SECTION A. Project Title: Test Area North (TAN)-601 Fiber Optic Cable Installation

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

Idaho National Laboratory (INL) needs additional fiber optic services at the Specific Manufacturing Capability (SMC). INL has a lease contract with Syringa Wireless, and Syringa wireless would perform the proposed action to extend fiber services at INL. The proposed service project would install approximately 2644 ft. of fiber optic cable from the TAN-601 Dial Room to the intersection of Lincoln Blvd and Hwy 33. Syringa Wireless would own the fiber optic cable and complete the installation work. Construction Management would oversee the project, and Syringa Wireless would use their own work control to complete the task. The trenching is not in the INL Storm Water Corridor and would not cross any stream channels. Specific project activities include the following:

- Dig a 36" deep trench (approximately 3 feet wide) for the 2,644 ft. route mentioned above
- Place two 1.25" conduits approximately 2,644 feet to connect the existing vaults and building (TAN-601) at 36" below grade
- Set a 24"x24"x18" composite vault to do the splicing of the fiber optic cable
- Place fiber through existing vaults
- Place coils of fiber in each vault to allow for future access and splicing
- Place marker posts to warn people of the existence of the fiber optic cable
- Enter building TAN-601 to terminate the connection and hand off the fiber to INL personnel
- Saw or hammer rock as needed to place the fiber at a depth of 36"
- Bore under the paved surfaces as needed
- Cut and replace asphalt as needed to cross roads where there is rock.

Project activities would occur along the roadway in previously disturbed areas as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Proposed locations of new TAN fiber optic cable
SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Air Emissions

Fugitive dust may be generated during the trenching activities. All reasonable precautions will be taken to control fugitive dust.

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources

Project activities would be organized to avoid impacts to any culturally sensitive materials identified during these surveys.

There is also the potential for some impact to wildlife and habitat during the course of the proposed action.

Trenching and other ground disturbance may require re-seeding with native species and supplying supplemental water until revegetation is successful.

Generating and Managing Waste

Typical Construction industrial waste such as packaging material, scrap cable, scrap conduit, rags/wipes to clean cable, etc., will be generated during the project. Hazardous waste is not anticipated and cable cleaning chemicals will be evaluated prior to use. All waste will be characterized, stored, and disposed at the direction of Waste Generator Services (WGS). Non-hazardous scrap cable and conduit may be retained by Syringa Wireless.

Releasing Contaminants

The subcontractor will use various chemicals such as fuels, lubricants, cable cleaner, etc., on the job. All chemicals that are to be used on the project will be submitted in the vendor data system for approval prior to use. The Construction Chemical Coordinator will enter these chemicals into the Comply Plus Chemical Management System for tracking purposes. Chemical spills will be reported to the Spill Notification Team and will be cleaned up as soon as practicable. All chemical/spill waste will be managed at the direction of WGS.

The project will not disturb soil in any Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) site; therefore, a Notice of Soil Disturbance is not required. CERCLA personnel will be notified if unexpected contamination is found.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

Scrap metal will be recycled and other construction material will be reused and diverted from landfill disposal to the extent practical.

SECTION D. Determine Recommended Level of Environmental Review, Identify Reference(s), and State Justification: Identify the applicable categorical exclusion from 10 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 1021, Appendix B, give the appropriate justification, and the approval date.

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, or similar requirements of Department of Energy (DOE) or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources (see 10 CFR 1021). In addition, no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal exist that would affect the significance of the action. In addition, the action is not “connected” to other action actions (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)) and is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1608.27(b)(7)).

References: 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B, B4.7, "Fiber optic cable."

Justification: Project activities are consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B, 4.7 "Adding fiber optic cable to transmission facilities or burying fiber optic cable in existing powerline or pipeline rights-of-way. Covered actions may include associated vaults and pulling and tensioning sites outside of rights-of-way in nearby previously disturbed or developed areas."

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

Approved by Jack Depperschmidt, DOE-ID NEPA Compliance Officer on: 12/2/2015