

**PROJECT-SPECIFIC CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION FOR  
CONSTRUCTION OF THE VOLUSIA COUNTY RADIOLOGICAL  
SECURITY AWARENESS AND RESPONSE TRAINING BUILDING IN  
VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
PACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL LABORATORY,  
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON**

**Proposed Action:**

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) proposes to construct the Volusia County Radiological Security Awareness and Response Training Building (Training Building) in Volusia County, Florida. This Categorical Exclusion (CX) is specific to activities related to the construction of the Training Building.

**Location of Action:**

The Training Building will be located at the Volusia Sheriff's Office Training Academy, located at 3901 Tiger Bay Rd., Daytona Beach, Florida, within the project area shown in Figure 1. The project area is within an already developed area and is adjacent to access roads, a parking lot, retention ponds, additional lawn, and a forested area.



*Figure 1. The Project Area.*

## **Description of the Proposed Action:**

The proposed action is to construct a small-scale Training Building to support the Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation (DNN) Office of Radiological Security (ORS) of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The Training Building will provide space for trainings such as training law enforcement response to radiological security related events.

The completed Training Building will be an approximately 2,176 square foot (ft<sup>2</sup>) (estimated 34 ft by 64 ft) one-story fully-enclosed steel building. The Training Building is planned to contain a classroom, radiological target room, bathrooms, IT closet, and storage closet space as well as an unfinished, insulated garage space. Utilities supplying the building will be extensions of existing utilities and building utilities may include electrical power, water, sewer, heating and air conditioning, lighting, communications networks, a sprinkler system, and other utilities typical of support building operation. In addition to the building, sidewalks and/or walkways will be constructed within the project area for building access and a driveway will be constructed for garage access. All building construction and access shall meet local code and requirements. Any landscaping altered as part of this work will be returned to pre-construction conditions.

The proposed action also includes reasonably foreseeable actions necessary to implement the proposed action, such as excavation, equipment and material staging, waste management, equipment maintenance, office and furniture moves, and award of contracts. These activities would be managed in accordance to, and in compliance with, DOE orders, as well as federal, state, and local regulations and guidelines.

Upon completion of building construction (estimated June 2024), building ownership will transfer from DOE to the authorities of Volusia County. Building operations are not addressed in this CX.

## **Biological and Cultural Resources:**

Biological and cultural resource reviews have been conducted for the proposed action to assure that impacts to sensitive resources are not significant. The biological and cultural reviews found the proposed action would have no adverse impacts to sensitive resources.

The biological resource review identified plant and animal species listed as threatened or endangered at the state level; candidate, threatened, and endangered species under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA); and avian species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The biological resource review includes a detailed evaluation of 15 state and/or federally protected species with the potential to occur in the project area, including birds, reptiles, insects, and plants. The biological resource review found that the proposed action would not affect species listed as threatened or endangered by the state of Florida or under the ESA. Migratory birds may occur in the project area but given the scope of the proposed action, habitat within the project area, and recommendations in the biological resource review, adverse effects to migratory birds are not expected. Biological resource review recommendations will be followed to assure there are no adverse impacts to sensitive species and resources. The biological resource review will be updated on an annual basis until the proposed action is completed. If an update to the biological resource review finds that resources may be adversely impacted, the use of this CX would be reevaluated. Potential options could be, but are not limited to, changing the proposed activity location, the development of mitigation measures to render the impacts not significant, or the performance of additional National

Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis and review.

The cultural resource review was conducted to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act (54 USC 306108). To support the review, a request was made to the Florida Division of Historical Resources for information on previously recorded cultural resources in the vicinity of the project area. No cultural resources have been documented within the project area or the 1-mile section in which the project is located. Based on this information, DOE made a finding of “No Historic Properties Affected”. DOE initiated consultation with the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer on August 7, 2023. No objection to the DOE’s finding of effect was received during the 30-day review and comment period.

### **Categorical Exclusions to Be Applied:**

As the proposed action is to construct a small-scale Training Building, the following CXs, as listed in the DOE NEPA implementing procedures, 10 CFR 1021, would apply:

#### **B1.15** *Support Buildings*

Siting, construction or modification, and operation of support buildings and support structures (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated and modular buildings) within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Covered support buildings and structures include, but are not limited to, those for office purposes; parking; cafeteria services; education and training; visitor reception; computer and data processing services; health services or recreation activities; routine maintenance activities; storage of supplies and equipment for administrative services and routine maintenance activities; security (such as security posts); fire protection; small-scale fabrication (such as machine shop activities), assembly, and testing of non-nuclear equipment or components; and similar support purpose, but exclude facilities for nuclear weapons activities and waste storage activities, such as activities covered in B1.10, B1.29, B1.35, B2.6, B6.2, B6.4, B6.5, B6.6 and B6.10 of this appendix.

#### **B1.24** *Property Transfers*

Transfer, lease, disposition, or acquisition of interests in personal property (including, but not limited to, equipment and materials) or real property (including, but not limited to, permanent structures and land), provided that under reasonably foreseeable uses (1) there would be no potential for release of substances at a level, or in a form, that could pose a threat to public health or the environment and (2) the covered actions would not have the potential to cause a significant change in impacts from before the transfer, lease, disposition, or acquisition of interests.

