

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION NEVADA FIELD OFFICE  
NEPA ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION CHECKLIST**

**NV-2017-010**

<b>FOLLOW ATTACHED PROCEDURES FOR COMPLETING CHECKLIST</b>				Date <b>December 14, 2016</b>			
A. Project/Activity Title (Attach a brief description of proposed project) <b>Dense Plasma Focus Facility (DPFF) Security Exercise</b>				Anticipated Start Date <b>January 2017</b>			
Project Location <b>NNSS, Areas 6 and 11</b>			Proposed By (if other than NNSA/NFO) <b>Centerra Nevada</b>				
NNSA/NFO Line Management Organization <b>AMNS</b>			NNSA/NFO Project/Program Manager <b>Clayton Barrow</b>				
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:</b> If any phase of the project/activity involves any of the following considerations, check yes and explain in project description. See NSO-16A for consideration guidelines and examples.							
<b>CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>UNK</b>	<b>CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>UNK</b>
<b>WASTE</b>				<b>AIR EMISSIONS</b>			
1. Non-Rad Solid Waste		x		1. Chemical Release		x	
2. Hazardous Waste		x		2. Dust/Particulate Matter	x		
3. Low-Level Rad Waste		x		3. Explosives	x		
4. Mixed Waste		x		4. Diesel Generators		x	
5. TRU/Mixed TRU Waste		x		5. Open Burning		x	
6. Wastewater (domestic/industrial)		x					
<b>HAZARDOUS MATERIALS</b>				<b>SITE LOCATION/OTHER</b>			
1. Petroleum/Fuel Storage/Use	x			1. Environmental Restoration Site (CAU)		x	
2. Underground Storage Tanks		x		2. Excavation/Land Surface Disturbance		x	
3. Aboveground Storage Tanks		x		3. Off Road Travel	x		
4. PCBs/Asbestos		x		4. Biological/Tortoise Resource Area			x
5. Pesticides/Herbicides		x		5. Cultural/Historic Resource Area			x
6. Radioactive Materials		x		6. Change in Existing Drainage Pattern		x	
7. Biological Materials/Simulants		x		7. Impact to Environmental Monitoring System		x	
8. Beryllium		x		8. Unexploded Ordnance Area		x	
9. Chemical Storage/Use		x		9. Noise	x		
10. Use of Explosives/Firearms	x			10. Radiation Controlled Area		x	
				11. Drinking Water System Involvement		x	
<b>DO NOT TYPE OR WRITE BELOW THIS LINE. FOR NEPA COMPLIANCE OFFICER USE ONLY.</b>							
B. <input type="checkbox"/> Is the project/activity included in the final NNS SWEIS and ROD or other NEPA document? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (complete Sections C, D, and F) <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X (complete Sections D, E, and F)							
C. This project/activity is included in the NNS SWEIS/ROD (or other NEPA document) under the following section and page number:							
D. Does the proposed project/activity require any local, state, or federal permits or notifications?      Yes      No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X							
E. If, based on the project description and the preliminary environmental considerations noted above, the proposed action fits within a class of action listed in Subpart D of 10 CFR 1021, write in the space below the paragraph number and short title from the appropriate table of contents of Subpart D, Appendix B, C, or D, for a CX, EA, or EIS. If the proposed action does not fit within any class of action, write "Not Listed" below. 10 CFR 1021, B1.2 Training exercises and simulations							
<b>F. NEPA COMPLIANCE OFFICER DETERMINATION OR RECOMMENDATION:</b> I have determined that the proposed action as described in Item A has been adequately analyzed and meets the requirements for categorical exclusion under the citation in Item E. No further analysis or documentation is required pursuant to NEPA. Any changes or additions to this proposed action will require additional NEPA review.							
_____ NNSA/NFO NEPA Compliance Officer				December 19, 2016 Date			

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**Project Description:**

Centerra-Nevada personnel and personnel from other agencies, including but not limited to the Centerra-Nevada Protective Force (PF) and DOE/OA Composite Adversary Team (CAT), would conduct training and Force-on-Force exercises using the Los Alamos Technical Facility (LATF) compound in Area 11, Tweezer Road, Orange Blossom Road and the surrounding area within Area 11 and Area 6 of the Nevada National Security Site. For Centerra-Nevada, the exercises would fulfill annual security training requirements.

