SECTION A. Project Title: Idaho State University Disaster Response Complex Bus Loan/Transfer Preparation

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

The project involves modifying a bus and transferring it to the Disaster Response Complex (DRC) which is a first responder training venue being developed by Idaho State University (ISU). The complex itself is a three-acre year-round training center that specializes in training emergency responders in a realistic indoor and outdoor environment. The indoor facility consists of a full-size city street, complete with storefronts and motor vehicles that can be configured for emergency response training exercises. Operation of the facility is performed by ISU with no INL personnel involvement.

The INL and specifically the Emergency Response and Readiness organization is in process of transferring a INL bus in the form of a loan to ISU as a prop to use in their indoor training facility. The bus is currently located at Radiological Response Training Range (RRTR) and was cannibalized in 2016 for parts and drained of all fluids. For this bus to be properly utilized as a prop the INL will need to detonate a hole into the side of the bus which will be performed at National Security Test Range (NSTR). The explosive charge used will be 1-2 lbs in size. The charge size and method was selected to provide a realistic depiction of a bus post bomb blast. The charge will be just big enough to blow the side out of the bus but not large enough to effect the structure/frame of the bus. Prior to loading the bus for transport INL personnel will use their power tools to reduce sharp edges and other hazards as needed, and aid in opening up the breach as needed. Power for these tools will be provided by portable generators. Following the detonation, the bus will be transferred to the ISU facility by INL heavy equipment operators. Offloading of the bus will be the responsibility of ISU.

The activity is planned between February and June of 2021, as weather allows. No equipment is planned to be purchased. The loan of the Bus to ISU is of an indeterminate period, at this time. It will be returned to INL, or alternative arrangements for disposition, will be made when ISU no longer has a use for it.

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Air Emissions
Detonation of explosives results in the emissions of pollutants. The size of the charge for this activity is relatively small and has been evaluated in the Environmental Assessment for the NSTR (DOE/EA-1557 and DOE/EA-2063).

The use of portable generators and heavy equipment will also result in air emissions. Portable generators will be in place for less than 1 year.

Discharging to Surface-, Storm-, or Ground Water
N/A

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources
N/A

Generating and Managing Waste
The project will result in metal pieces and possibly broken glass. The metal will be recycled. Glass will be dispositioned as industrial waste.

Releasing Contaminants
Contaminants will be released through the various activities.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources
All applicable waste will be diverted from disposal in the landfill when possible. Project personnel will use every opportunity to recycle, reuse, and recover materials and divert waste from 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)).

References:
10 CFR 1021, Appendix B, items B1.24, “Property transfers” and EAs and FONSIs, DOE/ID-1557 and DOE/EA-2063

Justification:
The proposed R&D activities are consistent with CXs B1.24 “Transfer, lease, disposition, or acquisition of interests in personal property (including, but not limited to, equipment and materials) or real property (including, but not limited to, permanent structures and land), provided that under reasonably foreseeable uses (1) 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 and (2) the covered actions would not have the potential to cause a significant change in impacts from before the transfer, lease, disposition, or acquisition of interests;”

This explosive work falls under the EAs and FONSIs, DOE/ID-1557, ‘Finding Of No Significant Impact’ prepared as part of the Environmental Assessment For The National Security Test Range and DOE/EA-2063 "Final Environmental Assessment for Expanding Capabilities at the National Security Test Range and the Radiological Response Training Range at Idaho National Laboratory".

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: 1/13/2021