

**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 Name: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Title of Proposed Project/Research: Install and Operate Building 74 Trailers at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), Berkeley, California.

Total DOE Funding/Total Project Funding: Approximately \$1.035 Million

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

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

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposes to purchase, install, and operate three new office trailers in the existing paved parking area immediately south of Building 74 at LBNL. The purpose of this proposed action is to provide temporary office space for LBNL staff that are being decompressed from work locations on the LBNL main site.

Approximately 18 staff would be relocated from Building 90 to occupy the trailers. These staff would be relocated to alleviate crowded conditions; however this would not create empty work stations that could induce growth in the Lab's population. It is anticipated that the construction of the General Purpose Lab (currently underway) and/or the acquisition and construction of a proposed Second Campus site would allow the trailer occupants to be housed in permanent structures. At that point, perhaps three-to-five years in the future, the trailers would either be reused elsewhere on the LBNL site for temporary or "surge" space or they would be recycled or disposed off site.

The buildings would be used only for light office work in support of LBNL's Earth Sciences Division. No hazardous materials or chemicals would be used or stored in the trailers.

Three 14-foot-wide by 60-foot-long trailers would be purchased and installed (two would be joined end-to-end to form a single structure) for a total of approximately 2,520 square feet of floor area. The project would feature 18 enclosed offices, interior walkways, an exterior Americans with Disabilities (ADA) ramp, and a small exterior deck. Utilities would include a 150 KVA transformer, electrical subpanels, telecommunications, and fire alarm.

Project installation and construction would take place over a two-to-three month period, expected to be between May and July 2012. No more than five-to-ten workers would be on site at any one time, and approximately twelve truck trips (including the hauling of the trailers) would be required. Ground disturbance would occur only on currently paved areas; no trees or undeveloped land would be affected by construction or laydown activities.

Yes No

B. Would the project proceed without Federal funding?

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

II. Description of Affected Environment:

The project site is currently completely developed (paved). The Building 74 parking lot site is zoned for "Research and Academic" uses in the Laboratory's 2006 Long Range Development Plan. Approximately 14-to-18 parking spaces would be removed by the project. Additional Lab staff parking is available in the immediate vicinity as well as the surrounding area. Surrounding uses include Buildings 74 and 84 to the north; Calvin Road and Building 83 to the west; oak woodland, Centennial Drive, and the UC Botanical Garden to the south; and grassland and steeply sloping coastal scrub areas to the east.

III. Preliminary Questions:

A. Is the DOE-funded work entirely a "paper study"? Yes No

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

B. Would the work to be performed include work that would take place outside an existing building?

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? Lead based paint and asbestos would be encountered during demolition. Grade beam construction would be shallow so as not to encounter groundwater. There is no known or expected subsurface contamination at the project site. Nevertheless, all foundation work would be overseen by LBNL's EH&S personnel. | <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?

- | | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | Threatened/Endangered Species and/or Critical Habitats
Habitat for the federally "threatened" Alameda whipsnake is nearby to the project site, but the project and its related activities would stay within the | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|----|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

- confines of already developed areas that have been screened by expert biologists for potential whipsnake presence (and found to be of negligible risk to having whipsnake present). Nevertheless, the proposed action would follow all LBNL Standard Project Features for avoidance of accidental takings of Alameda whipsnake, even though not a requirement.
- | | | | |
|-----|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2. | Other Protected Species (e.g., Burros, Migratory Birds)
None are known to inhabit the site. Nevertheless, nearby oak trees --which would not be directly affected by project activities but could be subject to temporary construction noise -- would be examined for potentially nesting birds or brooding bats if work were to commence during the breeding season for protected species. | <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 and essentially no operational air emissions. Any construction impacts would be sufficiently mitigated by adherence to Bay Area Air Quality Management District construction practices. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. | Class I Air Quality Control Region | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. | Special Sources of Groundwater (e.g. Sole Source Aquifer) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. | Navigable Air Space | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. | Coastal Zones | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. | Areas with Special National Designation (e.g. National Forests, Parks, Trails) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. | Floodplains and Wetlands | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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"/> |
| 18. | Noise (in excess of regulations) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 19. | Asbestos Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 20. | PCBs | <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
Construction and grading activities would result in standard construction-related emissions of criteria pollutants (Particulate matter associated with any asphalt penetration or disturbance, oxides of Nitrogen and reactive organic gasses associated with equipment engines; and diesel exhaust [toxic air contaminant] associated with equipment engines). By following BAAQMD best management practices, these levels are expected to be less than significant. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 25. | Liquid Effluents: Quantity and characteristics of effluent would not noticeably change as a result of this action. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" 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
- 29. Radioactive Mixed Waste
- 30. Radioactive Waste
- 31. Radiation Exposure
- 32. Surface Water Protection
- 33. Pollution Prevention Act
- 34. Ozone Depleting Substances
- 35. Off-Road Vehicles
- 36. Biosafety Level 3-4 Laboratory

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

- | | | Yes | No |
|-----|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 37. | Potential Violation of Environment, Safety, or Health Regulations/Permits Siting/Construction/Major Modification of Waste Recovery, or Waste Treatment, Storage, or Disposal Facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 38. | Disturbance of Pre-existing Contamination. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 39. | New or Modified Federal/State Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 40. | Public Controversy | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 41. | Environmental Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 42. | Action/Involvement of Another Federal Agency (e.g. license, funding, approval) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 43. | Action of a State Agency in a State with NEPA-type law: A California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review would be conducted. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 44. | Public Utilities/Services | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 45. | Depletion of a Non-Renewable Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 46. | Extraordinary Circumstances | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 47. | Connected Actions | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 48. | Exclusively Bench-top Research | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

V. Financial Assistance Award Organization Concurrence:

A. Organization Official (Name and Title): Jeff Philliber, LBNL Environmental Planner

Signature: _____
Date: 1-31-12
e-mail: JGPhilliber@lbl.gov

B. Optional Concurrence (Name and Title): _____

Signature: _____
Date: _____
e-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Remainder to be completed by SC

VI. SC Concurrence/Recommendation/Determination:

A. Berkeley Site Office Project and Facilities Division:

Name and Title: Rick Chapman, General Engineer
Signature: _____
Date: 1/31/12
e-mail: Rick.chapman@bso.science.doe.gov

B. SC NEPA Team Review:

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.

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

B1.15 Siting, construction, or modification and operation of support buildings (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated and modular buildings) within or contiguous to an already developed area.

Name and Title: Kim Abbott, NEPA Program Manager

Signature: _____

/s/

Date: 1/31/12

e-mail: kim.abbott@bso.science.doe.gov

C. SC ISC Counsel (if necessary):

Name and Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

e-mail: _____

D. SC ISC Field Office NEPA Compliance Officer:

Based on my review of 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 action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review..

Comments/Limitations if necessary:

Print Name

James L. Elmore

Signature:

/s/

Date:

2/16/2012

ORO NEPA Compliance Officer

Figure 1 Building 74 Trailers Location and Configuration

