

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF SCIENCE

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)
ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION NOTIFICATION FORM

To be completed by "financial assistance award" organization receiving Federal funding. For assistance (including a point of contact), see "Instructions for Preparing SC F-560, Environmental Evaluation Notification Form".

Solicitation/Award No. (if

applicable):

Organization Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Name:

Title of Proposed Lease space and operate Kbase at Emery Station 1 5858 Horton Street
Project/Research: Emeryville, CA 94608

Total DOE Funding/Total Project \$12 Million over three years

Funding:

I. Project Description (use additional pages as necessary):

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

The Department of Energy (DOE) proposes to lease space approximately 5,300 square feet to operate Kbase for a period of up to three years. Kbase is a multi-institutional effort to consolidate the numerous different sources of scientific information on plants and microbes into a single cyber-database. The furnishings and support equipment would be installed to create approximately 24 lap top workstations.

Purpose and Need

For over a decade, experts have pointed to a need for more integrated computational processing of new biology data, which has been expanding at an increasing pace as sequencing and other technologies have advanced. DOE's Office of Biological and Environmental Research announced the selection of a collaboration of top scientists from across the nation to lead the development of a computer-based Systems Biology Knowledgebase (Kbase) on July 7, 2011. Kbase is designed to accelerate discovery by enabling data integration, mining, and computational analysis of the masses of information currently being produced by rapid genomic sequencing and other high-throughput techniques of contemporary systems biology.

B. Would the project proceed without Federal funding?

Yes No

If "yes", describe the impact to the scope:

II. Description of Affected Environment:

The building is listed as 270,000 rentable square feet. It is a laboratory and office building, typical of that neighborhood and Emeryville in general. The prior use was as temporary office space. There is no evidence that the space was ever used for anything other than office space.

III. Preliminary Questions:

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Yes | No |
| A. <u>Is the DOE-funded work <i>entirely</i> a "paper study"?</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

If "Yes", ensure that the description in Section I reflects this and go directly to Section V.

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| B. <u>Would the work to be performed include work that would take place <i>outside</i> existing buildings?</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

And:

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Require the siting, construction or major expansion of waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants preexisting in the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Adversely affect environmentally-sensitive resources identified in Section IV.A.? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Be connected to another existing/proposed activity that could potentially create a cumulatively significant impact? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Have an inherent <i>possibility</i> for high consequence impacts to human health or the environment (e.g., Biosafety Level 3-4 laboratories, activities involving high levels of radiation)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

If "No" to Question III.B. and ALL six subsequent questions, ensure the descriptions in Sections I and II reflect this and go directly to Section V.

IV. Potential Environmental Effects:

Attach/insert an explanation for each "Yes" response.

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

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Yes | No |
| 1. Threatened/Endangered Species and/or Critical Habitats | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Other Protected Species (e.g., Burros, Migratory Birds) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Sensitive Environments (e.g., Tundra/Coral Reefs/Rain Forests) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Archaeological/Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Important Farmland | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Non-Attainment Areas for Ambient Air Quality Standards : LBNL is in Bay Area Air Quality Basin, which is in federal non-attainment for Ozone and state non-attainment for ozone, PM10, and PM2.5. There would be very minimal, very temporary construction-related air emissions primarily related to a small number of truck and automobile trips. Any construction impacts would be sufficiently mitigated by adherence to Bay Area Air Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- Management District construction practices.
- 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 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 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. Exotic Organisms | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. Noxious Weeds | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 16. Clearing or Excavation (indicate if greater than one acre) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 17. Dredge or Fill (under Clean Water Act, Section 404, indicate if greater than ten acres) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 18. Noise (in excess of regulations) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 19. Asbestos Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 20. PCB's | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 21. Import, Manufacture, or Processing of Toxic Substances | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 22. Chemical Storage/Use | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 23. Pesticide Use | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 24. Hazardous, Toxic, or Criteria Pollutant Air Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 25. Liquid Effluents: Effluent discharges under this proposed action would be same as previous occupants. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 26. Underground Injection | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 27. Hazardous Waste | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 28. Underground Storage Tanks | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 29. Radioactive Mixed Waste | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 30. Radioactive Waste | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 31. Radiation Exposure | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 32. Surface Water Protection | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 33. Pollution Prevention Act | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 34. Ozone Depleting Substances | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 35. Off-Road Vehicles | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 36. Biosafety Level 3-4 Laboratory | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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

- | | Yes | No |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 37. Potential Violation of Environment, Safety, or Health Regulations/Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 38. Siting/Construction/Major Modification of Waste Recovery, or Waste Treatment, Storage, or Disposal Facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 39. Disturbance of Pre-existing Contamination | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 40. New or Modified Federal/State Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 41. Public Controversy | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 42. Environmental Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 43. Action/Involvement of Another Federal Agency (e.g. license, funding, approval) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 44. Action of a State Agency in a State with NEPA-type law.: Appropriate California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review would be conducted | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- 45. Public Utilities/Services
- 46. Depletion of a Non-Renewable Resource
- 47. Extraordinary Circumstances
- 48. Connected Actions
- 49. Exclusively Bench-top Research: Research only consists of computational research and does not involve any wet chemistry
- 50. Only a Laboratory Setting

V. M & O Contract Organization Concurrence:

A. Organization Official (Name and Title): Jeff Philliber, LBNL Environmental Planner
 Signature: /s/ Date: 12-16-11
 e-mail: jgphilliber@lbl.gov Phone: _____

B. Optional Concurrence (Name and Title): _____
 Signature: _____ Date: _____
 e-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Remainder to be completed by SC

VI. SC Concurrence/Recommendation/Determination:

A. SC BSO:
 Federal Project Manager (Name and Title): Donna Spencer
 Signature: /s/ Date: 12/15/11
 e-mail: donna.spencer@bso.science.doe.gov

B. SC NEPA Team Review:

Is the project/activity appropriate for a determination or a recommendation to the Head of the Field Organization by the NEPA Compliance Officer (NCO) under Subpart D of the DOE NEPA Regulations and complies with the requirements stated in 10 CFR 1021.410?

Yes No

Specific class(es) of action from Appendices A-D to Subpart D (10 CFR 1021):

B1.24 Property transfers

Transfer, lease, disposition, or acquisition of interests in personal property (including, but not limited to, equipment and materials) or real property (including, but not limited to, permanent structures and land), provided that under reasonably foreseeable uses (1) 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 and (2) the covered actions would not have the potential to cause a significant change in impacts from before the transfer, lease, disposition, or acquisition of interests.

B2.1 Workplace enhancements

Modifications within or contiguous to an existing structure, in a previously disturbed or developed area, to enhance workplace habitability (including, but not limited to, installation or

improvements to lighting, radiation shielding, or heating/ventilating/air conditioning and its instrumentation, and noise reduction).

A9 Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination

Information gathering (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, site visits, and audits), data analysis (including, but not limited to, computer modeling), document preparation (including, but not limited to, conceptual design, feasibility studies, and analytical energy supply and demand studies), and information dissemination (including, but not limited to, document publication and distribution, and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring. (See also B3.1 of appendix B to this subpart.)

Name and Title: _____ /s/
Signature: _____
e-mail: kim.abbott@bso.science.doe.gov Date: 12/15/11

C. SC ISC Counsel (if necessary):

Name and Title: _____
Signature: _____ Date: _____
e-mail: _____

D. SC ISC Field Office 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 necessary:

Print Name: Gary S. Hartman
Signature: _____ /s/ Date: 12/21/2011
SC ORO NEPA Compliance Officer