



# National Nuclear Security Administration Categorical Exclusion Determination Form



NEPA ID#: APM 15-014

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Proposed Action Title: HEDLP Financial Assistance Projects

Program or Field Office: APM

Grant No.: DE-NA0002970

Location(s) (City/County/State): Harvard College, Princeton University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of California, Los Angeles

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Proposed Action Description:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) proposes to provide financial assistance to several universities and institutions for the HEDLP Program. The financial assistance would be given to the institution for travel, fringe and indirects, supplies and materials, equipment, user fees, publication costs, tuition, stipends and salaries to support staff, undergraduate, graduate, postdoctoral students, research professors, their principle investigator(s) and other universities' support (collaborators). Research would be conducted in the areas of From Z to Planets Phase II; Fundamental Issues in the Interaction of Intense Lasers with Plasma; Studying Hydrodynamics, Kinetic/Multi-Ion Effects, and Charged-Particle Stopping in HED Plasmas and ICF Implosions at Omega, Omega EP & at the NIF; and Development of a Broadband (40-80 KV), Directional X-ray Source Platform for Radiography of HEDP Targets.

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Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

- B3.6 Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects
  - A1 Routine DOE business actions
  - A9 Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination
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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 1021.

**Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410(b): (Sec 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 of the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Institutes of Health.

**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.

Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession 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(es) of action and that other-regulatory requirements set forth above are met. Therefore, the application of a categorical exclusion is appropriate.