

# DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION

## Idaho National Laboratory

**SECTION A. Project Title:** Land Mobile Radio - Bi Directional Amplifier (BDA) Installation

**SECTION B. Project Description**

The INL has contracted with White Cloud Communications to provide Land Mobile Radio Services for emergency first responders under a managed service contract. The contract includes provisions for area coverage and quality of service. Testing of the installed Radio Frequency backbone system revealed that certain buildings at the INL do not have adequate coverage. The engineered solution to remedy this service deficiency is to install Bi-Directional Amplifiers (BDAs) in the deficient areas. A typical BDA installation includes an outside antenna connected by cabling to an inside repeater which amplifies the signal. The installation process is typical for electrical systems and includes equipment mounting, conduit installation, cable installation and termination, and associated testing. In some cases existing conduit can be reused and in some cases building and wall penetrations will be required to install the conduit. The outside antennas will be installed on the roofs of buildings and are approximately two feet tall. The BDA installation will be on buildings Central Facilities Area (CFA)-609, Chemical Processing Plant (CPP)-603, CPP-666, Idaho Falls (IF)-603, Materials and Fuels Complex (MFC)-752, MFC-765, MFC-774, MFC-785, MFC-776, Test Reactor Area (TRA)-670, and Waste Management Facility (WMF)-637. Installation of BDAs on additional buildings may be required if testing shows inadequate coverage.

**SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:**

**Air Emissions** - Asbestos may be contained in some of the roofs where the antennas will be placed. The project will evaluate installation locations to determine if asbestos will be disturbed. If the project must disturb asbestos, all appropriate training, controls, and notifications requirements will be followed.

**Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources** - The Cultural Resource Office was contacted for review and this proposed project is an exempted activity as found in the "INL Cultural Resource Management Plan" (Department of Energy/Idaho Operations Office [DOE/ID]-10997 rev.5) Table 2 #6. Approval was given to proceed without further review. Bird nests may be encountered on the top of buildings. Biological Resources will be contacted for applicable requirements if bird nests are discovered in the vicinity of the construction activity.

**Generating and Managing Waste** - Small amounts of non-hazardous waste such as scrap wire/cable, conduit, packaging material, empty chemical containers, etc., may be generated on the project. There is also a potential for creating some asbestos waste from roofs that are disturbed during antenna installation. Pollution prevention/waste minimization will be implemented where economically practicable to reduce the volume and/or toxicity of waste generated. All waste will be characterized, handled, and disposed at the direction of the facility Waste Generator Services (WGS) representatives.

**Releasing Contaminants** - Typical Construction chemicals such as lubricants, cleaners, paints, etc., will be used on the project. All subcontractor chemicals and associated Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS's) will be submitted for approval on a chemical inventory list prior to bringing them on site. These chemicals will be entered into the Comply Plus Chemical Management System by the appropriate Chemical Coordinator. Asbestos may be disturbed on the roofs where the antennas are to be placed. Appropriate training, controls, and notifications will be followed when disturbing asbestos.

**Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources** - All materials will be reused and/or recycled where economically practicable and as accepted by the customer. All applicable waste will be diverted from disposal in the landfill where conditions allow. New equipment will meet either the Energy Star or Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) requirements as appropriate (see <http://www.sftool.gov/GreenProcurement/ProductCategory/14>). In addition, the project will practice sustainable acquisition, as appropriate and practicable, by procuring construction materials that are energy efficient, water efficient, are bio-based in content, environmentally preferable, non-ozone depleting, have recycled content, or are non-toxic or less-toxic alternatives.

**SECTION D. Determine the Recommended Level of Environmental Review (or Documentation) and Reference(s):** Identify the applicable categorical exclusion from 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B, give the appropriate justification, and the approval date.

For Categorical Exclusions (CXs) the proposed action must not: 1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environmental, 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 or facilities; 3) 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; 4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources (see 10 CFR 1021). In addition, no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal exist which would affect the significance of the action, and the action is not "connected" nor "related" (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1) and (2), respectively) to other actions with potentially or cumulatively significant impacts.

**References:** National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Implementing Procedures, Final Rule, 10 CFR 1021 Appendix B to Subpart D, Categorical Exclusion B1.7, "Electronic equipment" effective November 14, 2011.

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CX Posting No.: DOE-ID-INL-13-005

**Justification:** Project activities in this EC are consistent with 10 CFR 1021 Appendix B to Subpart D, Categorical Exclusion B1.7.  
"Acquisition, installation, operation, modification, and removal of electricity transmission control and monitoring devices for grid demand and response, communication systems, data processing equipment, and similar electronic equipment."

Is the project funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act)     Yes     No

Approved by Jack Depperschmidt, DOE-ID NEPA Compliance Officer on: 3/21/2013