### **U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, OFFICE OF SCIENCE**

#### NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION NOTIFICATION

# To be completed by "Applicant," i.e., organization with responsibilities for a "Federal action" involving application to DOE for a permit, license, exemption or allocation, or other similar actions. For assistance, refer to "Instructions for Preparing Environmental Evaluation Notification."

Solicitation/Award No. (if applicable): DE-SC-0021424

Organization Name: University of Kentucky Research Foundation (Lexington, Kentucky)

Proposed Action Title: Neutron Scattering Cross Sections: (n,n'), (n,n'gamma) and (n,gamma) Measurements

Total DOE Funding/Total Funding: \$197,605 (year 1), \$175,000 (year 2), \$149,862 (year 3)

#### I. <u>Project Description</u>: (Use explanation pages if additional space is required)

#### A. <u>Proposed Project/Action (if applicable, delineate Federally funded/Non-Federally funded portions)</u>

Nuclear data, i.e., neutron scattering and attenuation cross sections, along with gamma-ray production rates, are required in many technical fields such as basic nuclear science, experimental design and analysis, medical treatment and dosimetry, the fission and power industries, homeland security, non-proliferation, safeguards, and the interrogation communities. Members of this collaboration have surveyed needs and documents and participated in numerous workshops to identify measurements for which the University of Kentucky Accelerator Laboratory (UKAL) can make significant contributions.

#### B. Would the project proceed without Federal funding?

#### If "yes," use explanation page.

#### II. Description of Affected Environment: (Use explanation pages if additional space is required)

The measurements will be performed indoors in the University of Kentucky Accelerator Laboratory, a facility that has existed for approximately 60 years. The facility was specifically constructed to accommodate measurements of the proposed type. http://www.pa.uky.edu/accelerator

Yes

No

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III.	Pre	liminary	Questions:				
	A.	Is the	DOE-funded work routinely administrative or entirely advisory or a "paper study?"	Yes	No I		
		If "Yes", ensure that the description in Section I reflects this and go directly to Section V.					
	В.	Is there any potential whatsoever for: (Provide an explanation for each "Yes" response)					
		1. 2. 3.	Work to be performed outdoors? Major modification of a building facade or interior? Threat of violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for		<b>२</b> २		
		4.	environment, safety, and health? Siting, construction or major expansion of waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities?		<b>~</b>		
		5.	Disturbance to hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants preexisting in the environment?		~		
		6. 7.	The presence of any environmentally-sensitive resources? Any potential whatsoever for high consequence impacts to human health or the environment?		<b>Y</b>		
		8.	The work being connected to another existing/proposed activity that could potentially create a significant impact?		~		
		9.	Nearby past, present, and/or reasonably foreseeable future actions such that collectively significant impacts could result?		~		
		10.	Scientific or public controversy, uncertainty over potential impacts, or conflicts regarding resource usage?		~		

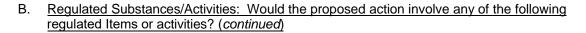
# If "No" to ALL Section III.B. questions, go directly to Section V.

## IV. Potential Environmental Effects: (Provide an explanation for each "Yes" response)

- A. <u>Environmentally Sensitive Resources: Could the proposed action potentially result in changes</u> and/or disturbances to any of the following resources?
  - 1. Threatened/Endangered Species and/or Critical Habitats
  - 2. Other Protected Species (e.g., Burros, Migratory Birds, Pollinators)
  - 3. Tundra, Coral Reefs, or Rain Forests
  - 4. Cultural or Historic Resources
  - 5. Important Farmland
  - 6. Non-Attainment Areas for Ambient Air Quality Standards
  - 7. Class I Air Quality Control Region
  - 8. Special Sources of Groundwater (e.g. Sole Source Aquifer)
  - 9. Navigable Air Space
  - 10. Coastal Zones
  - 11. Areas with Special National Designation (e.g. National Forests, Parks, Trails)
  - 12. Floodplains and/or Wetlands
- B. <u>Regulated Substances/Activities:</u> Would the proposed action involve any of the following regulated Items or activities?
  - 13. Natural Resource Damage Assessments
  - 14. Invasive Species or Exotic Organisms
  - 15. Noxious Weeds
  - 16. Clearing or Excavation greater than one acre or Removal of Trees Governed by Local Requirement
  - 17. Dredge or Fill (under Clean Water Act, Section 404, greater than one acre)



