



# U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed Action Title: DOE Purchase of Building 2040 from IVH, LLC

Program or Field Office: Office of Science – ORNL Site Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): Oak Ridge, Tennessee

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Proposed Action Description:

ORNL has a substantial and permanent need for additional office space that would provide a centralized location for ORNL Computing and Computational Sciences Directorate (CCSD) staff. In the near future, it is anticipated that continued growth in hiring as well as reduction in existing CCSD office space due to expanding computing systems will further exacerbate an office shortfall. While relocating personnel to offsite leased space is a possibility, it would undermine ORNL goals to modernize and centralize Laboratory operations. Thus, DOE seeks to purchase Building 2040 which is located on the western portion of the ORNL campus. No other office space was identified as currently available at the ORNL site and that would meet the needs of CCSD operations. The Laboratory already leases 122 offices of the 393 offices available in Building 2040, and the purchase of this building would remove the need to continue leasing from a third party. Adjacent to the building are nearly 550 parking spots that would be included in the purchase.

There are no special utility needs as the existing office space would be sufficient for the intended purpose. No hazardous operations, decontamination, or decommissioning requirements are anticipated with acquiring the facility.

The proposed action would take place within the Oak Ridge National Laboratory footprint and have been reviewed in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act Historic Preservation Plan<sup>1</sup> and applicable sections in a ratified Programmatic Agreement document and would not result in an adverse effect to historic properties included or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register).

<sup>1</sup>National Historic Preservation Act Historic Preservation Plan, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, ORNL/TM-2004/62, April 2004.

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Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B1.24 - Property transfers

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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.

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.

Program Point of Contact: Martha Kass  
Martha J. Kass, DOE-SC-OSO  
Director, Operations Division

Date Determined: 4/29/2020

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Policy 451.1), 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Peter R. Siebach, DOE-SC-CH  
DOE-OSO NEPA Compliance Officer

Date Determined: \_\_\_\_\_