



U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed Action Title: Building 7 Tensile Structure --LB-CX-22-01

Program or Field Office: Bay Area Site Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): Berkeley, California

Proposed Action Description:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposes to install a temporary tensile (tent-like) structure on the existing demolished Building 7 site to provide institutional storage space along with warehousing and staging capacity for the Advanced Light Source (ALS) Division's ALS-U construction activities. The purpose of this project is to address the Lab's shortage of storage and staging space in an efficient and cost-effective manner. The tensile structure would provide shelter from the elements and temperature control; it would support a variety of operations and scientific division functions. The existing leased Parcel 26 in which Building 7 resided would encompass the tensile structure's footprint; therefore, the project would not require new lease terms or approvals.

A 5-inch thick reinforced concrete surface would be installed over the extant Building 7 slab-on-grade to provide a uniform, level floor. The approximately 5,300 gross-square-foot tensile structure would be constructed of a modular aluminum frame enclosed by a polyurethane membrane with a 9-inch insulation enclosure. Foundation and structural installation would take a minimum of 12 months; total project cost would be approximately \$3.5 million. The structure would serve as an ALS-U storage and staging facility for 5 years and an institutional warehouse for an additional 10 years. At disassembly, the structure would be reused and/or recycled (e.g., aluminum frame, shelving units) and/or disposed of (e.g., polyurethane membrane) at an appropriate disposal facility.

The structure would feature roll up doors, security-controlled exit doors, and an adjacent disabled-accessible parking spot. Electrical power would be extended from Building 53, as well as temporary power from the Building 7 pad, in order to support lighting, exhaust vents, a fire alarm system, temperature control, and communications systems. The structure is expected to have open floor space for "loose" storage of items initially, with the possibility of added anchored shelving in the future.

The project site is within the Berkeley Lab's heavily developed "Old Town" area. Surrounding uses include the ALS building (Building 6) to the south, a retaining wall and the Building 5 storage facility to the east, Segre Road to the north, and the main ALS parking and service area to the west. Construction activities, including minor trenching for electrical supply and concrete pouring, would be managed under air quality, noise, hazards, water quality, and truck trip "Standard Project Features" as well as LBNL best-management practices. Operationally, the proposed Project would be unnoticeable from most off-site viewpoints and would minimize visual clutter by consolidating operational laydown materials within a covered structure.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B1.15 - Support buildings

B1.31 - Installation or relocation of machinery and equipment

B1.23 - Demolition and disposal of buildings

For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Subpart D of [10 CFR Part 1021](#).

Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410(b): (See full text in regulation)

The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D.

To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, such as those listed in paragraph B(5) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B.

There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

The proposal 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.

I concur that the above description accurately describes the proposed action.

LBNL Environmental Planner: _____
Date Determined: Oct. 13, 2021

Jeff Philliber

I concur that the above description accurately describes the proposed action.

BASO Fed Project Director: _____
Date Determined: _____
Rick Chapman

The above description accurately describes the proposed action, which reflects the requirements of the CX cited above. Therefore, I recommend that the proposed action be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

BASO NEPA Program Manager: _____
Date Determined: _____
Jose Roldan

BASO MIP Division Director: _____
Date Determined: _____
Mary Gross

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1 B), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA Compliance Officer: _____ **Date Determined:** [Click here to enter a date.](#)

FIGURE 2
TENSILE STRUCTURE

