SECTION A. Project Title: Idaho Relay Station Decommissioning – Honeywell Federal Manufacturing & Technologies, LLC

SECTION B. Project Description

The initial work shall begin with contacting the Idaho Falls Power Company for removal of the Idaho Relay Station (IDRS) transformer with underground service and disconnection and removal of transformer underground service power cables up to the secondary outer fenced area of IDRS from the IDRS transformer enclosure.

The project will include the demolition and removal of the IDRS building with attached generator room, evacuation and disposal of propane tank and propane, removal and disposal of 200lb FM-200 bottle in IDRS building, evacuation of Freon from AC unit connected to the IDRS building, removal of generator, removal of IDRS building, removal of all underground cabling from the IDRS building to the IDRS transformer enclosure, removal of all inner fencing around IDRS site, removal of all associated concrete pads of the IDRS site, backfill of removed concrete located at the IDRS site, and site restoration with native vegetation.

Additionally, the project will perform the demolition and removal of the antenna towers (three 131’ log-periodic, one 92’ Omni); three Balun telephone poles; one 2.5-meter satellite dish; all guy wire anchor points; all buried underground cabling to the antennas from the IDRS building; and all associated concrete pads and backfill of removed concrete located at the IDRS site.

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects / Potential Sources of Impact

Air Emissions – The Idaho Relay Station (IDRS) which includes an antenna farm, and an equipment building will be fully demolished and waste materials either recycled or sent out for disposal. The site will be restored to natural background conditions and returned back to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). An asbestos survey was completed on the building. Non-friable asbestos was found in the roofing material. A licensed asbestos abatement company will be contracted to remove and dispose of in approved landfill approximately 45 ft³ of 4PLY roofing material. An EPA certified contractor will be used to evacuate and recycle/reuse the approximately 8 – 14 lbs. of refrigerant contained in the building’s HVAC unit prior to demolition. The building’s fire suppression system containing approximately 175 lbs. of FM-200 will be evacuated and sent out for recycling or reuse. There will also be 300 lbs. container of propane fuel that will be removed from the site and reused/recycled prior to site demolition. Demolition activities will generate fugitive dust but the affected area will be limited to approximately 12,000 square feet of surface area (0.28 acres).

Disturbing Cultural/Biological Resources – If objects of potential archaeological or historical significance (e.g., arrowheads, flints, bones, old tools or other items, etc.) are encountered during project activities, contractors will discontinue disturbance in the area and contact DOE Idaho for cultural resource evaluation. A Breeding bird surveys must be conducted if Decommissioning Activities continue to occur between April 1st and September 1st prior to and within two weeks of conducting ground disturbing activities. Honeywell or contracting agency will contact DOE Idaho to schedule a survey if work will be conducted during this time period. During surface disturbing construction and rehabilitation activities, ensure that all construction equipment and vehicles are cleaned of all vegetation (stems, leaves, seeds, and all other vegetative parts) prior to entering public lands in order to minimize the transport and spread of noxious weeds.

Generating and Managing Waste – Fluorescent light tubes, any PCB-containing devices, e.g. old fluorescent ballasts, building thermostats, and batteries will be removed from the building prior to demolition and disposed of through an approved contractor as regulated waste. The site contains a few wooden poles treated with creosote which will be removed and disposed of through an approved vendor.

Releasing Contaminants – Potential contaminants include non-friable asbestos containing building materials, HVAC refrigerant, FM-200 fire suppressant, propane fuel, thermostats, fluorescent light tubes, PCB ballasts, batteries, and creosote treated poles will be removed from the site prior to site demolition which will mitigate any contaminants from these items from being released into the environment.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources – Propane, fire suppressant, and HVAC refrigerant will be evacuated and sent off-site through an approved vendor for recycling and/or reuse. Metal debris and parts will be sent out for recycling. Electronic equipment will also be sent out for scrap metal reclamation.

SECTION D. Determine the Level of Environmental Review (or Documentation) and Reference(s): Identify the applicable categorical exclusion from 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B; give the appropriate justification, and the approval date.

Note: 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, including requirements of DOE orders; 2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities; 3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum
and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; 4) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources. In addition, no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal exist which would affect the significance of the action, and the action is not “connected” nor “related” (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1) and (2), respectively) to other actions with potentially or cumulatively significant impacts.

References: B1.23 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.

B1.27 Activities that are required for the disconnection of utility services (including, but not limited to, water, steam, telecommunications, and electrical power) after it has been determined that the continued operation of these systems is not needed for safety.

Justification: The activity consists of removal and disposal of buildings, towers, and associated cabling and equipment.

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

Approved by Jason Sturm, DOE-ID NEPA Compliance Officer on 09/26/2017