SECTION A. Project Title: TRA-670 Lawn Xeriscaping Project for CY 2021

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

The proposed project xeriscapes about 3,780 sq. ft. of landscape on the east side of the Advanced Test Reactor (TRA-670). The project removes the existing landscaping in the areas identified in Figure 1 below and replace it with approximately 1,085 sq. ft of pavers and 2,700 sq. ft of decorative rock, native drought resistant vegetation and trees, and an updated irrigation system. The project will also install a 30-foot pergola.

This work will be completed by a landscape subcontractor who will design the layout and provide a plan view of design and vegetation for BEA approval. Approximate dates of construction will be Spring/Summer of 2021.

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Air Emissions

Project activities have the potential to generate fugitive dust.

Discharging to Surface-, Storm-, or Ground Water

N/A

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources

Project activities have the potential to disturb biological resources such as migratory birds and bird nesting at the INL site.

Generating and Managing Waste

Typical construction/landscape debris such as rock, pavers, soil, sprinkler pipe/heads, etc., have the potential to be generated during the project.
Releasing Contaminants

Activities addressed by this EC have the potential to release contaminants through the following:

- Acquiring, using, storing and dispositioning chemicals
- Managing and dispositioning excess property and materials
- Reporting and cleaning up spills and releases
- Disturbing CERCLA sites.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

Activities addressed by this EC have the potential for use, reuse and conservation of natural resources related to the following:

- Consuming potable, industrial or irrigation water
- Generating landfill waste or construction and demolition wastes
- Generating recyclable materials
- Engaging in sustainable acquisition practices.

SECTION D. Determine Recommended Level of Environmental Review, Identify Reference(s), and State Justification:

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 to subpart D, Item B5.1 “Actions to conserve energy or water.”

Justification:
The proposed activities are consistent with CX B5.1 Actions to conserve energy or water, demonstrate potential energy or water conservation, and promote energy efficiency that would not have the potential to cause significant changes in the indoor or outdoor concentrations of potentially harmful substances. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, manufacturers, and designers), organizations (such as utilities), and governments (such as state, local, and tribal). Covered actions include, but are not limited to weatherization (such as insulation and replacing windows and doors); programmed lowering of thermostat settings; placement of timers on hot water heaters; installation or replacement of energy efficient lighting, low-flow plumbing fixtures (such as faucets, toilets, and showerheads), heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, and appliances; installation of drip-irrigation systems; improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings; efficiency improvements for vehicles and transportation (such as fleet changeout); power storage (such as flywheels and batteries, generally less than 10 megawatt equivalent); transportation management systems (such as traffic signal control systems, car navigation, speed cameras, and automatic plate number recognition); development of energy-efficient manufacturing, industrial, or building practices; and small-scale energy efficiency and conservation research and development and small-scale pilot projects. Covered actions include building renovations or new structures, provided that they occur in a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions could involve commercial, residential, agricultural, academic, institutional, or industrial sectors. Covered actions do not include rulemakings, standard-settings, or proposed DOE legislation, except for those actions listed in B5.1(b) of this appendix. Covered actions include rulemakings that establish energy conservation standards for consumer products and industrial equipment, provided that the actions would not: (1) Have the potential to cause a significant change in manufacturing infrastructure (such as construction of new manufacturing plants with considerable associated ground disturbance); (2) involve significant unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (such as rare or limited raw materials); (3) have the potential to result in a significant increase in the disposal of materials posing significant risks to human health and the environment (such as RCRA hazardous wastes); or (4) have the potential to cause a significant increase in energy consumption in a state or region.
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: 02/17/2021