

DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION

Idaho National Laboratory

SECTION A. Project Title: Materials and Fuels Complex (MFC) Laydown Area

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

The laydown area northeast of Materials and Fuels Complex (MFC) building 721 does not provide adequate space for staging equipment and materials for work conducted in the area. The proposed action would add additional space to the laydown area by grading areas adjacent to the current disturbed area (see Figure 1). The area to be graded would not exceed one acre.

In compliance with the fire restrictions, a 30-ft defensible space is required to be maintained around buildings, structures, and equipment. Staging materials and equipment at the edge of the laydown area would be avoided, and mowing would be conducted to provide defensible space required by the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) fire marshal.

The proposed expansion area is not located within the Sage Grouse Conservation Area (SGCA) and is excluded from the SGCA requirements identified in the "Candidate Conservation Agreement for Greater Sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) on the Idaho National Laboratory Site" (U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. DOE/ID-11514. September 2014). However, to maintain DOE's goal in the Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA) to achieve no net loss of sagebrush on the INL Site, the project must compensate for any lost sagebrush. The project must re-establish sagebrush in acreages equal to or greater than acreages lost by project activities. Re-establishment must occur within the restoration priority areas identified in the CCA. Restoration activities may be coordinated with other sagebrush restoration activities currently being conducted on the INL Site.

Figure 1. Location of expanded laydown area near MFC-721.



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SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Air Emissions

Fugitive dust may be generated during grading activities. All reasonable precautions will be taken to control fugitive dust. Dust control methods that are used will be recorded and used to show compliance the INL air permit and Idaho Administrative Procedures Act (IDAPA) air requirements.

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources

Biological and cultural resources could be impacted by vegetation removal and ground disturbance.

Generating and Managing Waste

The proposed action would generate common office trash.

Releasing Contaminants

Though not expected, there is the potential for spills and releases associated with equipment operation.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

Fuel would be used during grading activities.

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 B1.15 "Support buildings."

Justification: Project activities described in this EC are consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D, item B1.15 "Siting, construction or modification, and operation of support buildings and support structures (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated and modular buildings) within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Covered support buildings and structures include, but are not limited to, those for office purposes; parking; cafeteria services; education and training; visitor reception; computer and data processing services; health services or recreation activities; routine maintenance activities; storage of supplies and equipment for administrative services and routine maintenance activities; security (such as security posts); fire protection; small-scale fabrication (such as machine shop activities), assembly, and testing of non-nuclear equipment or components; and similar support purposes, but exclude facilities for nuclear weapons activities and waste storage activities covered in B1.10, B1.29, B1.35, B2.6, B6.2, B6.5, B6.6, and B6.10 of this appendix."

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

Approved by Jack Depperschmidt, DOE-ID NEPA Compliance Officer on: 8/2/2016