

**SECTION A. Project Title:** 2024 ATR Road and Asphalt Improvements

**SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:**

ATR is planning to do some road/pavement improvements on many areas that are currently paved and some that are currently unpaved. Project activities will include some minor excavation, grading, and paving of roadways at ATR. It is anticipated that excavation will not exceed 2 feet in depth to the existing ground; below is the typical base detail, which indicates the excavation depth that will be required. There will be some new roads that will be constructed as a result of this project, which will require excavation of current ground, hauling in subgrade materials (i.e., various sizes of pit run gravel and crushed gravel), and laying of new asphalt. Some CERCLA areas are anticipated to be disturbed within the footprint of the proposed roads. A notice of soil disturbance will be completed before any construction activities are conducted. Below is a list of the locations and extent of work at each location:

Scope 1 – Paving Steelhead Street from the southwest corner of the ATR complex to the cooling towers of Tarpon Avenue, and one section of pavement connecting Steelhead Street and Sword Fish Boulevard just to the north of TRA-679. These areas have not previously been paved but have been undeveloped roads that have historically been driven on.

Scope 2 – Grading and paving on the north and east sides, and courtyard areas of TRA-653 and TRA-662. One small section of pavement will be included for parking vehicles on the corner of Whitefish Avenue and Sunfish Avenue. These areas have all been previously paved besides the parking area, which has historically been used for an area to park vehicles.

Scope 3 – Paving and connecting the roadway from the north of TRA-653 directly east to Barracuda Avenue. This area has not been previously paved and has not been historically driven on. However, this is a maintained gravel area that is sterile and free of vegetation and is also the previous location of ETR and associated infrastructure, so this site has been previously disturbed. This will require excavation, re-grading of the area, and new asphalt.

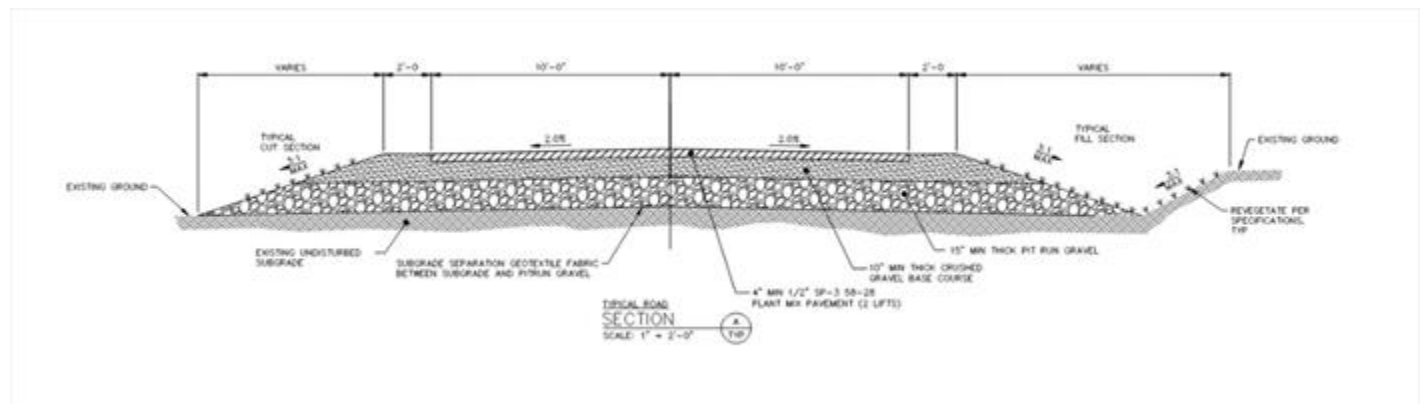
Scope 4 – Grading and paving Perch Street from north of TRA-620 to TRA-616. This area has been previously paved and will just require new asphalt.

Scope 5 – Grading and paving the parking area of TRA-619 and TRA-623. This area has been previously paved and will just require new asphalt.

Scope 6 – Paving west from the corner of Cod Street and Mackerel Street to connect to Steelhead Street. This area has not been previously paved. Parts of this area have been previously driven on, and parts of it is currently sagebrush and other vegetation (closer to Steelhead Street). The areas that currently have sagebrush and vegetation is within the facility fence. This will require removal of vegetation, excavation, re-grading of the area, and new asphalt.

Scope 7 – Grading and paving the area to the east of TRA-640 and tying it into the existing pavement on Bass Avenue. Parts of this area have been previously paved and will just require new asphalt.

Please refer to the attached drawing sheets and maps for specific locations and extent of work.



**SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:**

**Air Emissions**

Project activities have the potential to create fugitive dust. Primarily from grading and soil work activities as well as vehicle traffic over unpaved surfaces.

Placing of asphalt has the potential to emit minor amounts volatile organic compounds (VOC) from the evaporation of the petroleum distillate solvent, or diluent, used to liquify the asphalt cement.

#### Discharging to Surface-, Storm-, or Ground Water

NA

#### 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.

Cultural: Pursuant to the 2023 Programmatic Agreement, this federal undertaking is excluded from Section 106 review and the proposed activity results in no historic properties affected.

#### Generating and Managing Waste

When wastes are generated, how they are disposed can adversely affect the environment. Managing wastes appropriately and responsibly and implementing recycling or reuse practices, where feasible, during project activities can reduce the potential impact on the environment.

#### 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 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.

#### Environmental Justice

According to the CEQ Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, the INL site as well as the Research and Education Campus in Idaho Falls, ID are located in U.S. Census tracts that are identified as disadvantaged communities. Census tracts identified as disadvantaged meet or exceed socioeconomic, environmental, health, or demographic thresholds identified by CEQ. Given that activities analyzed in this document will happen within the boundaries of existing DOE/INL land and/or facilities where there are no permanent residents, any impacts to Environmental Justice in surrounding communities are anticipated to be negligible.

<b>SECTION D. Determine Recommended Level of Environmental Review, Identify Reference(s), and State Justification:</b> Identify the applicable categorical exclusion from 10 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 1021, Appendix B, give the appropriate justification, and the approval date.
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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:** B1.13 "Pathways, short access roads, and rail lines"

**Justification:** Based on the purpose and need and description of the proposed action and potential environmental impacts, the proposed action fits within the class of actions that is listed in Appendix B CX B1.13. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal. The proposed action has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)) and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Authorizing the proposed action will not (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, including DOE and/or Executive orders; (2) require siting of new facilities or expansion of existing facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants; (4) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources; or (5) involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species.

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

CX Posting No.: DOE-ID-INL-24-091

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

Approved by Robert Douglas Herzog, DOE-ID NEPA Compliance Officer on: 10/21/2024