Based on my review of the information concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (authorized under DOE Policy 451.1), I have made the following determination:

Rationale for determination:

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATIONS

The proposed action (or the part of the proposal described in the Rationale above) 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 requirement 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 DWF); (3) include any areas specifically excluded from review within the definition of a categorical exclusion. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(e)).

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

SITING, CONSTRUCTION, MODIFICATION, OPERATION, AND DISASSEMBLY

Siting, construction, modification, operation, and decommissioning of facilities for small-scale research and development projects, conventional laboratory operations, and small-scale pilot projects (generally less than 10 years) frequently conducted to verify a concept before demonstration actions; provided that the construction or modification would be within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible. Not included in this category are demonstration actions, meaning actions that are undertaken at a scale to determine whether a technology would be viable on a larger scale and suitable for commercial deployment.

ACTION TO CONSERVE ENERGY OR WATER

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, and designers), businesses, or 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 showers/tubs), heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, and appliances; installation of energy management systems; improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings; efficiency improvements for vehicles and transportation (such as flight changes); power storage (such as fuels, hydrogen, 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. (b) 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) 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 RODA hazardous wastes); or (3) have the potential to cause a significant increase in energy consumption in a state or region.

Signature of NEPA Compliance Officer:

Jesse Garcia

Date: 8/4/2021

NEPA Compliance Officer

FIELD OFFICE MANAGER DETERMINATION

Field Office Manager review not required

Field Office Manager review required

Signature of Field Office Manager:

Date: 

Field Office Manager