

**DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION
Idaho National Laboratory**

SECTION A. Project Title: Hot Fuel Examination Facility (HFEF) Spray Chamber Water Conditioner Removal

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

The Hot Fuel Examination Facility needs to remove the water conditioner (i.e., water softener) from the spray chamber process. Conditioned water was used in the chamber to decontaminate objects and would leave water spots on the viewing window decreasing visibility into the spray chamber. Therefore, the facility switched to using de-ionized water in the spray chamber. The proposed action would remove the legacy water conditioner tank, brine tank, controls and indicator lights, and unnecessary tubing and valves. A 4-way and a 3-way valve would be removed and replaced with tubing because failure of either valve has the potential to disrupt use of the spray chamber. All piping, water conditioner, brine tank and valves are located in the basement in a Radiological Buffer Area (RBA).

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources

HFEF (MFC-785) is eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Removal and/or changes of original features may adversely impact this historic property; however, the project activities as described are exempt and may proceed without further cultural resource review. The described project activities fall under exemptions 2 (routine maintenance activities) and 8 (internal reconfiguration of active laboratories) listed in Table 2 (Idaho National Laboratory Cultural Resource Management Office. Idaho National Laboratory Cultural Resource Management Plan. DOE/ID10997, revision 6, Idaho Falls, Idaho: U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office, 2016, pg 51).

Generating and Managing Waste

Industrial waste may include typical waste such as scrap metal. Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) bulk product waste may be generated from suspect PCB paint on facility components.

Releasing Contaminants

Project activities involve use of chemicals typical in construction. Though not expected, there is a potential for spills and releases.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

All material generated from project would be reused and recycled where economically practicable.

SECTION D. Determine Recommended Level of Environmental Review, Identify Reference(s), and State Justification: Identify the applicable categorical exclusion from 10 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 1021, Appendix B, give the appropriate justification, and the approval date.

For Categorical Exclusions (CXs), the proposed action must not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environmental, safety, and health, or similar requirements of Department of Energy (DOE) or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources (see 10 CFR 1021). In addition, no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal exist that would affect the significance of the action. In addition, the action is not "connected" to other action actions (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)) and is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1608.27(b)(7)).

References: 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D, item B1.24 "Property transfers"

Justification: Project activities described in this Environmental Checklist (EC) are consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D, item B1.24 "Transfer, lease, disposition, or acquisition of interests in personal property (including, but not limited to, equipment and materials)...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.

Is the project funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) Yes No

Approved by Jack Depperschmidt, DOE-ID NEPA Compliance Officer on: 10/13/2016