Training would include the use of ATV's, tactical and non-tactical vehicles on hard top roads, existing graded power line roads, and other previously disturbed land within 1/3 mile on each side of the roads. The 2/3-mile corridor along the roads would include both undisturbed and previously disturbed land. Training would involve the use of Engagement Simulation systems (ESS) and blank fire weapons. During some scenarios, pyrotechnic devices such as smoke, parachute flares and flash bangs (Centerra-Nevada uses only training munitions class 1.4 flash bangs) would be used to provide a more realistic exercise environment. Centerra-Nevada would ensure that all props and articles are accounted for after the event and that the area is clear of all exercise equipment.

**Environmental Considerations:**

**Hazardous Materials:**

**H-1: Petroleum/Fuel Storage/Use:** Off-road vehicles are gasoline-fueled. Vehicles would be fueled at off-site locations prior to the exercises. No fuel would be stored on location

**H10: Use of Explosives/Firearms:** Use of ESS weapons that either fire blank ammunition or firing is simulated by Class 1 or Class 3R lasers. Only Engagement Simulation System (ESS) firearms would be used by participants during this training. A risk analysis was completed and the following hazard controls would be in place:

- Safety briefings would be conducted for all participants prior to entering the designated training area.
- All armed "on-duty" security personnel (non-players) and armed law enforcement personnel would be restricted from entering the training boundaries.
- As required, roadblocks would be set up to define the training areas and ensure unauthorized personnel do not enter the training area.
- OCC coordination and site announcements would be implemented.
- Firearms used for the training would be examined prior to issue to ensure that they are the type approved for this training
- Live round inhibitors would be placed in all ESS weapons; and weapons would be placed in a half-load configuration with the safety selector on safe when not in use.
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) would be required for all participants: safety glasses and hearing protection. In addition to required PPE it is recommended that gloves, and knee and elbow pads be worn by participants. Gloves and pads would be available to participants.

**Air Emissions:**

**A-2: Dust/Particulate Matter:** Vehicle travel on dirt roads or off-road travel may create dust. Speeds would be controlled to minimize dust.

**A-3: Explosives:** The use of flash-bangs and smoke may be used to provide a more realistic training environment during the exercise. A risk analysis was completed and the following hazard controls would be in place:

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- Safety briefings would be conducted for all participants.
- If pyrotechnics are used, fire extinguishers would be on hand and the fire department would be on call.
- Pyrotechnics would not be deployed within buildings, structures, or near personnel.
- Only trained and qualified personnel would deploy pyrotechnics, and a minimum standoff distance from personnel and structures would be enforced.
- Participants would be equipped with respirators and trained on their use.

**Site Location/Other:**

**S-3: Off Road Travel:** Vehicle travel would include traveling off of paved roads, on established dirt roads, and in previously disturbed areas (i.e., areas lacking natural vegetation due to past human activity), and undisturbed areas. The environment the training would be conducted in may include areas in a Biological/tortoise resource area. Prior to the exercise a survey would be conducted to identify any sensitive concerns. All sensitive areas would be marked to eliminate traveling over or through the sensitive areas; travel would be minimized for those areas.

**S-4: Biological/Tortoise Resource Area:** A biological resources survey was completed for the project area. Results of the survey indicated that there would be **biological impacts that would be minimized by implementing the following mitigation measures.**

- **Avoidance of cacti and Joshua trees present in the area; and**
- **Vigilance for active bird nests from March through July, and if one is seen, avoid the area near the nest and contact the biologists.**

**S-5: Cultural/Historic Resource Area:** Cultural resource surveys were conducted. No sites eligible for the National Register of Historic Places were identified within the project area. Therefore, project activities would not affect cultural resources. If cultural resources are encountered during project actions, activities in the immediate vicinity would be halted, the immediate vicinity of the resources would be secured, and the DOE/NNSS site contact would be notified.

**S-9: Noise:** Noise from firing blank ammunition may exceed 85 decibels. Flash-bangs and ESS weapons produce potentially hazardous noise. A risk analysis was completed and the following hazard controls would be in place:

- Safety briefings would be conducted for all participants.
- As required, roadblocks would be set up to define the training areas to ensure unauthorized personnel do not enter the area.
- OCC coordination and site announcements would be implemented.
- All participants would be required to wear hearing protection that meets ANSI standards for the use of firearms.