

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

A. **SSO NEPA Control #: SS-SC-12-03**

AN12038

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

The project scope includes the construction of a new computer facility (21,500 square feet) capable of providing 3 MW of data center potential. The new two-story facility will provide infrastructure for a multitude of server racks. There are three fenced service yards outside the building, one for chillers, one for new electrical substation equipment, and one for emergency generators. The ground floor will be utilized for electrical and receiving area; the second floor will have a server room, mechanical room, conference room, restroom, and storage. There will also be two large enclosures atop the roof for intake and exhaust air.

The project site (approximately 2 acres) is located east of Cooling Tower 1701 on an undisturbed grassy hillside that is surrounded by previously developed areas. The SLAC leaseholding 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 archaeological survey report. No endangered or sensitive species or resources have been identified on the project site. No critical habitats are located in or in close proximity to the project site. No bird nesting has been observed. One tree will be removed, and approved measures will be implemented, consistent with the SLAC tree and shrub protection guidelines.

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; health services or recreation activities; routine maintenance activities; storage of supplies and equipment for administrative services and routine maintenance activities; security (such as security posts); fire protection; small-scale fabrication (such as machine shop activities), assembly, and testing of non-nuclear equipment or components; and similar support purposes, but exclude facilities for nuclear weapons activities and waste storage activities, such as activities covered in B1.10, B1.29, B1.35, B2.6, B6.2, B6.4, B6.5, B6.6, and B6.10 of this appendix.

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

5/1/2012

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

5/2/2012

Date

SSO File: DOE O 451.1B