SECTION A. Project Title: Critical Infrastructure Test Range Complex (CITRC) High Frequency Test Bed (HFTB) Expansion

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

Revision 1
The original Environmental Checklist (EC) was completed in advance of completed drawings and plans. This EC identifies minor changes to the dimensions of the road and asphalt pad, occasional and temporary use of a mobile generator, addition of a pole-mounted solar panel, and occasional and temporary use of a mobile restroom trailer. This revision also clarifies that sagebrush will not be disturbed during construction or use of the support trailer and associated improvements, including fire buffer.

The road will be 22' wide rather than the originally-thought 12 ft. The pad will be 100 ft x 200 ft rather than 60 ft x 120 ft. The asphalt pad will include a location for temporary location and use of a wheeled, mobile generator. A solar panel, approximately 4 ft x 6 ft, will be hung between two ground-mounted poles. The asphalt pad would include a location for a mobile “convenience” (restroom) trailer. Holding tanks would be pumped by a State of Idaho licensed septage pumper. Water used for hand-washing would meet the requirements for potable water.

In addition, personnel with Gonzales-Stoller have recommended installation of anti-nest devices on an overhead ice bridge located between two poles.

A diagram of the proposed construction is shown below:
The proposed action would provide National & Homeland Security (N&HS) personnel with a new field station office near the Safety Test Facility (STF)/Critical Infrastructure Test Range Complex (CITRC) area located off of Arthur Boulevard. The scope of this environmental checklist (EC) covers the purchase, installation, and use of one modular trailer, installation of paved parking lot and roadway, and installation of associated utilities. The trailer would be transported to the designated location, assembled, blocked, leveled, anchored, and utility tie-ins completed.

**Demolition & Replacement:**
A pole mount 50 kVA transformer would be replaced by Power Management with a new 100 kVA pole mount transformer for trailer power. This transformer is located approximately 50 ft from the proposed trailer site.

**Modular Trailer:**
One 14’ x 72’ modular trailer would be purchased by Battelle Energy Alliance, LLC (BEA) and installed by Subcontract personnel. The trailer would consist of a conference room, operations room, and storage room. The trailer would be equipped with heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC), fire protection devices, security card readers, network/data, lightning protection, and surge suppression systems.
Site Preparations:
The site would be located in a previously disturbed area, and graded. Project activities include the removal of all unsuitable materials. The graded area would be built back up with a sufficient amount of coarse gravel along the roadway, around the perimeter, and beneath the trailer. An approximate 60' X 120' paved asphalt pad would be installed around the perimeter of the trailer. A roadway approximately 140' L x 12' W would be paved from the new trailer parking area to the entrance point of the new facility. In addition, two new gravel walkways approximately 200' L x 6' W each would be installed from the north side of the trailer parallel to the power lines to the northwest. A trench approximately 2' D x 2' W x 425' L would be excavated and backfilled from the north side of the new trailer to new pole mount transformer for the installation of 2” conduit and new AC power conductors.

Utilities:
The trailer would be electrically connected to a 100 kVA transformer and have fiber optic communications routed to it via an existing fiber optic supply enclosure. There would be no fire water, raw water, potable water, or sewer installed on the premises. Bottled water would be provided to employees. Portable sanitary facilities would be provided since the support trailer would not be in continuous use.

Support trailer purchase, installation and related work are expected to be complete by the end of June 2016.

The cost of this work is estimated at about $300K

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Air Emissions
Fugitive dust may be generated during construction activities. No emissions from the support trailer are expected during routine operation. Emissions from a mobile electrical generator are not regulated since the generator would be in place less than a year.

Discharging to Surface-, Storm-, or Ground Water
Construction activities are located outside of the Storm Water Corridor.

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources
The area is already heavily disturbed by different operational activities over the past 50 years. However, both cultural and biological resource personnel will be consulted prior to beginning work. Anti-nesting devices will be installed on an ice bridge located adjacent to the trailer. GSS personnel have been consulted regarding the nature of acceptable anti-nest devices.

If cultural resources are unexpectedly encountered, project personnel will stop work and notify the Cultural Resources Management Office (Brenda Pace (526-0916)). Work will not resume until clearance is given by Cultural Resources personnel.

Generating and Managing Waste
Construction and operation are expected to generate industrial waste, construction waste, and small amounts of common trash.

Releasing Contaminants
Although not anticipated, small spills of substances (e.g., petroleum and/or other fluids) may occur.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources
Scrap material, such as wood and metal, will be recycled to the extent practical. All applicable waste will be diverted from disposal in the landfill when possible.

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)).
NOTE: The above paragraph does not apply to EA, EIS, or CERCLA related activities.

References: 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to subpart D, item B1.15 "Support buildings."

Justification: Project activities described in this EC are consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D, item B1.15 "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 covered in B1.10, B1.29, B1.35, B2.6, B6.2, B6.5, B6.6, and B6.10 of this appendix."

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: 3/2/2016