

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

Knolls Laboratory

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

GE PROPERTY ACQUISITION

REFERENCE

10 CFR Part 1021, Department of Energy National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures, Subpart D, Typical Classes of Actions, Appendix B

PROJECT SCOPE DISCUSSION

The Department of Energy (DOE), Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory (KAPL) proposes to acquire approximately 50 acres of vacant land containing no active developments, buildings, or structures located along the western boundary of the KAPL facility (herein "Property"). The Property is proposed to remain vacant unoccupied land and be utilized as a buffer area between KAPL, the General Electric (GE) Global Research and Development Center, and the public. No development, construction, or operations other than general property maintenance is proposed as part of the acquisition.

The Property has a zoning designation of industrial and is predominately bound to the Mohawk River (north); GE Global Research and Development Center and remaining portions of the approximate 500-acre parcel (west-northwest); River Road followed by recreational (baseball fields), residential, and vacant properties (south-southwest); and KAPL facility (east-southeast). Site features consist of partially forested land with a steep topographic gradient containing a tributary running through most of the approximate center portion of the Property, from south-to-north originating to the south of River Road and extending north to the Mohawk River.

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 acquisition of the GE property is categorically excluded from additional NEPA documentation under 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, B1.3 and B1.24. Specifically, the categorical exclusions that apply are the following:

B1.3 Routine maintenance

Routine maintenance activities and custodial services for buildings, structures, rights-of-way, infrastructures (including, but not limited to, pathways, roads, and railroads), vehicles and equipment, and localized vegetation and pest control, during which operations may be suspended and resumed, provided that the activities would be conducted in a manner in accordance with applicable requirements. Custodial services are activities to preserve facility appearance, working conditions, and sanitation (such as cleaning, window washing, lawn mowing, trash collection, painting, and snow removal). Routine maintenance activities, corrective (that is, repair), preventive, and predictive, are required to maintain and preserve buildings, structures, infrastructures, and equipment in a condition suitable for a facility to be used for its designated purpose. Such maintenance may occur as a result of severe weather (such as hurricanes, floods, and tornados), wildfires, and other such events. Routine maintenance may result in replacement to the extent that replacement is in-kind and is not a substantial upgrade or improvement. In-kind replacement includes installation of new components to replace outmoded components, provided that the replacement does not result in a significant change in the expected useful life, design capacity, or function of the facility. Routine maintenance does not include replacement of a major component that significantly extends the originally intended useful life of a facility (for example, it does not include the replacement of a reactor vessel near the end of its useful life). Routine maintenance activities include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Repair or replacement of facility equipment, such as lathes, mills, pumps, and presses;
- (b) Door and window repair or replacement;
- (c) Wall, ceiling, or floor repair or replacement;
- (d) Reroofing;
- (e) Plumbing, electrical utility, lighting, and telephone service repair or replacement;
- (f) Routine replacement of high-efficiency particulate air filters;
- (g) Inspection and/or treatment of currently installed utility poles;
- (h) Repair of road embankments;
- (i) Repair or replacement of fire protection sprinkler systems;
- (j) Road and parking area resurfacing, including construction of temporary access to facilitate resurfacing, and scraping and grading of unpaved surfaces;
- (k) Erosion control and soil stabilization measures (such as reseeding, gabions, grading, and revegetation);
- (l) Surveillance and maintenance of surplus facilities in accordance with DOE Order 435.1, "Radioactive Waste Management", or its successor;

- (m) Repair and maintenance of transmission facilities, such as replacement of conductors of the same nominal voltage, poles, circuit breakers, transformers, capacitors, crossarms, insulators, and downed powerlines, in accordance, where appropriate, with 40 CFR part 761 (Polychlorinated Biphenyls Manufacturing, Processing, Distribution in Commerce, and Use Prohibitions) or its successor;
- (n) Routine testing and calibration of facility components, subsystems, or portable equipment (such as control valves, in-core monitoring devices, transformers, capacitors, monitoring wells, lysimeters, weather stations, and flumes);
- (o) Routine decontamination of the surfaces of equipment, rooms, hot cells, or other interior surfaces of buildings (by such activities as wiping with rags, using strippable latex, and minor vacuuming), and removal of contaminated intact equipment and other material (not including spent nuclear fuel or special nuclear material in nuclear reactors); and
- (p) Removal of debris.

B1.24 Property transfers

Transfer, lease, disposition, or acquisition of interests in personal property (including, but not limited to, equipment and materials) or real property (including, but not limited to, permanent structures and land), provided that under reasonably foreseeable uses (1) 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 and (2) the covered actions would not have the potential to cause a significant change in impacts from before the transfer, lease, disposition, or acquisition of interests.

NRLFO
Approval:



D. A. Delwiche

Date: May 12, 2022

CX Determination Date