

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF SCIENCE -- CHICAGO OFFICE

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)
ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION NOTIFICATION FORM

To be completed by "Applicant," i.e., organization receiving funds and/or implementing Federal Actions as defined by 40 CFR § 1508.18. For assistance, refer to "Instructions for Preparing SC-CH F-560, Environmental Evaluation Notification Form."

Solicitation/Award No. (if applicable): NA

Organization Name: Ames Laboratory

Title of Proposed Project/Research: Site-Wide Categorical Exclusion: Renovations and maintenance activities for buildings, structures.

Total DOE Funding/Total Project Funding: NA

I. Project Description (use explanation page if additional space is required):

A. Proposed Project/Action (if applicable, delineate Federally funded/Non-Federally funded portions)

See attached sheet.

B. Would the project proceed without Federal funding?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If "yes," use explanation page.

II. Description of Affected Environment:

See attached sheet.

III. Preliminary Questions:

- A. Is the DOE-funded work routinely administrative or
- entirely*
- advisory or a "paper study?"

Yes
☐No
☒*If "Yes", ensure that the description in Section I reflects this and go directly to Section V.*

- B. Is there any potential whatsoever for:

Provide an explanation for each "Yes" response.

- | | Yes | No |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Work to be performed outdoors? | ☒ | ☐ |
| 2. Major modification of a building interior? | ☐ | ☒ |
| 3. Threat of violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health? | ☐ | ☒ |
| 4. Siting, construction or major expansion of waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities? | ☐ | ☒ |
| 5. Disturbance to hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants preexisting in the environment? | ☐ | ☒ |
| 6. The presence of any environmentally-sensitive resources? | ☐ | ☒ |
| 7. Potential for high consequence impacts to human health or the environment? | ☐ | ☒ |
| 8. The work being connected to another existing/proposed activity that could potentially create a significant impact? | ☐ | ☒ |
| 9. Nearby past, present, and/or reasonably foreseeable future actions such that collectively significant impacts could result? | ☐ | ☒ |
| 10. Scientific or public controversy over whether impacts could be significant? | ☐ | ☒ |

If "No" to ALL Section III.B. questions, go directly to Section V.

IV. Potential Environmental Effects:

Provide an explanation for each "Yes" response.

- A. Sensitive Resources: Could the proposed action potentially result in changes and/or disturbances to any of the following resources?

- | | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Threatened/Endangered Species and/or Critical Habitats | ☐ | ☒ |
| 2. Other Protected Species (e.g., Burros, Migratory Birds) | ☐ | ☒ |
| 3. Sensitive Environments (e.g., Tundra/Coral Reefs/Rain Forests) | ☐ | ☒ |
| 4. Cultural or Historic Resources | ☐ | ☒ |
| 5. Important Farmland | ☐ | ☒ |
| 6. Non-Attainment Areas for Ambient Air Quality Standards | ☐ | ☒ |
| 7. Class I Air Quality Control Region | ☐ | ☒ |
| 8. Special Sources of Groundwater (e.g. Sole Source Aquifer) | ☐ | ☒ |
| 9. Navigable Air Space | ☐ | ☒ |
| 10. Coastal Zones | ☐ | ☒ |
| 11. Areas with Special National Designation (e.g. National Forests, Parks, Trails) | ☐ | ☒ |
| 12. Floodplains and/or Wetlands | ☐ | ☒ |

B. Regulated Substances/Activities: Would the proposed action involve any of the following regulated items or activities?

	Yes	No
13. Natural Resource Damage Assessments	☐	☒
14. Invasive Species or Exotic Organisms	☐	☒
15. Noxious Weeds	☐	☒
16. Clearing or Excavation (indicate if greater than one acre)	☐	☒
17. Dredge or Fill (under Clean Water Act, Section 404, greater than one acre)	☐	☒
18. Noise (in excess of regulations)	☒	☐
19. Asbestos Removal	☒	☐
20. Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)	☒	☐
21. Import, Manufacture, or Processing of Toxic Substances	☐	☒
22. Chemical Storage/Use	☒	☐
23. Pesticide Use	☐	☒
24. Hazardous, Toxic, or Criteria Pollutant Air Emissions	☒	☐
25. Liquid Effluents	☐	☒
26. Spill Prevention/Surface Water Protection	☒	☐
27. Underground Injection	☒	☒
28. Hazardous Waste	☒	☐
29. Underground Storage Tanks	☐	☒
30. Radioactive or Radioactive Mixed Waste	☒	☐
31. Radiation Exposure	☒	☐
32. Nanoscale Materials	☐	☒
33. Genetically Engineered Microorganisms/Plants or Synthetic Biology?	☐	☒
34. Ozone Depleting Substances	☒	☐
35. Greenhouse Gas Generation/Sustainability	☐	☒
36. Off-Road Vehicles	☐	☒
37. Biosafety Level 3-4 Laboratory	☐	☒

