

DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION

Idaho National Laboratory

SECTION A. Project Title: Cell Site #6 Expansion

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

An N&HS Sponsor requires a remote communications facility for testing and training at Cell Site 6 - INL/CITRC/ARA (43032'00"N 112049'50"W).

The work activity includes the following:

- Extend the existing gravel pad and security fence 100' to the East and provide a vehicle gate
- Install new concrete pads for communications equipment
- Provide electrical power to equipment, shelters, restrooms, and all necessary components
- Provide a portable restroom trailer
- Provide grounding for all new installations
- Provide communication and network connections
- Provide an ISO shelter approximately 16' x 40'

Construction activities will have the potential to generate fugitive dust emissions.

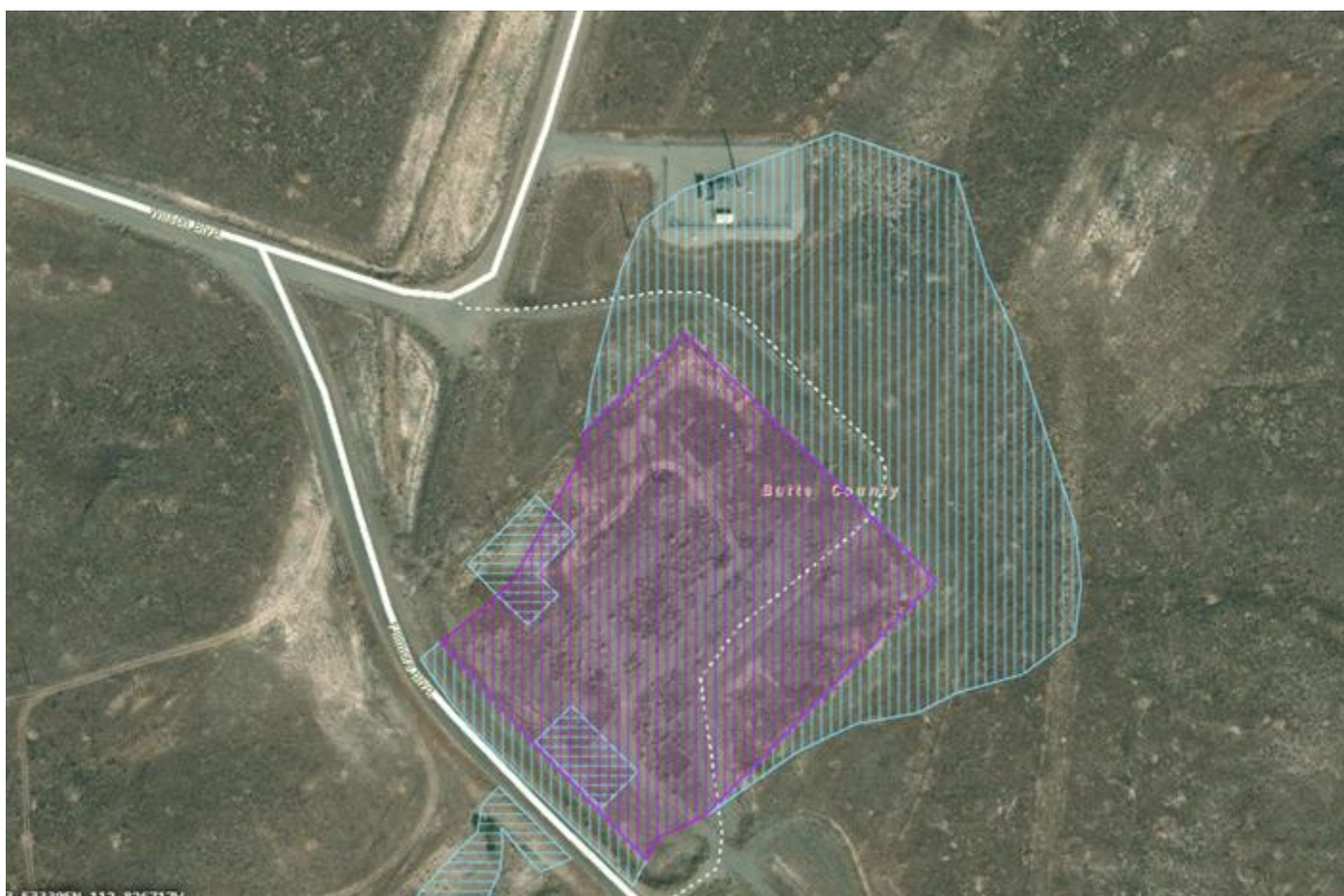
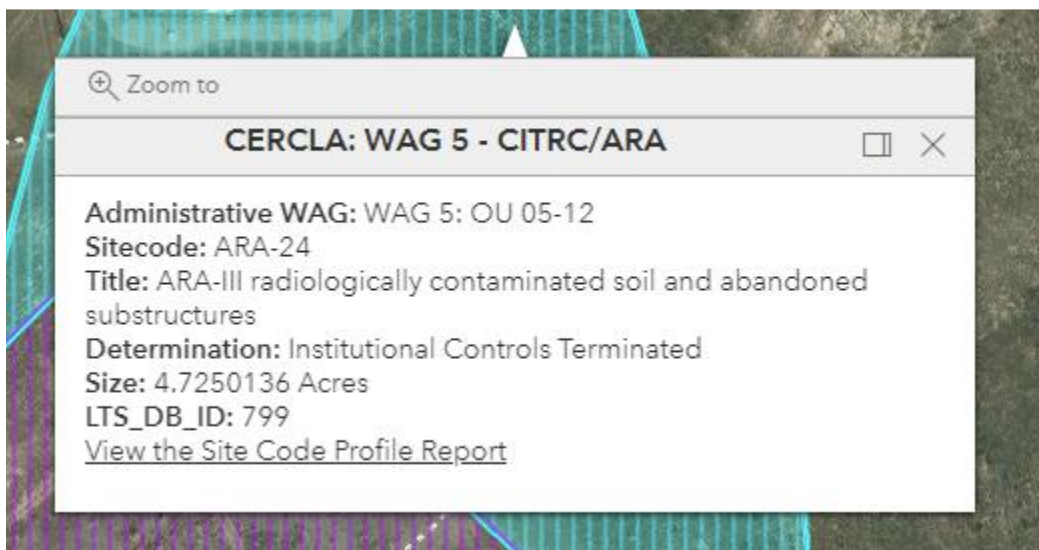
Clearing & grubbing of vegetation east of the existing cell site will be required, along with extension of secondary road for egress.

