

DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION

SECTION A. Project Title: University Reactor Upgrades Infrastructure Support – University of Wisconsin

SECTION B. Project Description

The University of Wisconsin proposes to upgrade the health physics (HP) radiation monitoring equipment to support the operation and research being conducted at the University of Wisconsin Nuclear Reactor (UWNR) and associated Characterization Laboratory for Irradiated Materials (CLIM). Specifically it is proposed to replace the failing count rate meters, survey meters, and ion chambers.

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects / Potential Sources of Impact

All of these HP instruments are utilized to maintain regulatory compliance and to monitor radiation exposure to visitors to the UWNR and CLIM. The goals for the use of the proposed equipment is to maintain regulatory compliance and ensure safety of the researchers and members of the public who visit and work at the facility. The action would not create additional environmental impacts above those already occurring at the university.

SECTION D. Determine the Level of Environmental Review (or Documentation) and Reference(s): Identify the applicable categorical exclusion from 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B; give the appropriate justification, and the approval date.

Note: 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, including requirements of DOE orders; 2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities; 3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; 4) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources. In addition, no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal exist which would affect the significance of the action, and the action is not “connected” nor “related” (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1) and (2), respectively) to other actions with potentially or cumulatively significant impacts.

References: B2.3 Installation of, or improvements to, equipment for personnel safety and health (including, but not limited to, eye washes, safety showers, radiation monitoring devices, fumehoods and associated collection and exhaust systems), provided that the covered actions would not have the potential to cause a significant increase in emissions.

Justification: The activity consists of purchasing and installing equipment for personnel safety and health.

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 4/10/2017