

DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION

SECTION A. Project Title: Revitalizing Health Physics Education for Nuclear Energy Careers – Colorado State University

SECTION B. Project Description

The objectives of this Colorado State University project are to update instrumentation to reflect current instruments utilized at nuclear power plants and national laboratories, utilize measurement equipment to perform research, and achieve ISO 17025 accreditation. This will be accomplished by purchasing a CZT-based portable detector, alpha spectroscopy unit, NaI detector assemblies, low level counting NaI, low level gas flow proportional counter, oscilloscopes, and radioactive counting standards.

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects / Potential Sources of Impact

Radioactive Material Use/Radioactive Waste Generation – Radioactive calibration sources will be used in the routine set up and operation of the equipment. The quantities used will be millicurie or less quantities. All radioactive sources will be used and disposed of in accordance with existing license and laboratory instructions.

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: 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 development. B1.2 Training exercises and simulations (including, but not limited to, firing-range training, small-scale and short-duration force-on-force exercises, emergency response training, fire fighter and rescue training, and decontamination and spill cleanup training) conducted under appropriately controlled conditions and in accordance with applicable requirements.

Justification: The activity consists of purchasing equipment for teaching and research purposes.

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 5/21/2012