# U.S. Department of Energy Naval Reactors Representative's Office Kesselring Site

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exclusion (CX)

Determination Summary Form

Kesselring Site Building 28 Modifications and Additions Project

### REFERENCE

10 CFR Part 1021, Department of Energy National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures, Subpart D, Typical Classes of Actions

### PROJECT SCOPE DISCUSSION

The scope of this project is to construct an annex to the west side of Building 28 to accommodate new test components. These upgrades are described below:

### New Annex:

The project includes the demolition of the existing 10 inch by 275 square feet (sf) concrete pad and surrounding asphalt, reroute an existing storm water and sanitary line, partial removal of an abandoned sanitary line, and the construction of a 685 sf new annex on the west side of Building 28. The new annex consists of a reinforced concrete footings, below grade walls and floor slab, structural steel framework, four inch sandwich panel walls, rubber roof, rollup door and man doors. Once the annex is completed the project will install new testing components within the existing building and the new annex.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Kesselring Site Modifications and Additions Project is categorically excluded from additional NEPA documentation under 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, CX B1.15, B1.23, and B1.31. Specifically, the categorical exclusions that applies to this projects are:

## B1.15 Support buildings

Siting, construction or modification, and operation of support buildings and support structures (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated and modular buildings) within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Covered support buildings and structures include, but are not limited to, those for office purposes; parking; cafeteria services; education and training; visitor reception; computer and data processing services; health services or recreation activities; routine maintenance activities; storage of supplies and equipment for administrative services and routine maintenance activities; security (such as security posts); fire protection; small-scale fabrication (such as machine shop activities), assembly, and testing of non-nuclear equipment or components; and similar support purposes, but exclude facilities for nuclear weapons activities and waste storage activities, such as activities covered in B1.10, B1.29, B1.35, B2.6, B6.2, B6.4, B6.5, B6.6, and B6.10 of this appendix.

## B1.23 Demolition and disposal of buildings

Demolition and subsequent disposal of buildings, equipment, and support structures (including, but not limited to, smoke stacks and parking lot surfaces), provided that 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.

## B1.31 Installation or relocation of machinery and equipment

Installation or relocation and operation of machinery and equipment (including, but not limited to, laboratory equipment, electronic hardware, manufacturing machinery, maintenance equipment, and health and safety equipment), provided that uses of the installed or relocated items are consistent with the general missions of the receiving structure. Covered actions include modifications to an existing building, within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area, that are necessary for equipment installation and relocation. Such modifications would not appreciably increase the footprint or height of the existing building or have the potential to cause significant changes to the type and magnitude of environmental impacts.

NRRO Approval:

Date:



Fluor Marine Propulsion, LLC Post Office Box 79 West Mifflin, PA 15122-0079

KS-FAO-KSC-00205

August 04, 2020

Manager, Naval Reactors Laboratory Field Office U. S. Department of Energy Post Office Box 109 West Mifflin, Pennsylvania 15122-0109

Subject:

Kesselring Site Building 28 Modifications and Additions Project Categorical

Exclusions Determination; For Approval

### **PURPOSE**

As required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), this letter transmits, for approval, the NEPA evaluation for the Building 28 Modifications and Additions Project for potential impacts on the environment. This project is included within the Programmatic Agreement with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP). This project does not have the potential to cause an adverse effect on any historic properties.

### **BACKGROUND**

NEPA is codified for the DOE in 10 CFR Part 1021 (Reference (a)). NEPA requires that proposed actions by the Federal Government, such as construction projects, are evaluated to identify potential impacts on the environment. Potential actions found to have significant environmental impact require evaluation and documentation in the form of an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Other types of environmentally insignificant actions may be categorically excluded (CX).

A NEPA evaluation consisting of a CX determination can be used as the appropriate NEPA documentation since the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) considerations have been satisfied.

The Naval Nuclear Laboratory (NNL) has performed a cultural resource-historic preservation review for this project in accordance with the Programmatic Agreement (PA) for the Kesselring Site, dated 17 February 2017 (Reference (b)).

