



**Department of Energy**  
**National Nuclear Security Administration**  
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Determination Form



**Proposed Action Title:** Categorical Exclusion for Tracking Aerosol Convection Interactions Experiment (TRACER)

**Program or Field Office:** Los Alamos Field Office

**Location(s) (City/County/State):** Harris County, TX; Brazoria County, TX; Fort Bend County, TX

---

**Proposed Action Description**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Science, in conjunction with the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), Los Alamos National Laboratory, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Southern Great Plains ARM Research Facility, and the University of Houston, proposes to deploy three temporary, mobile facilities for one-year aimed at collecting data sets on the atmospheric state under different conditions. The deployment is set to occur at three previously disturbed sites in Harris, Brazoria, and Fort Bend counties in Texas. Deployed equipment is intended to measure atmospheric conditions, such as precipitation, aerosol loading, local circulation, anthropogenic emissions, convective cell tracking, thermodynamic and kinematic conditions of convective cells, and lightning.

---

**NEPA Analysis**

The proposed action as described above meets the conditions that are integral elements of 10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B3.1 *Site characterization and environmental monitoring*. This determination is made pursuant to the 42 U.S. Code § 4321 et seq., the U.S. Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the NEPA [40 CFR 1500-1508], and the DOE NEPA Implementing Procedures [10 CFR 1021].

---

---

**NEPA Compliance Officer 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 NNSA Policy 451.1 *National Environmental Policy Act Compliance Program* and DOE Policy 451.1 *National Environmental Policy Act Compliance Program*, I have determined that the proposed action fits within the class of action specified at 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B3.1. I have determined that there are no extraordinary circumstances present and that the proposal has not been segmented. I approve the proposed project under 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B3.1.

NEPA Compliance Officer:

Date Determined: