

July 30, 2023

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment for the Cirba Solutions - Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling to Produce Battery-Grade Raw Materials Project (DOE/EA-2213D)

Dear Reader,

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) - National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) invites comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) for the Cirba Solutions - Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling to Produce Battery-Grade Raw Materials Project. The Draft EA can be found on DOE's NETL website at <https://netl.doe.gov/node/6939>.

The Draft EA has been prepared in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) and DOE's NEPA implementing procedures (10 CFR Part 1021). DOE prepared the Draft EA to analyze the potential environmental, cultural, and social impacts of partially funding the expansion of Cirba Solutions' existing lithium-ion battery (LiB) recycling facility at 265/295 Quarry Road Southeast in Lancaster, Ohio and evaluated resource areas commonly addressed in EAs. The proposed project consists of retrofitting an existing building (Building 295) at the current Cirba Solutions facility to increase basic LiB processing capacity, as well as developing various new buildings (including Building 395 and Building Complex 495) to house advanced hydrometallurgical processing lines, which will allow for more refined processing of spent LiBs and thus increase domestic recycling capacity for LiB used in advanced electric vehicles. The facility would be expanded from 10.9 acres (476,546 square feet [ft²]) to 31.7 acres (1,381,546 ft²) and include new enclosed industrial buildings, parking areas and other paved surfaces, a rail spur, and stormwater management infrastructure. The proposed project would create approximately 100 construction jobs and up to 100 new full-time jobs with benefits, increasing the full-time workforce at the facility to 150 employees during operations.

A notice of availability will be published in the Lancaster Eagle-Gazette newspaper for three days starting on July 30, 2023, to announce the beginning of the 30-day public review and comment period. A hard copy of the Draft EA will be available for review at the Fairfield County District Library, Main Branch at 219 North Broad Street, Lancaster, OH 43130.

Comments will be accepted on the Draft EA through close of business on August 28, 2023. All comments received during the public comment period will be addressed. Comments received after the end of the comment period will be addressed to the extent practicable. Comments should be marked "Cirba Solutions Draft EA Comments" and should include your name, address, and organization (if applicable). Individual names and addresses, including email addresses, received as part of the public comment period normally are considered part of the public record. Persons wishing to withhold names, addresses, or

other identifying information from the public record must state this request prominently at the beginning of their comments. DOE will honor this request to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations, businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be included in the public record and open to public inspection in their entirety.

Comments should be sent to Stephen Witmer via email (stephen.witmer@netl.doe.gov) or letter addressed to:

Stephen Witmer
U.S. Department of Energy
National Energy Technology Laboratory
626 Cochran Mill Road
M/S 921-227
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

To request a hard copy of the Draft EA, please submit your request (including the physical address where it should be sent) using the contact information above. For additional information, please contact Stephen Witmer using the contact information above, or at 412-386-7589.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen Witmer", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephen Witmer
NEPA Compliance Officer