

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF SCIENCE -- CHICAGO OFFICE

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)
ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION NOTIFICATION FORM

To be completed by "financial assistance award" organization receiving Federal funding. For assistance (including a point of contact), see "Instructions for Preparing SC-CH F-560, Environmental Evaluation Notification Form".

Solicitation/Award No. (if applicable): _____

Organization Name: Louisiana State University and A&M College

Title of Proposed Project/Research: Renovation of the LSU Nuclear Science Building and Development of LSU's Nuclear Workforce Development Program

Total DOE Funding/Total Project Funding: \$972,000

I. Project Description (use additional pages as necessary):

A. Proposed Project/Action (delineate Federally funded/Non-Federally funded portions)

Funding will support renovation and upgrading of the LSU Nuclear Science Building, purchasing equipment for student teaching laboratories, and setting up research laboratories for new faculty to be hired as part of LSU's newly developed Nuclear Workforce Development Program. All renovation work will be conducted, and all the student laboratories and research laboratories will be located, on the interior of the Nuclear Science Building and Nicholson Hall on the LSU campus. The entire funds requested here will be federal funds.

B. Would the project proceed without Federal funding?

Yes No

If "yes", describe the impact to the scope:

II. Description of Affected Environment:

Over 40 years, the LSU Nuclear Science Building and its facilities have supported the research and teaching of academic departments on and off the LSU campus, and irradiation and public education services benefiting Louisiana and the Southeast US region. Continued use of the building over four decades without significant renovation has eroded the offices and laboratories. However, owing to the custom-made high-grade laboratory benches and cabinets, most of the laboratory infrastructure could be still first-class with judicious renovation. Office space and building infrastructure, however, are now substandard, and need extensive renovation. This proposal requests funding to renovate the Nuclear Science Building and Nicholson Hall, purchase equipment for student laboratories, and fund the initial expenses for faculty to be hired as part of LSU's new Nuclear Workforce Development initiative. The initial step of the renovation will be to engage a licensed contractor to survey and evaluate the ambient radioactivity levels in all areas of the Nuclear Science Building. The survey as a minimum will be performed in accordance with the standards set forth in NUREG-1575 "Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Site Investigation Manual" (MARSSIM). All relevant rules and safety procedures will be followed in working with the measured radiation levels. Mitigation of issues related to radioactivity that are identified by the contractor will be addressed using the funds made available as part of the project. No issues involving radioactivity are expected to involve work in Nicholson Hall.

Chicago Office NEPA Tracking Number

III. Preliminary Questions:

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Yes | No |
| A. <u>Is the DOE-funded work <i>entirely</i> a "paper study"?</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

If "Yes", ensure that the description in Section I reflects this and go directly to Section V.

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Yes | No |
| B. <u>Will the work to be performed take place <i>entirely</i> in existing buildings?</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

And NOT:

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Yes | No |
| 1. Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Require the siting, construction or major expansion of waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants preexisting in the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Adversely affect environmentally-sensitive resources identified in Section IV.A.? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Be connected to another existing/proposed activity that could potentially create a cumulatively significant impact? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Have an inherent <i>possibility</i> for high consequence impacts to human health or the environment (e.g., Biosafety Level 3-4 laboratories, activities involving high levels of radiation)? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If "Yes" to Question III.B. and ALL six subsequent questions, ensure the descriptions in Sections I and II reflect this and go directly to Section V.

IV. Potential Environmental Effects:

Attach/insert an explanation for each "Yes" response.

- A. Sensitive Resources: Will the proposed action result in changes and/or disturbances to any of the following resources?

