



# U.S. Department of Energy

## Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed Action Title: SLAC Main Gate – Site Security and Access Improvement (SS-SC-23-01)

Program or Field Office: SLAC Site Office (SSO)

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

Proposed Action Description:

Redesign of SLAC's main entrance to enhance safety and meet new security needs, including demolition of existing main gate guardhouse (B083), construction of a new 225 sq. ft. steel-frame building on shallow concrete footings within or contiguous to an already developed area with access to utilities, and reconfiguration of the existing entry and exit driveways between Sand Hill Road and Loop Road (~400 ft. in length).

Most of the surface clearing and grading will occur on the western side of the exiting entry driveway and in the center median between the entry and exit driveways (i.e., on or contiguous to the already disturbed and developed area). The width of the entry driveway (currently two lanes) will expand from approximately 30 ft. to 50 ft. to accommodate a new bike lane and walking path. While the width of the exit driveway (currently one lane) will only be expanded minimally to accommodate a new bike lane. Most if not all landscaping on the east side of the exit driveway will be protected in place. There is a drainage channel along the east side of the exit driveway which is outside the project area and will not be impacted or modified by the work. Underground utility modification will be minimal. Excavation and soil reuse, relocation, and/or disposal will be coordinated with SLAC's Environmental Protection Department to mitigate potential impacts to soil, groundwater, and storm water through the implementation of storm water best management practices, erosion control, and soil sampling, as needed. Asphalt, soil, and other construction byproducts will be handled and/or disposed of in coordination with SLAC's Environmental Protection and Waste Management Departments to ensure no materials or pollutants are released to the environment or pose a threat to public health. Nesting bird surveys will be conducted for tree removals conducted during the nesting bird season to avoid impacts to nesting birds under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. B083 is non-historic and not within viewshed of the historic district, and a site-wide 2012 archaeological survey and records searches from 2019 and 2023 of the California Historical Resources Information System do not show any archaeological resources within the project area that will be impacted by the proposed work; therefore, no impacts to cultural resources are anticipated.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B1.13 Pathways, short access roads, and rail lines

B1.15 Support buildings

B1.23 Demolition and disposal of buildings

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:**

**Date:**

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:**

**Date:**

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.

**NEPA Compliance Officer:**

**Date Determined:**