

Draft Environmental Assessment for the Flameless Pressurized Oxy-Combustion Large-Scale Pilot Test Project (DOE/EA-2127D)

Dear Reader:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) is seeking public comment on a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Flameless Pressurized Oxy-combustion Large-Scale Pilot Test Project.

DOE prepared the draft EA to analyze the potential environmental, cultural, and social impacts of partially funding a large-scale pilot test facility for flameless pressurized oxy-combustion (FPO) to improve the performance, efficiency, and cost of using a coal-fueled system to generate electricity. The FPO Large-Scale Pilot Test Project would be designed, constructed, and operated by the Southwest Research Institute in conjunction with the Electric Power Research Institute, Black Hills Energy, and the University of Wyoming. The project would be located at the existing Gillette Energy Complex on lands owned by a Black Hills Energy subsidiary, the Wyodak Resources Development Corporation. This site is approximately 5 miles east of the city of Gillette, Wyoming.

The draft EA has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The draft EA is not a decision document but rather will inform interested parties and the decision maker of impacts associated with implementing the proposed project and solicit comments from other agencies, Tribal governments, and the public. Comments stating concerns, issues, suggestion, or other information will be used to guide preparation of the final EA and decision on DOE providing partial funding for the pilot project. The draft EA is available for review on the NETL website at <https://netl.doe.gov/node/6939>, or the DOE website at <https://www.energy.gov/nepa/doe-environmental-assessments>. A hard copy is available at the Campbell County Public Library located at 2101 South 4J Road, Gillette, Wyoming 82718, telephone (307) 682-3223.

Some recipients of this letter typically would have received a hard copy of the Draft EA; however, due to ongoing workplace constraints implemented to respond to the coronavirus outbreak, NETL is distributing this document electronically. If you desire and have not received a hard copy of the Draft EA, please submit your request, including the physical address where it should be sent using the email address information below.

Comments will be accepted on the draft EA through close of business on **January 26, 2022**. All comments received during the public comment period will be addressed. Comments received after the end of the comment period will be addressed if possible. It is important that you clearly articulate your comments and include your name, address, your organization, and include "FPO Large-Scale Pilot Test Project EA" and the file

number (DOE/EA-2127D). Individual names and addresses, including email addresses, received as part of the comment documents normally are considered part of the public record. Persons wishing to withhold names, addresses, or other identifying information from the public record must state this request prominently at the beginning of their comments. DOE will honor this request to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations, businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be included in the public record and open to public inspection in their entirety.

Comments will be accepted by email (Pierina.Fayish@NETL.DOE.GOV) or letter (National Energy Technology Laboratory M/S:922-273C, P.O. Box 10940, Pittsburgh, PA 15236-0940, Attention: Pierina Fayish). Due to on-going workplace restrictions, email is preferred. For additional information please contact Pierina Fayish at (412) 386-5428.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pierina N. Fayish". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Pierina N. Fayish