



U.S. Department of Energy
Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed Action Title: Joint BioEnergy Institute

LB-CX-13-06

Program or Field Office: Berkeley Site Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): 5885 Hollis Street, Emeryville, California, Leased by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California

Proposed Action Description:

The Department of Energy (DOE) proposes to extend the existing lease of approximately 65,000 gross square feet of research space that supports the ongoing Joint Bio Energy Institute (JBEI) research operations. The lease extension would be up to five years. JBEI is a partnership between LBNL, Sandia, and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories; UC Berkeley; UC Davis; and Stanford University. It promotes multidisciplinary research, involving genomics, various biological disciplines, engineering, and computational sciences. Its central purpose is to develop cost-effective, energy-efficient, and carbon-neutral processes to convert cellulose from plant biomass into liquid fuels. This work includes conventional wet and dry lab biological, genetic, and chemical research, as well as technology development and training programs.

Description of Affected Environment:

The 5885 Hollis Street building is a Class A science research building that was constructed in 2007. It provides state-of-the-art heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC); chilled and hot water; specialty controls and piping; and life safety and telecommunication systems highly suitable for JBEI research activities. The building includes two levels of structured parking and dedicates 90 parking spaces for JBEI users.

Purpose and Need:

DOE announced a five-year renewal of funding for JBEI and has determined that renewing the lease at 5885 Hollis Street is the most efficient mechanism for providing critically-needed space for the program through 2018.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B1.24 - Property transfers

B3.6 - Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects

For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Subpart D of 10 CFR Part 1021.

Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410(b): (See full text in regulation)

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

To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, 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 facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) 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.

There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

I concur that the above description accurately describes the proposed action

LBNL Environmental Planner: Jeff Philliber /s/ Date Determined: 4-19-13

I concur that the above description accurately describes the proposed action.

BSO Project Manager: Rick Chapman /s/ Date Determined: 4/19/13

The above description accurately describes the proposed action, which reflects the requirements of the CX cited above. Therefore, I recommend that the proposed action be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

BSO NEPA Program Manager: Kim Abbott /s/ Date Determined: 4/19/13

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

NEPA Compliance Officer: /s/ Date Determined: 4/22/2013