to subpart D, items B1.24 "Transfer, lease, disposition, or acquisition of interests in personal property (including, but not limited to, equipment and materials) or real property (including, but not limited to, permanent structures and land), provided that under reasonably foreseeable uses (1) there would be no potential for release of substances at a level, or in a form, that could pose a threat to public health or the environment and (2) the covered actions would not have the potential to cause a significant change in impacts from before the transfer, lease, disposition, or acquisition of interests;" and B3.6 "Siting, construction, modification, operation, and decommissioning of facilities for small-scale research and development projects; conventional laboratory operations (such as preparation of chemical standards and sample analysis); and small-scale pilot projects (generally less than 2 years) frequently conducted to verify a concept before demonstration actions provided that construction or modification would be within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Not included in this category are demonstration actions, meaning actions that are undertaken at a scale to show whether a technology would be viable on a larger scale and suitable for commercial deployment."

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: 7/31/2017