Waste generation will include industrial waste including concrete and rebar demolition debris, scrap metal, and electronic components could be generated.

Construction chemicals such as paint, fuels, lubricants, adhesives, etc., will be used during the project and for the emergency generator



DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION
Idaho National Laboratory



SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Air Emissions

Air Emissions – Construction activities will have the potential to generate fugitive dust

Discharging to Surface-, Storm-, or Ground Water

NA

**DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION
Idaho National Laboratory**

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources

There is the potential for this work to impact vegetation and for project personnel to interact with various wildlife species. A Biological Resource Review will be arranged within two weeks prior to the initiation of any activities that might disturb soil or vegetation and again following completion of project activities. A nesting bird survey is included with the Biological Resource Review for actions occurring between April 1 - October 1 per compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Bat surveys are also included with the Biological Resource Review in accordance with the INL Bat Protection Plan.

SOIL/VEGETATION DISTURBANCE:

Yes, clearing & grubbing of vegetation east of the existing cell site.
Extension of secondary road for egress

TWO-TRACK ROADS:

Utilize and extend the old ARA-III emergency access road for a secondary means of egress

CULTURAL: A Section 106 review was completed under CRMO project number (BEA-23-21) and resulted in No Historic Properties Affected. Please refer to the Cultural Resource Review (CRR) (BEA-23-21) for details or Hold Points and Project Specific Instructions of the ECP.

Generating and Managing Waste

WASTE GENERATION & DISPOSAL:

Industrial waste including concrete and rebar demolition debris, scrap metal, and electronic components could be generated.

CHEMICAL USE:

Construction chemicals such as paint, fuels, lubricants, adhesives, etc., will be used during the project and for the emergency generator.

RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL:

None

Releasing Contaminants

When chemicals are used during the project there is the potential for spills that could impact the environment (air, water, soil).

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

Project description indicates materials that will need to be purchased or used that require sourcing materials from the environment. Being conscientious about the types of materials used could reduce the impact to our natural resources.

DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION
Idaho National Laboratory

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:

B3.6 "Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects"

Justification:

B3.6 Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects. 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 deployment.

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

Approved by Jason L. Anderson, DOE-ID NEPA Compliance Officer on: 9/7/2023