

SECTION A. Project Title: Defense and Space Power Antares Umbrella

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

This Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Umbrella Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) project is a collaboration with Antares on the research, development, and technology advancement leading to ground based testing of nuclear reactor systems to enable defense and space reactor applications. Both Antares and INL have a mission to deliver small reactor hardware to support defense and space applications. INL will provide unique capabilities including a knowledgeable staff, modeling and simulation, reactor safety basis expertise, nuclear fuels, operations, and facilities to enable design concepts and testing. Each Project Task Statement (PTS) issued under this Umbrella will be reviewed individually and this ECP revised as needed. This CX determination only covers the approval of the CRADA which is covered under Appendix A Subpart D of Part 1021 and does not cover any work.

This initial work scope will include an evaluation stage.

Collaboration will happen in four specific areas:

Category 1: Collaborative Defense Reactor Business Development

Parties will collaborate toward development of joint opportunities to support enduring customer needs. Scope will include aligning both parties and US government organizations towards defense and space reactor utilization.

Category 2: Defense and Space Reactor Technology Development

Parties will collaborate toward development of space and defense reactor technology development. Scope will include design and fabrication advancements of components, hardware and systems.

Category 3: Defense and Space Reactor Test-bed Development

Parties will collaborate toward development of space and defense reactor test-bed development. Participant will provide specialized expertise in reactor commercialization. Contractor will provide specialized capabilities, facilities, program elements, and enable authorizations to create reactor test-bed for space and defense reactor.

Category 4: Reactor Demonstrations

Parties will collaborate toward development of space and defense reactor demonstrations. Participant will provide specialized expertise in reactor commercialization. Contractor will provide specialized capabilities, fuels, facilities, and enable operations and ultimate disposition to enable space and defense reactor demonstrations.

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Air Emissions

NA

Discharging to Surface-, Storm-, or Ground Water

NA

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources

Please see Hold Point.

Generating and Managing Waste

No waste is associated with the initial scope of documentation and paperwork studies.

Releasing Contaminants

DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION
Idaho National Laboratory

NA

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

NA

Environmental Justice

NA

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: A9 "Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination"

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 undefined. 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.

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: 1/14/2025