

# DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION Idaho National Laboratory

**SECTION A. Project Title:** Taylor Creek Road Turn Widening

**SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:**

The southwest corner of Taylor Creek road outside of the Specific Manufacturing Capability Facility (SMC) perimeter fence is too narrow for trucks to safely deliver to the bulk tanks on the west side of the facility, and the corner needs to be widened (Figures 1 and 2). The proposed road widening and reconfiguration would disturb an area less than 50 ft x 50 ft and would consist of dump and fill activities. The total amount of area to be disturbed would be less than an acre, so a Notice of Intent and a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan is not required. The T-28 North Gravel Pit will be used (within the established boundary) and authorized per "INEEL Gravel/Borrow Source Request Form" (Form 450.AP01).

The proposed expansion area is not located within the Sage Grouse Conservation Area (SGCA) and is excluded from the SGCA requirements identified in the "Candidate Conservation Agreement for Greater Sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) on the Idaho National Laboratory Site" (U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office [DOE/ID] and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. DOE/ID-11514. September 2014). However, to maintain DOE's goal in the Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA) to achieve no net loss of sagebrush on the INL Site, the project must compensate for any lost sagebrush. The project must re-establish sagebrush in acreages equal to or greater than acreages lost by project activities. Re-establishment must occur within the restoration priority areas identified in the CCA. Restoration activities may be coordinated with other sagebrush restoration activities currently being conducted on the INL Site.

Figure 1. Location of proposed turn-widening



Figure 2. Close-up of proposed road widening



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

**Air Emissions**

Fugitive dust may be generated during excavation activities.

**Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources**

Project activities have the potential to disturb biological and cultural resources.

**Generating and Managing Waste**

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulated waste, e.g., empty paint cans, excess gravel or soil, has the potential to be generated during project activities.

**Releasing Contaminants**

Though not anticipated, there is a potential for spills during completion of project activities.

**Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources**

Fuel would be used during project activities.

Excess gravel and soil would be treated to avoid establishment of invasive species, and diverted to other projects if possible. Materials suitable for recycle would be diverted from landfill disposal when practicable.

**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)).

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**References:** 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B1.32 "Traffic flow adjustments"

**Justification:** Project activities are consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B, B1.32 "Traffic flow adjustments to existing roads (including, but not limited to, stop sign or traffic light installation, adjusting direction of traffic flow, and adding turning lanes), and road adjustments (including, but not limited to, widening and realignment) that are within an existing right-of-way and consistent with approved land use or transportation improvement plans."

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: 12/15/2016