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Yes | No |
| 1. Threatened/Endangered Species and/or Critical Habitats | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Other Protected Species (e.g., Burros, Migratory Birds) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Sensitive Environments (e.g., Tundra/Coral Reefs/Rain Forests) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Archaeological/Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Important Farmland | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Non-Attainment Areas for Ambient Air Quality Standards | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Class I Air Quality Control Region | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Special Sources of Groundwater (e.g. Sole Source Aquifer) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Navigable Air Space | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

- 10. Coastal Zones
- 11. Areas with Special National Designation (e.g. National Forests, Parks, Trails)
- 12. Floodplains and Wetlands

B. Regulated Substances/Activities: Will the proposed action involve any of the following regulated items or activities?

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 13. Natural Resource Damage Assessments | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. Exotic Organisms | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. Noxious Weeds | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 16. Clearing or Excavation (indicate if greater than one acre) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 17. Dredge or Fill (under Clean Water Act, Section 404, indicate if greater than ten acres) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

(Faint, mostly illegible text and checkboxes from the reverse side of the page are visible through the paper.)

B. Regulated Substances/Activities: Will the proposed action involve any of the following regulated items or activities? (continued)

	Yes	No
18. Noise (in excess of regulations)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19. Asbestos Removal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20. PCB's	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
21. Import, Manufacture, or Processing of Toxic Substances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
22. Chemical Storage/Use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
23. Pesticide Use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24. Hazardous, Toxic, or Criteria Pollutant Air Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
25. Liquid Effluents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
26. Underground Injection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
27. Hazardous Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
28. Underground Storage Tanks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
29. Radioactive Mixed Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
30. Radioactive Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
31. Radiation Exposure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
32. Surface Water Protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
33. Pollution Prevention Act	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
34. Ozone Depleting Substances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
35. Off-Road Vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
36. Biosafety Level 3-4 Laboratory	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

C. Other Relevant Information: Will the proposed action involve the following?

	Yes	No
37. Potential Violation of Environment, Safety, or Health Regulations/Permits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
38. Siting/Construction/Major Modification of Waste Recovery, or Waste Treatment, Storage, or Disposal Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
39. Disturbance of Pre-existing Contamination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
40. New or Modified Federal/State Permits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
41. Public Controversy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
42. Environmental Justice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
43. Action/Involvement of Another Federal Agency (e.g. license, funding, approval)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
44. Action of a State Agency in a State with NEPA-type law. (Does the State Environmental Quality Review Act apply?)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
45. Public Utilities/Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
46. Depletion of a Non-Renewable Resource	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
47. Extraordinary Circumstances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
48. Connected Actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
49. Exclusively Bench-top Research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
50. Only a Laboratory Setting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

V. Financial Assistance Award Organization Concurrence:

A. Organization Official (Name and Title): Michael Durham, Director, Environmental Health & Safety

Signature: *Michael Durham* Date: 6/22/10

e-mail: mdurham@lsu.edu Phone: 225-578-8507

B. Optional Concurrence (Name and Title): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

e-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Remainder to be completed by SC-CH

VI. SC-CH Concurrence/Recommendation/Determination:

A. SC-CH Office of Acquisition and Assistance or Office of Safety, Technical & Infrastructure Services:

Project Director or Contract Specialist (Name and Title): Pamela M. Bruder

Signature: Pamela M. Bruder, Grants Management Specialist Date: 06/05/2013

B. SC-CH NEPA Team Review:

Is the project/activity appropriate for a determination or a recommendation to the Head of the Field Organization by the NEPA Compliance Officer (NCO) under Subpart D of the DOE NEPA Regulations?

Yes No

Specific class(es) of action from Appendices A-D to Subpart D (10 CFR 1021): B3.14

Name and Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

C. SC-CH Counsel (if necessary):

Name and Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

D. SC-CH NEPA Compliance Officer:

The preceding pages are a record of documentation required under DOE Final NEPA Regulation, 10 CFR 1021.400.

Action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review. I have determined that the proposed action meets the requirements for Categorical Exclusion referenced above.

Action requires approval by Head of the Field Organization. Recommend preparation of an Environmental Assessment.

Action requires approval by Head of the Field Organization or a Secretarial Officer. Recommend preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

Comments/Limitations if necessary: LA state Historic Preservation Officer approval received 5/9/13

Signature: Peter R. Siebach
Peter R. Siebach
SC-CH NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 6/5/13