### **Eligibility Criteria:**

The proposed activity meets the eligibility criteria of 10 CFR 1021.41O(b) because the proposed action does not have any extraordinary circumstances that might affect the significance of the environmental effects, 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 environmental impact statement preparation.

The "Integral Elements" of 10 CFR 1021 are satisfied as discussed below:

<b>INTEGRAL ELEMENTS, 10 CFR 1021, SUBPART D, Appendix B (1)-(5)</b>	
<i>Would the Proposed Action</i>	Evaluation
Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health?	The proposed action would not threaten a violation of regulations or DOE or Executive Orders.
Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities?	No waste management facilities would be constructed under this CX. Any generated waste would be managed in accordance with applicable regulations in existing facilities. Waste disposal pathways would be identified prior to generating waste and waste generation would be minimized.
Disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases?	No preexisting hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants would be disturbed in a manner that results in uncontrolled or unpermitted releases.
<p>Have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• protected historic/archaeological resources,</li> <li>• protected biological resources and habitat,</li> <li>• jurisdictional wetlands, 100-year floodplains,</li> <li>• Federal- or state-designated parks and wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, wild and scenic rivers, national monuments, marine sanctuaries, national natural landmarks, and scenic areas.</li> </ul>	<p>No environmentally sensitive resources would be adversely affected by the proposed action. Refer to the Biological and Cultural Resources section for details regarding the completion of cultural and biological resource reviews.</p> <p>The proposed action would not cause significant impacts to floodplains, wetlands regulated under the Clean Water Act, or other specially designated areas. Per 10 CFR 1022 there are no base or critical floodplains present in the project area per FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps, and there are no wetlands present in the project area per the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory.</p>
Involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species?	The proposed action does not involve the use of genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species.

**Summary of Environmental Impacts:**

The following table summarizes environmental impacts considered when preparing this CX determination.

<b>Environmental Impacts Considered when Preparing this CX Determination</b>	
<i>Would the Proposed Action</i>	Evaluation
Result in more than minimal air impacts?	There may be temporary and localized dust and fumes from construction equipment while the Training Building is constructed. These would be minimized as necessary, using water applications or other emission controls, and would be compliant with applicable permits, local, state, and federal regulations, DOE orders, and PNNL guidelines.
Increase offsite radiation dose measurably?	The proposed action would not increase offsite radiation dose.
Require a radiological work permit?	The proposed action would not require a radiological work permit.
Discharge any liquids to the environment?	There may be minor quantities of liquid effluents as a result of the proposed action, for example, construction rinse water, such as concrete-equipment wash-down water, fire- or safety system-proofing wastewater, hydrotest water, cleanup rinse water, and water used for soil compaction after excavation. Effluents will be managed in accordance with applicable regulations and best management practices.
Require a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures plan?	The proposed action is not likely to require a formal Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures plan. However, standard best management practices would be implemented to prevent and control accidental releases of fluids from heavy equipment used during project work.
Use carcinogens, hazardous, or toxic chemicals/materials?	Although unlikely, the proposed action might involve the use of carcinogens, hazardous and/or toxic chemicals and materials. For example, excavation equipment might contain or require the use of chemicals such as antifreeze, hydraulic fluids, or fuel. In addition, paving and utility alteration activities might require the use of adhesives, cleaning solvents, and other potentially toxic substances. Project inventories would be maintained at the lowest practicable levels, and chemical wastes would be recycled, neutralized, or regenerated if possible. Product substitution (use of less toxic chemicals in place of more toxic chemicals) would be considered when reasonable.

Involvement of hazardous, radioactive, polychlorinated biphenyl, or asbestos waste?	The proposed action would not involve hazardous, radioactive, polychlorinated biphenyl or asbestos waste.
Cause more than a minor or temporary increase in noise level?	Equipment used for construction of the Training Building may cause short-term, intermittent increases in noise. These would be typical of construction equipment and would be within regulatory limits and temporary.
Create light/glare, or other aesthetic impacts?	Construction of the Training Building may require construction lighting to allow for work to proceed after dark. This would be a temporary impact and no other aesthetic impacts are expected to occur.
Require an excavation permit (e.g., for test pits, wells, utility installation)?	Construction of the Training Building will not require an excavation permit. Other federal, state, and/or local environmental permits will be required for the proposed action. All permits will be acquired prior to construction and activities will abide by all applicable permit requirements.
Disturb an undeveloped area?	The location of the proposed action is within land that has been changed such that its functioning ecological processes have been and remain altered by human activity. The location is within an already developed area and is adjacent to existing roads and utilities. No disturbances are expected to the adjacent Tiger Bay State Forest, as analyzed in the biological resource review.
Result in more than minimal impacts on transportation and public services?	The proposed action would not affect transportation and public services.
Disproportionately impact low-income or minority populations?	The proposed action would not disproportionately affect low income or minority populations.
Require environmental or other permits from federal, state, or local agencies?	Federal, state, and/or local environmental permits will be required for the proposed action. All permits will be acquired prior to construction and activities will abide by all applicable permit requirements.

**Compliance Action:**

I have determined that the proposed action satisfies the DOE NEPA eligibility criteria and integral elements, does not pose extraordinary circumstances, and meets the requirements for the CXs referenced above. Therefore, using the authority delegated to me by DOE Order 451.1 B, Change 2, I have determined that the proposed action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Tom McDermott  
PNSO NEPA Compliance Officer

cc: ES Norris, PNNL