

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-SC0024883

Organization Name: Focused Energy, Inc.

Proposed Action Title: Inertial Fusion Energy with High-Gain Proton Fast Ignition

Total DOE Funding/Total Funding: \$3M

I. Project Description: (Use explanation pages if additional space is required)

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

Through this DOE Milestone-Based Fusion Development Program Focused Energy will lead a national consortium of private industry, DOE national laboratories, and academic institutions, in a public-private partnership to design and build an IFE-based fusion pilot plant (FPP). To access the high gains required for IFE, the Focused Energy program focuses on a variation of the approach employed on the NIF: fast ignition using short-pulse laser-driven proton beams. This approach, known as proton fast ignition (PFI), separates the two stages of fuel compression and heating and thereby holds the promise of scaling to fusion gains above 100, and doing so with robust igniting targets that are less sensitive to laser and target imperfections, and hence more suitable for commercial fusion.

This first phase of the project (budget phase 1 for 18 months) will include the target design, design of a sub-scale implosion test facility, and a pre-conceptual design of the FPP.

B. Would the project proceed without Federal funding? Yes No

If "yes," use explanation page.

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

None

III. Preliminary Questions:

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| A. <u>Is the DOE-funded work routinely administrative or <i>entirely</i> advisory or a "paper study?"</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If "Yes", ensure that the description in Section I reflects this and go directly to Section V.

- B. Is there any potential whatsoever for: (Provide an explanation for each "Yes" response)

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Work to be performed outdoors? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Major modification of a building facade or interior? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Threat of violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Siting, construction or major expansion of waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Disturbance to hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants preexisting in the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. The presence of any environmentally-sensitive resources? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Any potential whatsoever for high consequence impacts to human health or the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. The work being connected to another existing/proposed activity that could potentially create a significant impact? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Nearby past, present, and/or reasonably foreseeable future actions such that collectively significant impacts could result? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Scientific or public controversy, uncertainty over potential impacts, or conflicts regarding resource usage? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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. Environmentally Sensitive Resources: Could the proposed action potentially result in changes and/or disturbances to any of the following resources?

- | | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Threatened/Endangered Species and/or Critical Habitats | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Other Protected Species (e.g., Burros, Migratory Birds, Pollinators) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Tundra, Coral Reefs, or Rain Forests | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Cultural or Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Important Farmland | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Non-Attainment Areas for Ambient Air Quality Standards | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Class I Air Quality Control Region | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Special Sources of Groundwater (e.g., Sole Source Aquifer) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Navigable Air Space | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Coastal Zones | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. Areas with Special National Designation (e.g. National Forests, Parks, Trails) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. Floodplains and/or Wetlands | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- B. Regulated Substances/Activities: Would the proposed action involve any of the following regulated Items or activities?

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 13. Natural Resource Damage Assessments | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. Invasive Species or Exotic Organisms | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. Noxious Weeds | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16. Clearing or Excavation greater than one acre or Removal of Trees Governed by Local Requirement | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17. Dredge or Fill (under Clean Water Act, Section 404, greater than one acre) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

B. Regulated Substances/Activities: Would the proposed action involve any of the following regulated Items or activities? (continued)

	Yes	No
18. Noise (in excess of regulations)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. Asbestos Removal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Import, Manufacture, or Processing of Toxic Substances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Chemical Storage/Use Including Emerging Chemicals (e.g., PFAS)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23. Pesticide Use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24. Hazardous, Toxic, or Criteria Pollutant Air Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25. Liquid Effluents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26. Spill Prevention/Surface Water Protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27. Underground Injection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28. Hazardous Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29. Underground Storage Tanks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
30. Radioactive or Radioactive Mixed Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31. Radiation Exposure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
32. Nanoscale Materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
33. Genetically Engineered Microorganisms/Plants or Synthetic Biology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
34. Ozone Depleting Substances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
35. Greenhouse Gas Generation/Sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
36. Off-Road Vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
37. Biosafety Level 3-4 Laboratory	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
38. Research on Human Subjects or other Vertebrate Animals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
39. Facility footprint exceeds 5,000 Square Feet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C. Other Relevant Information: Would the proposed action involve the following?

	Yes	No
40. Disproportionate Nearby Presence of Minority and/or Low Income Populations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
41. Existing, Modified, or New Federal/State Permits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
42. Involvement of Another Federal Agency (e.g. license/permit, funding, approval)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
43. Action in a State with NEPA-type law	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
44. Action Would Require Expansion of Public Utilities/Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
45. Depletion of a Non-Renewable Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
46. Subject to an Existing Institutional Work Planning and Control Process	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
47. Other Pertinent Information Which Could Impact Human Health or the Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

V. Applicant certification that to the best of their knowledge all information provided on this Notification 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. Yes No

A. Organization Official (Name and Title): Pravesh Patel CTO

Signature:  Date: _____

e-mail: pravesh.patel@focused-energy.world Phone: 510-851-1212

B. Optional Secondary Approval (Name and Title): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

e-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Remainder to be completed by DOE

VI. DOE Concurrence/Recommendation/Determination:

A. DOE Project Director/Program Manager or Contract/Grant Management Specialist:

Has the Applicant completed this Notification correctly?

Yes

No

Does an existing generic categorical exclusion apply?

If yes, indicate:

Name and Title: Moriam Vaughan, Grants Management Specialist

Signature: MORIAM VAUGHAN Digitally signed by MORIAM VAUGHAN Date: 2024.04.12 08:06:46 -05'00'

Date: 04/12/2024

B. DOE NEPA Team Review (if requested):

Is the class of action identified in the DOE NEPA Regulations (Appendices A-D to Subpart D (10 CFR § 1021))?

Yes

No

If yes, specify the class(es) of action: A9 and A11

Name and Title:

Signature: Jayashree Jayaraj Digitally signed by Jayashree Jayaraj Date: 2024.04.12 08:32:21 -05'00'

Date:

C. DOE Counsel (if requested):

Name and Title:

Signature:

Date:

D. DOE NEPA Compliance Officer:

The preceding pages are a record of documentation required under DOE Final NEPA Regulation, 10 CFR § 1021.410.

- 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 the SC Director of Field Operations. Recommend preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

Comments/limitations if any:

NEPA Compliance Officer:

Name:

Signature: PETER SIEBACH Digitally signed by PETER SIEBACH Date: 2024.04.12 09:11:41 -05'00'

Date:

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

