

# DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION

## Idaho National Laboratory

### SECTION A. Project Title: USG #86 TG#1

### SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

The proposed action would test equipment at The Wireless Test Bed (WTB). The test would take place along Wilson Boulevard and requires an approximate 18 m x 92 m gravel pad near the road to park the equipment, support trailers and generators. After completion of the proposed action, the pad will be utilized for other WTB activities. The testing will occur along 500 m of Wilson Boulevard. Proper grounding for all trailers and generators will be established.

Testing for CY 2017 will include 3 weeks of setup, 3 weeks of testing and 1 week of teardown. Additional testing is planned for the same location in CY 2018. The test will use SF6, helium, dry air, and argon gas. Isopropyl alcohol will be used to clean parts. The proposed action also requires the use of lithium and thermal batteries. Four diesel generators and one portable generator will be used during project activities.

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

#### Air Emissions

There is a potential to generate fugitive dust.

Portable and mobile generators will emit contaminants. All generators will be temporary, in place for less than one year.

Emissions of SF6, a greenhouse gas, are not expected because purge gases will be captured.

#### Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources

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

#### Generating and Managing Waste

Common office trash waste is expected. Common/cold waste will be disposed in approved dumpsters. Any solid waste will be managed by Waste Generator Services (WGS).

#### Releasing Contaminants

There is a potential for spilling petroleum products. Spills will be cleaned up in a timely fashion and the resultant waste handled in an appropriate manner.

#### 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/ProductCategory/14>).

### 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, B3.11 "Outdoor tests and experiments on materials and equipment components"

**Justification:** Project activities are consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B, B3.11 "Outdoor tests and experiments for the development, quality assurance, or reliability of materials and equipment (including, but not limited to, weapon system components) under controlled conditions. Covered actions

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include, but are not limited to, burn tests (such as tests of electric cable fire resistance or the combustion characteristics of fuels), impact tests (such as pneumatic ejector tests using earthen embankments or concrete slabs designated and routinely used for that purpose), or drop, puncture, water immersion, or thermal tests. Covered actions would not involve source, special nuclear, or byproduct materials, except encapsulated sources manufactured to applicable standards that contain source, special nuclear, or byproduct materials may be used for nondestructive actions such as detector/sensor development and testing and first responder field training."

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: 5/11/2017