**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Field Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

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| **PROJECT/ACTIVITY TITLE: Operation of Building 1076 as a Microbiological and Biomedical Facility** | **Accession No: 23978**<br>**LAN-No: 18•09**<br>**PAID No: NIA** | **Date: June 3, 2018** |

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION:** The National Nuclear Safety Administration is proposing to use Building 1076 (Facility) within Technical Area-3 at Los Alamos National Laboratory for biological research requiring Biosafety Level (BSL) -1 and BSL-2 safeguards; which is work that has been safely and securely conducted at LANL for decades. The Facility is a windowless, single-story, 3,200-square foot Facility housing three laboratories that is designed for conducting safe and secure research and storage of infectious microorganisms and biologically derived toxins. Operation of the Facility at BSL-1 and BSL-2 requirements and safeguards will be compliant with the guidelines specified in the Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL) for BSL-1 and -2 containment laboratories and federal regulations governing select agents and toxins (biosecurity). The BMBL is an advisory document developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Institutes of Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Biosafety practices are intended to reduce or eliminate exposure of individuals and the environment to potential biological hazards and select agents. Biosecurity practices are intended to prevent the loss, theft, release, or misuse of biological hazards and research-related information by limiting access to facilities and this information. Select agent regulations govern the possession, use, and transfer of certain pathogens and biological derived toxins-designated as select agents and toxins-that have the potential to pose a severe threat to public, animal, or plant health or to animal or plant products. BSL-1/2 laboratory operations would be performed with indigenous moderate risk agents present in the community and associated with human disease of varying severity. Research includes extraction and isolation of nucleic acids or proteins from pathogens, host-pathogen interaction studies to understand mechanism of virulence or host response, and discovery of unique signatures that discriminate between pathogen strains.

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| **Location: Technical Area - 3 Building 1076** | **Project Contact: Jeanne Fair (jmfair@lanl.gov), 606-1650 and Dina Siegel (dinas@lanl.gov), 665-2977** |

**NEPA COVERAGE:** Department of Energy National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures 10 Code of Federal Regulations Part 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D of Part 1021-Categorical Exclusions Applicable to Specific Agency Actions

**83.12 Microbiological and biomedical facilities**

Siting, construction, modification, operation, and decommissioning of microbiological and biomedical diagnostic, treatment and research facilities (excluding Biosafety Level-3 and Biosafety Level-4), in accordance with applicable requirements and best practices (such as Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, 5th Edition, Dec. 2009, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services) including, but not limited to, laboratories, treatment areas, offices, and storage areas, within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Operation may include the purchase, installation, and operation of biomedical equipment (such as commercially available cyclotrons that are used to generate radioisotopes and radiopharmaceuticals, and commercially available biomedical imaging and spectroscopy instrumentation).

**NEPA DETERMINATION:** Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Policy 451.1 and

NNSA Policy NAP-451.1), I have determined that the proposed action falls within the DOE NEPA Implementing Procedures listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B 10 CFA Part 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D of Part 1021-Categorical Exclusions Applicable to Specific Agency Actions: B3.12 microbiological and biomedical facilities. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action that may affect the significance of the environmental effects or threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or executive orders. The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion, the proposal is not "connected" to other actions with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts, and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10CFR 1021.211. If changes are made to the scope of the action so that it is no longer bounded by the enclosed description, or the project is changed to encompass other actions, NEPA requirements for the action will need to be reassessed at that time and further analysis may be reouired.

| **Signature:** | **Date:** |
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| **Jane Summerson** *f-*<br>**NEPA Compliance Officer:**<br>**NNSA Los Alamos Field Office** | 6/13/18 |