C. Other Relevant Information: Would the proposed action involve the following?

	Yes	No
38. Existing, Modified, or New Federal/State Permits	☐	☒
39. Disproportionate Nearby Presence of Minority and/or Low Income Populations	☐	☒
40. Action/Involvement of Another Federal Agency (e.g. license/permit, funding, approval)	☐	☒
41. Action of a State Agency in a State with NEPA-type law	☐	☒
42. Public Utilities/Services	☐	☒
43. Depletion of a Non-Renewable Resource	☐	☒
44. Other Pertinent Information Which Could Impact Human Health or the Environment	☐	☒

V. Applicant Certification that to the best of their knowledge all information provided on this form is accurate:

Does this disclosure contain classified, confidential, or other exempt information that DOE would not be obligated to disclose pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act?

Yes ☐ No ☒

A. Organization Official (Name and Title): Dan Kayser, Environmental Specialist

Signature: Daniel A. Kayser Date: 5/28/2013

e-mail: kayser@ameslab.gov Phone: 515-294-7923

B. Optional Secondary Approval (Name and Title): Mark Grootveld, Manager, F&ES

Signature: Mark Grootveld Date: 5/29/2013

e-mail: grootveld@ameslab.gov

Phone: 515-294-7895

10200.173

Chicago Office NEPA Tracking Number

Remainder to be completed by DOE

VI. DOE Concurrence/Recommendation/Determination:

A. DOE Project Director/Program Manager or Contract/Grant Management Specialist:

Has the Applicant completed the Form correctly?

Yes

No

Does an existing Generic Categorical Exclusion apply?

☒

☐

If yes, indicate: This is a new/updated Generic CX

Name and Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

B. DOE NEPA Team Review:

Is the class of action identified in the DOE NEPA Regulations (Appendices A-D to Subpart D (10 CFR § 1021))?

Yes

No

☒

☐

If yes, specify the class(es) of action: _____

Name and Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

C. DOE Counsel (if requested):

Name and Title: Michelle R. McKown

Signature: Michelle R. McKown

Date: 6/3/13

D. DOE NEPA Compliance Officer:

The preceding pages are a record of documentation required under DOE Final NEPA Regulation, 10 CFR § 1021.400.



Action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review. I have determined that the proposed action meets the requirements for Categorical Exclusion referenced above.



Action requires approval by Head of the Field Organization. Recommend preparation of an Environmental Assessment.



Action requires approval by Head of the Field Organization or a Secretarial Officer. Recommend preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

Comments/limitations if any:

NEPA Compliance Officer:

Name:

Peter R. Siebach

Signature:

Peter R. Siebach

Date:

6/3/2013

Optional Additional Narrative: (add additional detail to description to Sections I and II or explanations to responses in Sections III and IV.

I. Description of Proposed Action

This evaluation covers general renovation and maintenance activities which include: installation, modification, removal, replacement and preparation, for a wide variety of activities that occur for existing Ames Laboratory buildings and structures. This evaluation will also cover small support structures such as sheds, enclosures, docks, room additions and trailers. These support structures are not for new major programmatic actions, but for miscellaneous activities to support small new projects or existing programs and facilities that require additional or modified space.

Activities include:

- 1) Mechanical installation/maintenance/removal of standard piping systems such as air, water, steam, natural gas, sanitary, hydraulic systems, laboratory, potable and fire protection devices, fixtures, insulation, and system structural supports; standard ductwork systems for HVAC and building systems including glove boxes, fume hoods, fans, and cooling coils.
- 2) Electrical installation/maintenance/removal of standard conduit and wire installation; standard and emergency lighting systems; electrical, such as outlets, disconnects, PA speakers, and communications systems such as public address, fire alarms, computers, etc.; small transformers, motors, switchgear, panels, motor control centers, circuit breakers and meters.
- 3) Civil/Structural installation/maintenance/removal activities covered under this action include: partition, block, or sheetrock walls and ancillary attributes such as painting and trim work; access docks, concrete/housekeeping pads, stairs, walkways, and guardrails; tile or carpeting of floors, ceiling replacement or installations, door installation and finishing; roof repairs, upgrades and replacement; exterior building maintenance and upgrades such as window and/or frame installations, wall maintenance and installations including brick tuckpointing, sealing, wood and plastic panel replacements, tower and intake louvers. In addition, small support structures which will include concrete foundations, pads, above and below grade utilities contiguous to the building are included.

Restrictions:

Actions are not covered by this generic CX if an action would require a "yes" to be checked in Sections III.B. and IV. of the SC-CH Form 560 where none exists in the generic form, as defined in the associated instructions for Preparing SC-CH Form 560.

II. Description of Affected Environment:

The City of Ames, Iowa surrounds the ISU main campus (490 acres). The population of Ames is approximately 59,042, which includes the ISU student population of approximately 31,040. Ames is located in Story County, which has a population of approximately 89,663.

