

DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION

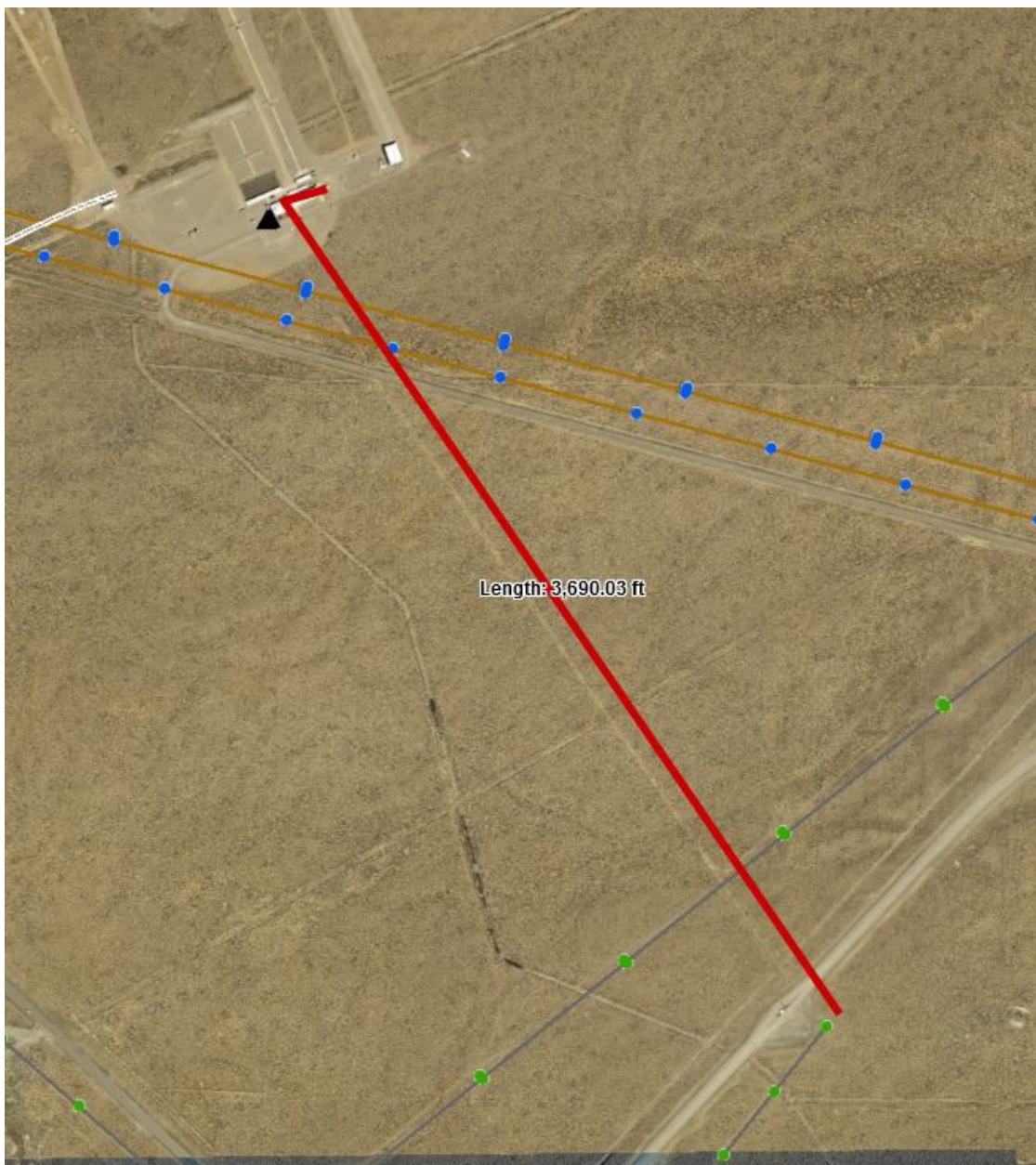
Idaho National Laboratory

SECTION A. Project Title: Central Facilities Area (CFA) Live Fire Range Fiber Optic Connection

SECTION B. Project Description:

The CFA Live Fire Range currently does not have fiber optic cable connectivity to support daily operations. Fiber optic cable was recently installed at a power pole adjacent to the Gate 3 Guard Post to support National & Homeland Security Wireless Test Bed capabilities, and it has sufficient capacity to support some connectivity to the CFA Live Fire Range. This proposed action would install a direct buried fiber optic cable (with 48 fibers) between the Gate 3 Guard Post area and the CFA Live Fire Range communications room. The fiber optic cable route would parallel an underground power cable in a relatively straight line between the facilities as shown in Figure 1 (length of approximately 4,000 ft.). The new fiber optic cable would need to be at least 5 feet away from the power cable to allow machine trenching. The cable would be installed in a trench approximately 3 feet deep and 1 foot wide and would require conduit boring under the two roadways. The route would also cross a tributary to the Big Lost River and may require conduit boring under the streambed. A termination box would be mounted on a stand next to the power pole adjacent to Gate 3. The installation is proposed to be completed in FY-15 with a cost estimate of approximately \$100K.

Figure 1



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SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Air emissions - Air emissions from the mobile trenching equipment are not regulated. Fugitive dust may be generated during trenching activities. All reasonable precautions will be taken to control fugitive dust. If dust control methods are required, the subcontractor must record the methods that were used in their daily logbooks and submit to Battelle Energy Alliance, LLC (BEA) as project records.

Discharging to Surface-, Storm-, or Ground Water - The trenching activities are located within the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Storm Water Corridor and will require a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), Notice of Intent (NOI), and Notice of Termination (NOT) if disturbing greater than 1 acre (43,560 square feet). An early estimate for the size of the disturbed area is 4,000 ft. long x 10 ft. wide or approximately 40,000 square feet. This is less than 1 acre and would not require a SWPPP. If the project plans to exceed the 1 acre threshold, the subcontractor must follow the requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Storm Water Construction General Permit (CGP).

The proposed fiber optic cable route would cross a tributary to the Big Lost River that is considered waters of the United States (U.S.) The project must bore under the tributary channel (not disturb stream banks or bottom, including rock or soil deposited within the tributary) or comply with applicable requirements of Nationwide Permit (NWP) 12, WP General Conditions, and NWP Regional Conditions.

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources - Trenching activities from Gate #3 to the Gun Range has the potential to disturb Cultural and Biological Resources. Project review by both Cultural and Biological Resources personnel must be performed and documented prior to beginning work. Recommendations in the reviews shall be followed/implemented. The proposed route is not located in the Sage-grouse Conservation Area (SGCA) or the Sagebrush Steppe Ecosystem Reserve.

Project activities would be organized to avoid impacts to any culturally sensitive materials identified during these surveys. Brenda Pace (526-0916) of the INL Cultural Resource Management Office would be contacted to arrange for a cultural resource review.

There is also the potential for some impact to wildlife and habitat during the course of the proposed action. Contact Jackie Hafra (525-9358) at Gonzales-Stoller Surveillance to arrange for biological resource surveys (including nesting bird surveys), at least two weeks in advance, or to respond to any questions or concerns with biological resources.

Trenching and other ground disturbance may require re-seeding with native species and supplying supplemental water until revegetation is successful.

Generating and Managing Waste - Fiber optic cable installation is expected to generate small amounts of industrial waste. All waste will be characterized, stored, and disposed at the direction of Waste Generator Services (WGS).

Releasing Contaminants - Typical construction chemicals such as fuels, lubricants, cable cleaner, etc., will be used during the project. A chemical inventory list with associated Safety Data Sheets (SDS's) will be required to be submitted by the subcontractor and be approved by BEA in the vendor data system. The Construction Chemical Coordinator will enter these chemicals into the Comply Plus chemical management system for tracking purposes. All spills will be reported to the Construction Field Representative and to the Spill Notification Team if applicable.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources - All materials would be reused and/or recycled where economically practicable. All applicable waste would be diverted from disposal in the landfill where conditions allow. The project would 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, or are non-toxic or less-toxic alternatives (see <https://sftool.gov/green-products/0?agency=7>).

SECTION D. Determine the Recommended Level of Environmental Review (or Documentation) and Reference(s): 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, B4.7, "Fiber optic cable."

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Justification: Project activities are consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B, 4.7 "Adding fiber optic cable to transmission facilities or burying fiber optic cable in existing powerline or pipeline rights-of-way. Covered actions may include associated vaults and pulling and tensioning sites outside of rights-of-way in nearby previously disturbed or developed areas."

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: 5/14/2015