

U.S. Department of Energy
Naval Reactors laboratory Field Office
Knolls Laboratory
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exclusion (CX)
Determination Summary Form

4160 Volt Upgrade Project

REFERENCE:

10 CFR Part 1021, Department of Energy National Environmental Policy Act Implementation Procedures, Subpart D, Typical Classes of Actions

PROJECT SCOPE DISCUSSION

The scope of 4160 Volt Upgrade Project is to make significant improvements to the 4160 Volt power distribution system at the Knolls Laboratory by replacing antiquated (60 year old) switchgear and cabling located in the Z4 high yard with new state-of-the-art equipment. The new switch gear will be located in the NW corner of the existing Z8 High Yard. In addition to improving the reliability of the 4160 Volt power distribution system, the proposed changes will allow for the future remediation of the Z4 high yard area of chemical contaminants via a separately funded decontamination and demolition subcontract. The project will also include upgrades to the power distribution for Load Centers 35 and 36, and Building O2 in order to increase overall reliability of operations provided by these facilities. The upgrades also include replacement of two 15KV cutout switches and a power distribution changes to Building Z1. This project does not increase the design power capacity to the Knolls Laboratory.

The project area does not contain jurisdictional wetlands, other sensitive environments, or tribal lands. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action. This action is not "connected" to other actions with potentially significant and/or cumulative impacts. The scope does not include construction or major expansion of waste management structures or facilities.

CONCLUSION

The 4160 Volt Upgrade Project is categorically excluded from additional NEPA documentation under 10 CFR 1021 Subpart D, Appendix B, CX B1.15 and B2.5. Specifically, the categorical exclusion that applies is the following:

- B1.15 Siting, construction, (or modification), and operation of support buildings and support structures (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated 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 those for office purposes; parking; cafeteria services; education and training; visitor reception; computer and data processing services; employee health services or recreation activities; routine maintenance activities; storage of supplies and equipment for administrative services and routine maintenance activities; security (including security posts); fire protection; and similar support purposes, but excluding facilities for waste storage activities, except as provided in other parts of this appendix.
- B2.5 Safety and environmental improvements of a facility, including replacement and upgrade of facility components, that do not result in a significant change in the expected useful

U.S. Department of Energy
Naval Reactors laboratory Field Office
Knolls Laboratory
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exclusion (CX)
Determination Summary Form

4160 Volt Upgrade Project

life, design capacity, or function of the facility and during which operations may be suspended and then resumed. Improvements may include, but are not limited to: Replacement/upgrade of control valves, in-core monitoring devices, facility air filtration systems, or substation transformers or capacitors; addition of structural bracing to meet earthquake standards and/or sustain high wind loading; and replacement of aboveground or below ground tanks and related piping if there is no evidence of leakage, based on testing that meets performance requirements in 40 CFR part 280, subpart D (40 CFR part 280.40). This includes activities taken under RCRA, subtitle I; 40 CFR part 265, subpart J; 40 CFR part 280, subparts B, C, and D; and other applicable state, Federal and local requirements for underground storage tanks. These actions do not include rebuilding or modifying substantial portions of a facility; such as replacing a reactor vessel.

NRLFO Approval: *D.A. Delwiche* Date: 10/5/11
D. A. Delwiche CX Determination Date