Ames Laboratory is located on the campus of Iowa State University (ISU) and occupies 12 buildings owned by the Department of Energy (DOE). See the Laboratory's Web page for location and Laboratory overview. The Laboratory also leases space in ISU owned buildings.

The climate is temperate continental, and is subject to wide temperature and precipitation ranges throughout the year. Mean monthly temperature varies from a low of minus 7.5 degrees Celsius (18.5°F) in January to a high of 23.8 degrees Celsius (74.8°F) in July. Average rainfall equivalent precipitation varies from 1.8 centimeters (0.7 inches) in January to 13.7 centimeters (5.4 inches) in June.

The region's topography is gently rolling with a slight overall negative gradient to the southeast. Under the shallow topsoil, the soils are glacial till with a depth of approximately 19.8 meters (65 feet). This material is underlain by predominantly limestone bedrock. In the central campus area, the depth to first groundwater is approximately 3.0 meters

(10 feet). Surface run-off flows into Squaw Creek, a tributary of the South Skunk River. The streams have a combined average daily flow of approximately 644 million liters (170 million gallons).

Activities are scoped to have minimal effect on the environment as the majority of work will be conducted inside buildings. Outside activities are minor and are adjacent to existing buildings in areas that have already been disturbed. Where practical, appropriate construction debris will be recycled. Hazardous and special waste, asbestos, radioactive waste will be disposed of per Federal/State regulations and Ames Laboratory procedures to ensure proper control.

III. Preliminary Questions

B.1. Work to be performed outdoors

Minor renovation activities may require work to be done outdoors (i.e., roof tops, tuckpointing, painting, etc.). Outside activities are minor and are adjacent to existing buildings and in areas that have already been disturbed.

IV. Potential Environmental Effects:

B.18 Noise

Most standard installation/maintenance/removal activities do not exceed decibel limits. When noise limits are expected to exceed industry limits, proper and appropriate hearing protection will be required.

B.19 Asbestos Removal

Activities may require the removal of asbestos containing materials. Asbestos Removal and disposal activities will follow the Ames Laboratory Asbestos Notification Procedure. Asbestos removal would be performed by a qualified asbestos abatement contractor (or trained Laboratory/University personnel) as set forth under 40 CFR Part 763 Appendix C to Subpart E "Asbestos Model Accreditation Plan", licensed by the Iowa Division of Labor. The 40 CFR Part 61, Subpart M (National Emission Standard for Asbestos), Section 61.145 (standard for demolition), and the Iowa Administrative Rules, Chapter 155 (Asbestos Removal and Encapsulation) would be followed.

B.20 PCB's

PCB materials will be collected and disposed of according to Federal/State regulations and Laboratory procedures. Primarily limited to light ballasts.

B.22 Chemical Storage/Use

Small amounts of paints, thinners, greases and water treatment chemicals are stored in cabinets and/or mechanical maintenance rooms. All special products, chemicals, etc. stored or used will be accompanied by MSDS sheets identifying their hazards. Any chemicals not appropriate for use at the Laboratory will not be allowed to be used.

B.24 Hazardous, Toxic, or Criteria Pollutant Air Emissions

The paint shop is utilized to repaint laboratory equipment and furniture. The spray booth is permitted per Iowa Administration Code 567 IAC Chapter 22. The spray booth is considered a minor Emissions source by the Iowa Department of Natural Resource – Air Quality Division.

B.26 Spill Prevention/Surface Water Protection

The Laboratory has established SPCC training for appropriate personnel and has an SPCC Plan 10200.037 for the facility.

B.28 Hazardous Waste

Small amounts of hazardous waste may be generated from painting and other maintenance activities. All chemical users and hazardous waste generators are required to take the Laboratory's Waste Generator Training. Hazardous waste is collected and disposed of according to Federal/State regulations and Laboratory procedures.

B.30 Radioactive Waste

Due to legacy contamination, renovation and routine maintenance activities may generate radioactive low-level waste (LLW). LLW is managed per DOE Order 435.1 and the Ames Laboratory procedures. ESH&A provides oversight during activities that could potential generate legacy LLW.

B.31 Radiation Exposures

Small amounts of low-level radioactive contamination may be encountered. Only trained personnel will be allowed to work on contaminated building components with oversight performed by Health Physics Personnel. Planned radiation

exposures will follow 10 CFR 835 for workers and DOE O 458.1 for the Public and the Environment and specifically, the principle of "As Low as reasonably Achievable" and will not exceed the Ames Laboratory's administrative limits as outlined in the Radiation Protection Program Plan, 10202.004.

B.34 Ozone Depleting Substances

Refrigerant recovery. The Laboratory's recovery equipment is registered with the EPA under #608. Recovered Freon is shipped offsite through the Laboratory's hazardous waste vendor for disposal and/or recycling.