

NEPA CX Determination SS-SC-12-02 for the Science and User Support Building (B053)

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exclusion (CX) Determination**

A. **SSO NEPA Control #: SS-SC-12-02**

**AN11047**

B. **Brief Description of Proposed Action:**

The Science and User Support Building (SUSB) is a planned four-story building with a gross square footage of 47,000-70,000 square feet. The building is designed to accommodate approximately 90 employees. The SUSB will house several activities: a Visitor Center with educational and historical interpretive exhibit space; a Conference Center including a 350-seat tiered auditorium and break out conference rooms; a cafeteria and dining hall to support all campus activities, researchers, employees and visitors; and a two-story administrative office area for administration and operations. The building configuration does not include laboratories. The project will include the demolition of the existing auditorium (Building 043) and cafeteria (Building 042) that currently occupy the future site of the new building. The new SUSB building will target LEED NC 2009 Gold Level Certification.

The project location is centrally located in a portion of the campus area that has previously been disturbed by grading and construction activities. The SLAC site has been subject to several field reconnaissance surveys by Stanford University archaeological teams. There are no documented sacred sites or archeological deposits located on the project site based on Stanford University's draft archaeological survey report. No endangered or sensitive species or resources have been identified on the project site. No bird nesting has been observed. Approximately 30 trees will be removed, and approved measures will be implemented, consistent with the SLAC tree and shrub protection guidelines. Buildings 042 and 043 are both 46 years old, therefore, an evaluation for the demolition of Buildings 042 and 043 was completed in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for federal undertakings. The evaluation and request for review of determination was formally submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on January 6, 2012 and proposed the project would result in a finding of "no historic properties identified". No response was received from the SHPO within the 30-day time limit; therefore, the project can proceed in accordance with the requirements of 36 CFR 800.3(c) (4).

C. **Categorical Exclusion Applied (Number and Title):**

B1.15 Siting, construction (or modification), and operation of support buildings and support structures (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated buildings) within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Covered support buildings and structures include those for office purposes; parking; cafeteria services; education and training; visitor reception; computer and data processing services; employee health services or recreation activities;

routine maintenance activities; storage of supplies and equipment for administrative services and routine maintenance activities; security (including security posts); fire protection; and similar support purposes.

B1.23 Demolition and subsequent disposal of buildings, equipment, and support structures (including, but not limited to, smoke stacks and parking lot surface), provided there would be no potential for release of substances at a level, or in a form, that could pose a threat to public health or the environment.

**D. Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410 (b)**

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

For classes of actions listed in Appendix B, the following conditions are integral elements; i.e., to fit within a class, a proposal must not:

- a. Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders;
  - b. Require siting, construction, or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities, but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities;
  - c. 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; or
  - d. Have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B.(4)) of 10CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B;
  - e. 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.
2. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; and
  3. The proposal is not “connected” to other actions with cumulatively significant impacts, and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211.

E. **Determination:**

Therefore, I recommend that the proposed action be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

Signature on File\_\_\_\_\_

Dave Osugi  
NEPA Coordinator  
SLAC Site Office

4/6/2012

Date

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

Signature on File\_\_\_\_\_

Gary S. Hartman  
NEPA Compliance Officer  
Integrated Support Center, Oak Ridge Office

4/6/2012

Date

**SSO File: DOE O 451.1B**