



# U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed Action Title: Construction and Operation of the Photon Science Laboratory Building (B057) SS-SC-15-01

Program or Field Office: SLAC Site Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): Menlo Park, California

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Proposed Action Description:

The Photon Science Laboratory Building (PSLB) would be a 100,000 to 120,000 gross square feet flexible research office building located in an open space adjacent to the grassy quad of SLAC's administration area. It would be a three-story structure. The building would have two sections, the north section consisting primarily of office space and the south section consisting of laboratory space. The proposed new construction site will not involve the alteration or demolition of any existing buildings, but has previously been disturbed by grading and construction activities.

The SLAC site has been subject to several field reconnaissance surveys by Stanford University archaeological teams. There are no documented sacred sites or archeological deposits located on the project site based on Stanford University's archaeological survey report. No endangered or sensitive species or resources have been identified on the project site. No bird nesting has been observed. Approximately 15 trees will be removed, and approved measures would be implemented, consistent with the SLAC tree and shrub protection guidelines. An evaluation for the construction was completed in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for federal undertakings. Concurrence on the project was received from the State Historic Preservation Officer with a finding of no adverse effect to historic properties pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.5(d)(1).

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Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B1.15 - Support buildings

B3.6 – Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects

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For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Subpart D of [10 CFR Part 1021](#).

Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410(b): (See full text in regulation)

The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D.

To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, such as those listed in paragraph B(5) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B.

There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

I concur that the above description accurately describes the proposed action.

**SSO Program Point of Contact:** Hannnial Joma (signature on file)

**Date:** 4/7/2015

The above description accurately describes the proposed action, which reflects the requirements of the CX cited above. Therefore, I recommend that the proposed action be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

**SSO NEPA Coordinator:** Marie L. Heard (signature on file)

**Date:** 4/7/15

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1B), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

**SSO NEPA Compliance Officer:** James L. Elmore (signature on file)

**Date Determined:** 4/7/2015