



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
NEPA Determination Form



Proposed Action Title: NEPA Coverage for DARHT Battery Power Quality Improvement Project

Program or Field Office: Los Alamos Field Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM

Proposed Action Description

The U.S. Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration (DOE/NNSA) proposes to install a new battery bank to provide backup power in the event that maintenance is needed on the main power line. Triad proposes to install up to four 8-megawatt-hour (MWh) batteries approximately 100 yards from the main DARHT facility (total of 32 MWh). This work would require excavating in a previously disturbed area along the access road just before the turnoff for DARHT to create a level area to build a concrete base. Excavation and trenching would occur between the switchgear and the batteries approximately 225 feet and a maximum of 36 inches deep. The footprint for the installation of up to four batteries is 70 by 50 feet, totaling 3,500 square feet, approximately the size of a transportainer commonly used across the laboratory. The access road will be approximately 88 by 18 feet, totaling 1,584 square feet. Total disturbance for the site during construction is expected to be approximately 10,000 square feet. An overhead power line would be built to supply power from the battery to the DARHT facility. The location for battery installation is adjacent to the switchgear that currently supports DARHT and is the most feasible location to connect into the existing power supply to support the batteries. This location also provides a safe distance away from high explosive testing and materials to avoid damage to the batteries. No special construction parameters exist other than favorable weather conditions for excavation, concrete pours, and crane operation for the assembly of the batteries. It is anticipated that the construction phase of the project would take approximately 6.5 months to complete.

The battery energy storage system would serve as a proof of concept for future distributed energy resource system integration for use across the LANL utility electric grid and would work in conjunction with a future 10 MW photo-voltaic array in Technical Area-16. The DARHT Battery Power Quality Improvement Project would serve as a pilot project for effectiveness.

NEPA Coverage Applied

The proposed action to construct and operate a battery energy storage system meets the eligibility criteria of 10 CFR Part 1021, *B5.15 Small-scale renewable energy research and development and pilot projects*: Small-scale renewable energy research and development projects and small-scale pilot projects, provided that the projects are located within a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions would be in accordance with applicable requirements (such as local land use and zoning requirements) in the proposed project area and would incorporate appropriate control technologies and best management practices.

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 NAP 451.1 and DOE P 451.1), I have determined that the proposed action



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fits within the class of action specified at 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B5.15. 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 B5.15. This determination is made pursuant to the NEPA [42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.], the U.S. Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the NEPA [40 CFR 1500], and the DOE NEPA Implementing Procedures [10 CFR 1021].

NEPA Compliance Officer:

Date Determined: