

**U. S. Department of Energy  
Naval Reactors Laboratory Field Office**

**Bettis Atomic Power Laboratory**

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exclusion (CX)  
Determination Summary Form

**Fundamental Shock & Vibration Test Laboratory (FSVTL) and Shock and Vibration Test Facility (SVTF) Support Facility Project**

**REFERENCE**

10 CFR Part 1021, Department of Energy National Environmental Policy Act Implementation Procedures, Subpart D. Typical Classes of Actions.

**PROJECT SCOPE DISCUSSION**

The scope of the FSVTL and SVTF support facility project includes the construction of a multistory building extension to the north and/or west of the existing SVTF. The extension will house the FSVTL and include a separate SVTF hydraulic power supply and control rooms, strain gage laboratory, office area, locker and restrooms, storage area, and lunchroom space. Utilities will be provided to serve the existing SVTF high bay, new SVTF support facilities and FSVTL independently from the CX-Building utilities. The existing FSVTL is currently located in the CX-Building in an area with insufficient circulation space around existing equipment, limited floor space for needed additional testing equipment, and inadequate overhead space for handling test pieces. The proposed expansion would entail relocating facilities currently residing within the CX-Building to a new facility on the west and/or north of the existing high bay. The project anticipates ongoing operations in the SVTF and FSVTL and the future demolition of the CX-Building. Therefore, all utilities must be maintained to the existing facilities throughout the construction process, requiring temporary and permanent rerouting of utilities as part of the project.

Currently electricity, steam, and compressed air are provided to the SVTF and FSVTL from a mechanical room in the CX-Building. Sewage and compressed air have been replaced under separate projects. A new electrical substation is being installed just south of the SVTF. Steam boilers will be installed in the proposed extension mechanical room which would feed the SVTF, FSVTL, and relocated SVTF and FSVTL infrastructure.

Additionally, known asbestos, lead and PCB containing materials in the existing building will be removed during demolition and properly disposed of.

The project does not violate applicable regulatory requirements, require construction or major expansion of waste handling facilities, result in unpermitted releases of hazardous substances, or adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources, including wetlands. The project does not involve genetically engineered organisms or species. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action. The project has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion and is not connected to other actions with potentially significant and/or cumulative impacts.

**CONCLUSION**

The Bettis Laboratory Fundamental Shock & Vibration Test Laboratory (FSVTL) and Shock and Vibration Test Facility (SVTF) Support Facility Project is categorically excluded from additional NEPA documentation under 10 CFR 1021 Subpart D, Appendix B, B1.15, B1.16, B1.17, B1.23, B1.27, B1.31, B1.33, and B1.34. The categorical exclusions that apply are the following:

#### B1.15 Support buildings

Siting, construction or modification, and operation of support buildings and support structures (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated and modular buildings) within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Covered support buildings and structures include, but not limited to, those for office purposes; parking, cafeteria services; education and training; visitor reception; computer and data processing services; health services or recreational activities; routine maintenance activities; storage of supplies and equipment for administrative services and routine maintenance activities; security (such as security posts); fire protection; small-scale fabrication (such as machine shop activities), assembly, and testing of non-nuclear equipment or components; and similar support purposes, but exclude facilities for nuclear weapons activities and waste storage activities, such as activities covered in B1.10, B1.29, B1.35, B2.6, B6.2, B6.4, B6.5, B6.6, and B6.10 of this appendix.

#### B1.16 Asbestos removal

Removal of asbestos-containing materials from buildings in accordance with applicable requirements (such as 40 CFR part 61, "National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants"; 40 CFR part 763, "Asbestos"; 29 CFR part 1910, subpart I, "Personal Protective Equipment", and 29 CFR part 1926, "Safety and Health Regulations for Construction"; and appropriate state and local requirements, including certificate of removal contractors and technicians.

#### B1.17 Polychlorinated biphenyl removal

Removal of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)-containing items (including, but not limited to, transformers and capacitors), PCB-containing oils flushed from transformers, PCB-flushing solutions, and PCB-containing spill materials from buildings or other aboveground locations in accordance with applicable requirements (such as 40 CFR part 761).

#### B1.23 Demolition and disposal of buildings

Demolition and subsequent disposal of buildings, equipment, and support structures (including, but not limited to, smoke stacks and parking lot surfaces), provided that there would be no potential for release of substances at a level, or in a form, that could pose a threat to public health or the environment.

#### B1.27 Disconnection of utilities

Activities that are required for the disconnection of utility services (including, but not limited to, water, steam, telecommunications, and electrical power) after it has been determined that the continued operation of these systems is not needed for safety.

#### B1.31 Installation or relocation of machinery and equipment

Installation or relocation and operation of machinery and equipment (including, but not limited to, laboratory equipment, electronic hardware, manufacturing machinery, maintenance equipment, and health and safety equipment), provided that the uses of the installed or relocated items are consistent with the general missions of the receiving structure. Covered actions include modifications to an existing building, within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area, that are necessary for equipment installation and relocation. Such modifications would not appreciably increase the footprint or height of the existing building or have the potential to cause significant changes to the type and magnitude of the environmental impacts.

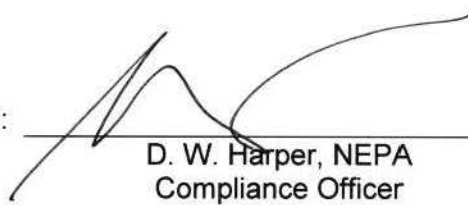
B1.33 Stormwater runoff control

Design, construction, and operation of control practices to reduce stormwater runoff and maintain natural hydrology. Activities include, but are not limited to, those that reduce impervious surfaces (such as vegetative practices and use of porous pavements), best management practices (such as silt fences, straw wattles, and fiber rolls), and use of green infrastructure or other low impact development practices (such as cisterns and green roofs).

B1.34 Lead-based paint containment, removal, and disposal

Containment, removal, and disposal of lead-based paint in accordance with applicable requirements (such as provisions relating to the certificate of removal contractors and technicians at 40 CFR part 745, "Lead-Based Paint Poisoning prevention In Certain Residential Structures").

NRLFO Approval:



D. W. Harper, NEPA  
Compliance Officer

Date:

3/17/2022  
CX Determination Date