Appendix B of the PA identifies general categories of activities affecting various Kesselring Site assets and ranks them in accordance with their anticipated level of effect on the historic district. The categories are grouped into one of three tiers; Tier I activities having the least anticipated effect with Tier III activities having the most. Activities identified under Tier I and Tier II do not require engaging the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) prior to performing the activity. Tier III activities require notification and concurrence from SHPO prior to proceeding with the activity and the performance of any mitigating actions identified in Appendix C of the PA. Activities not identified in Appendix B are subject to the standard Section 106 process review.

NNL concludes this project meets the criteria of a Tier I Allowance as identified in Appendix B of the PA and recommends that the Naval Reactors Laboratory Field Office (NRLFO) proceed in accordance with Stipulation II.A.1.a of the PA. Therefore, NRLFO has no further obligation under the PA and no additional cultural resource-historic preservation evaluation is required. This was documented in Reference (c).

### DISCUSSION

The Kesselring Site Building 28 Modifications and Additions Project does not violate applicable regulatory requirements, require construction or major expansion of waste handling facilities, result in unpermitted releases of hazardous substances, or adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources, including wetlands. The project does not involve genetically engineered organisms or species. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action. The project has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion and is not connected to other actions with potentially significant and/or cumulative impacts.

The project team did not originally complete the NEPA CX determination because the project did not go through Kesselring's normal project process and was not being funded by DOE. The Technical and Funding letter was written by the Knoll Site sponsor in accordance with their requirements as a Research and Development project where the annex would be removed upon completion of the testing program within two years of Beneficial Occupancy. The project is 100% funded by the Department of Defense (Navy). Upon further review, the project team did not fully understand that a NEPA CX is required regardless of funding source. The project manager will capture this lesson learned in the lessons learned database and will brief the construction Project Manager's during a continuous training event in August 2020.

### CONCLUSION

The Kesselring Site Building 28 Modifications and Additions Project is categorically excluded from additional NEPA documentation under 10 CFR 1021 Subpart D, Appendix B, and CX B1.15, B1.23 and B1.31.

Enclosure (1) provides the NEPA CX Determination Summary Form and proposed transmittal to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) following NRLFO approval. The DOE will arrange for the NEPA CX to be uploaded to the DOE NEPA website.

Should you have any questions, or require additional information please contact (Thomas F. O'Connor) at (518) 884-1205.

Thomas F. O'Connor, Program Manager

Construction Projects

KS Facilities and Operations

#### References:

(a) 10 CFR Part 1021, Department of Energy National Environmental Policy Act Implementation Procedures, Subpart D, Typical Classes of Actions

- (b) Programmatic Agreement between the New York State Historic Preservation Office and the United State Department of Energy- Naval Reactors Laboratory Field Office regarding the historic preservation at the Kenneth A. Kesselring Site (NRLFO:AMO-S:ESH:17-050)
- (c) FLUOR Letter: KS-FA)-FE-185, 2019 Annual Report of Projects Processed for Effects on Cultural Resources for the Kenneth A. Kesselring Site, For Action, dated January 14, 2020

## Enclosure:

(1) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exclusion (CX) Determination for Kesselring Site Building 28 Modifications and Additions Project Categorical Exclusions Determination

| CONCURRENCE   |                 |                             |                                 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| SIGNATURE   | DATE            | ROLE                        | DETAILS AND SCOPE               |
| 2lbin   | August 04, 2020 | Authorized<br>Derivative    |                                 |
| Thomas O'Brien, Program Man<br>Site Construction                      | ager            | Classifier                  |                                 |
| Showaldowal   | August 04, 2020 | Peer                        |                                 |
| Thomas A. Howard, Principal C<br>KS Radiological, ESH & Assess        |                 | Reviewer                    |                                 |
| 2lbin   | August 04, 2020 | Author's                    | Acting Manager for Beata Lesiak |
| Thomas O'Brien, Program Man<br>Site Construction                      | ager            | Manager                     |                                 |
| Thana Opel  | August 04, 2020 | Administrative<br>Assistant |                                 |
| Kara Opel, Administrative Assistant Kesselring Facilities Engineering |                 | noolotalit                  |                                 |