SECTION A. Project Title: Modify Rapid Insertion Port Argon Panels in the Hot Fuels Examination Facility

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

The argon gas panels (2) for the Hot Fuels Examination Facility (HFEF) Main Cell Rapid Insertion Port (RIP) system need modification to support periodic leak testing as part of Safety Analysis Report (SAR)-405 implementation. Panels are located on the second floor of HFEF. On each panel, the flowmeters would be replaced with flowmeters calibrated for argon gas. Piping would be rearranged to allow a larger flowmeter to measure total gas flow to RIP system, and an additional pressure gauge will be added to each panel. Work to be done before end of fiscal year (FY) 16 to support SAR implementation. Estimated time to perform is 2 days. Labor cost estimated as $1200 and purchase cost $3500.

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Air Emissions

Chemical use has a potential for small amounts of air emission and spills.

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources

HFEF (Materials and Fuels Complex [MFC]-785) is eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. HFEF is eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Removal and/or changes of original features may adversely impact this historic property. Prior to beginning work, obtain cultural/historical resource review by contacting Christina Olson (526-1692). Approval must be demonstrated by written communication from this organization prior to beginning work, and any instructions contained in the review must be followed.

Generating and Managing Waste

Project activities generate a small amount (estimate ~1-2 lbs) of low-level radioactive waste from copper tubing, old flowmeters, and miscellaneous scrap. Copper tubing and flowmeters may be considered potentially radiologically contaminated.

Releasing Contaminants

Typical construction chemicals such as adhesives, lubricants, oils, paints, etc., would be used on the project. Any spills that occur from these chemicals would be reported to the Spill Notification Team and would be cleaned up.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

All materials would be reused and/or recycled where economically practicable. All applicable waste would be diverted from disposal in the landfill where conditions allow.

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 to Subpart D, Categorical Exclusion B2.2 "Installation of, or improvements to, building and equipment instrumentation (including, but not limited to, remote control panels, remote monitoring capability, alarm and surveillance systems, control systems to provide automatic shutdown, fire detection and protection systems, water consumption monitors and flow control systems, announcement and emergency warning systems, criticality and radiation monitors, and alarms, and safeguards and security equipment."

Justification: The proposed activities are consistent with CX B2.2 "Installation of, or improvements to, building and equipment instrumentation (including, but not limited to, remote control panels, remote monitoring capability, alarm and surveillance systems, control systems to provide automatic shutdown, fire detection and protection systems, water consumption monitors and flow control systems, announcement and emergency warning systems, criticality and radiation monitors, and alarms, and safeguards and security equipment."

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: National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Implementing Procedures, Final Rule, 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D, Categorical Exclusion B2.2 "Building and equipment instrumentation"

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: 7/14/2016