

# DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION

## Idaho National Laboratory

### SECTION A. Project Title: USG #119 Wireless Test Bed Testing

### SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

The INL Wireless Test Bed (WTB) has been requested by Battelle (herein referred to as Customer) to provide test support at the INL Test Range to include spectrum coordination, field testing locations, technical support, and overall program management throughout the period of performance of the test event. The primary objective is to perform new equipment and antenna characterization testing in a spectrally controlled environment to evaluate and identify key performance indicators and system attributes.

Battelle has chosen the commercial vendor Abside Networks as their primary vendor for the field testing at INL based on their unique cellular equipment. Abside Networks was one of the equipment vendors for previous wireless test events at the INL desert range.

Part of this customer is a vendor who tested here at INL previously. They would like to test an antenna with the wireless Test Bed support and equipment. Due to the spectrum required, this will force the testing off the INL Range to prevent interference with the INL LMR radio system. There is a location in the Little Lost River Valley on Bureau of Land Management ground that can support the test.

Receive Location:

44°11'16.00"N

113°25'24.00"W

Transmit Location:

44° 08'09.00"N

113°14'07.00"W

INL will support a tower trailer, generator and cargo trailer as well as portable restrooms to facilitate the testing. The customer provided equipment will be returned to the customer upon conclusion of the test.

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

#### Air Emissions

Air emissions from portable electrical generators, in place less than one year, are not regulated.

#### Discharging to Surface-, Storm-, or Ground Water

N/A

#### Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources

N/A

#### Generating and Managing Waste

Activities will generate industrial waste (e.g., common office trash). All Solid Waste will be managed by WGS.

#### Releasing Contaminants

When chemicals are used during the project there is the potential for spills that could impact the environment (air, water, soil). Although not anticipated, there is a potential for spills when using chemicals or fueling equipment. In the event of a spill, notify facility Environmental Staff. If the facility Environmental Staff cannot be contacted, report the release to the Spill Notification Team (208-241-6400). Clean up the spill and turn over spill cleanup materials to WGS.

#### Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

Project description indicates materials will need to be purchased or used that require sourcing materials from the environment. Being conscientious about the types of materials used could reduce the impact to our natural resources. Project activities will release known greenhouse gases (GHGs) to the atmosphere. Recyclable materials such as paper, plastic, and metal will be recycled to the extent practicable.

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**SECTION D. Determine Recommended Level of Environmental Review, Identify Reference(s), and State Justification:** Identify the applicable categorical exclusion from 10 Code of Federal Regulation (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 Department of Energy (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 Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (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 that would affect the significance of the action. In addition, the action is not "connected" to other action actions (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)) and is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1608.27(b)(7)).

**References:**

10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D, item B3.11 "Outdoor tests and experiments on materials and equipment components"

**Justification:**

The proposed action is consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D categorical exclusion B3.11, "Outdoor tests and experiments for the development, quality assurance, or reliability of materials and equipment (including, but not limited to, weapon system components) under controlled conditions. Covered actions include, but are not limited to, burn tests (such as tests of electric cable fire resistance or the combustion characteristics of fuels), impact tests (such as pneumatic ejector tests using earthen embankments or concrete slabs designated and routinely used for that purpose), or drop, puncture, water-immersion, or thermal tests. Covered actions would not involve source, special nuclear, or byproduct materials, except encapsulated sources manufactured to applicable standards that contain source, special nuclear, or byproduct materials may be used for nondestructive actions such as detector/ sensor development and testing and first responder field training."

Is the project funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act)

Yes  No

Approved by Jason Anderson, DOE-ID NEPA Compliance Officer on: 05/20/2021