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- 18. Noise (in excess of regulations)
- 19. Asbestos Removal
- 20. Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)
- 21. Import, Manufacture, or Processing of Toxic Substances
- 22. Chemical Storage/Use
- 23. Pesticide Use
- 24. Hazardous, Toxic, or Criteria Pollutant Air Emissions
- 25. Liquid Effluents
- 26. Spill Prevention/Surface Water Protection
- 27. Underground Injection
- 28. Hazardous Waste
- 29. Underground Storage Tanks
- 30. Radioactive or Radioactive Mixed Waste
- 31. Radiation Exposure
- 32. Nanoscale Materials
- 33. Genetically Engineered Microorganisms/Plants or Synthetic Biology
- 34. Ozone Depleting Substances
- 35. Greenhouse Gas Generation/Sustainability
- 36. Off-Road Vehicles

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- 37. Biosafety Level 3-4 Laboratory
- 38. Research on Human Subjects or other Vertebrate Animals
- 39. Facility footprint exceeds 5,000 Square Feet
- C. Other Relevant Information: Would the proposed action involve the following?
  - 40. Disproportionate Nearby Presence of Minority and/or Low Income Populations
  - 41. Existing, Modified, or New Federal/State Permits
  - 42. Involvement of Another Federal Agency (e.g. license/permit, funding, approval)
  - 43. Action in a State with NEPA-type law
  - 44. Expansion of Public Utilities/Services
  - 45. Depletion of a Non-Renewable Resources
  - 46. Subject to an Existing Institutional Work Planning and Control Process
  - 47. Other Pertinent Information Which Could Impact Human Health or the Environment

#### V. Applicant certification that to the best of their knowledge all information provided on this form is accurate:

Does this disclosure contain: classified, sensitive business, or other exempt information that DOE would not be obligated to disclose pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act.

# Organization Official (Name and Title): Kim C. Carter, Associate Director

	Signature:	Date: 3/31/2023
	<sub>e-mail:</sub> ospa@uky.edu	Phone: 859-257-9420
B.	Optional Secondary Approval (Name and Title):	
	Signature:	Date:
	e-mail:	_ Phone:

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Yes

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No

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No

DOE NEPA Tracking Number

# Remainder to be completed by DOE

VI.	DO	DOE Concurrence/Recommendation/Determination:							
	Α.	DOE Project Director/Program Manager or Contract/Grant Manage	ment Specialist:	Yes	No				
		Has the Applicant completed this Form correctly? Does an existing generic categorical exclusion apply? If yes, indicate:							
		Name and Title. Brad Switzer, Contract Specialist							
		Signature: Bradley Switzer Digitally signed by Bradley Switzer Date: 2023.03.31 14:14:41 -05'00'	Date:		3/31/2023				
	В.	DOE NEPA Team Review (if requested):		Maa	Nie				
		Is the class of action identified in the DOE NEPA Regulations (App Subpart D (10 CFR § 1021))? If yes, specify the class(es) of action: B3.6, B3.10	pendices A-D to	Yes I	No				
		Name and Title:							
		Signature:	Date:						
	C.	DOE Counsel (if requested):							
		Name and Title:							
		Signature:	Date:						
	D.	DOE NEPA Compliance Officer:							
		e preceding pages are a record of documentation required under DOE Final NEPA Regulation, 10 CFR $\underline{\S}$ 21.410.							
	~	Action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review. I have determined that the proposed action meets the requirements for Categorical Exclusion referenced above.							
		Action requires approval by Head of the Field Organization. Recommend preparation of an Environmental Assessment.							
		Action requires approval by Head of the Field Organization or a Secretarial Officer. Recommend preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.							
		Comments/limitations if any:							
		NEPA Compliance Officer:							
		Name:							
		Signature: PETER SIEBACH Digitally signed by PETER SIE Date: 2023.03.31 15:26:40 -05	EBACH 5'00' Date:						

Optional Additional Narrative: (add additional detail to description to Sections I and II or explanations to responses in Sections 3 and 4.

IV.B.30 The laboratory utilizes tritium for neutron production as authorized by the University's Radiation Safety Committee, which operates under a Brod Scope license. Procedures reduce and contain contamination. Swipe tests are performed, and waste is disposed of by the Radiological Safety Program.

IV.B.31 The project uses a positive-ion accelerator to generate neutrons and gamma rays. There are no hazards from the particle beam itself. The facility was constructed with thick, high-density concrete walls and lockable spaces to adhere to ALARA principles and minimize exposure to the users. Users receive radiation safety training prior to working in the facility. All personnel are issued appropriate dosimetry by the Radiation Safety Office. Personnel do not normally receive measurable doses.

DOE NEPA Tracking Number