1/1/2005

**Department of Energy**
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

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NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau

LANL (TA-3) TA-55 [CMR Relocation]

Mr. Ron Curry
Secretary
New Mexico Environment Department
1190 St. Francis Drive
P. O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, NM 87502-0110

RECEIVED
FEB - 7 2005
NM ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Curry:

The U. S. Department of Energy (DOE), National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), Los Alamos Site Office (LASO) issued a Supplement Analysis DOE/EIS-0350-SA-1 Finding on February 3, 2005 for the potential relocation at Technical Area 55 of an administrative offices and support functions building for the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Building Replacement Project at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). NNSA found that the proposed action was adequately bounded by the analyses of impacts projected by the 2003 *Environmental Impact Statement for the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Building Replacement Project at Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos*, New Mexico and that no Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement is required. The NNSA makes this finding pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 [42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.], the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provision of the National Environmental Policy Act [40 CFR 1500] and the Department of Energy National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures [10 CFR 1021].

A copy of the subject Supplement Analysis and Finding document is enclosed. Additional copies of the document are available upon request by contacting me at: (505) 667-8690 or at the following e-mail address **ewithers@doeal.gov**. I may also be reached by writing to 528 35th Street, Los Alamos, NM 87544. An electronic copy of the document is available on the NNSA's Los Alamos Site Office's website at: **http://www.doeal.gov/LASO/nepa**. If you have any questions about our NEPA compliance program or regarding this project, or if you would like to request copies of the Supplement Analysis, please contact me at the above listed addresses.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth R. Withers
NEPA Compliance Officer
Office of Environmental Stewardship

ES:5EW-051

Enclosure

5754

DOE/EIS-0350-SA-01

# Supplement Analysis

# Environmental Impact Statement for the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Building Replacement (CMRR) Project at Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico

## Changes to the Location of the CMRR Facility Components

January 2005

Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office

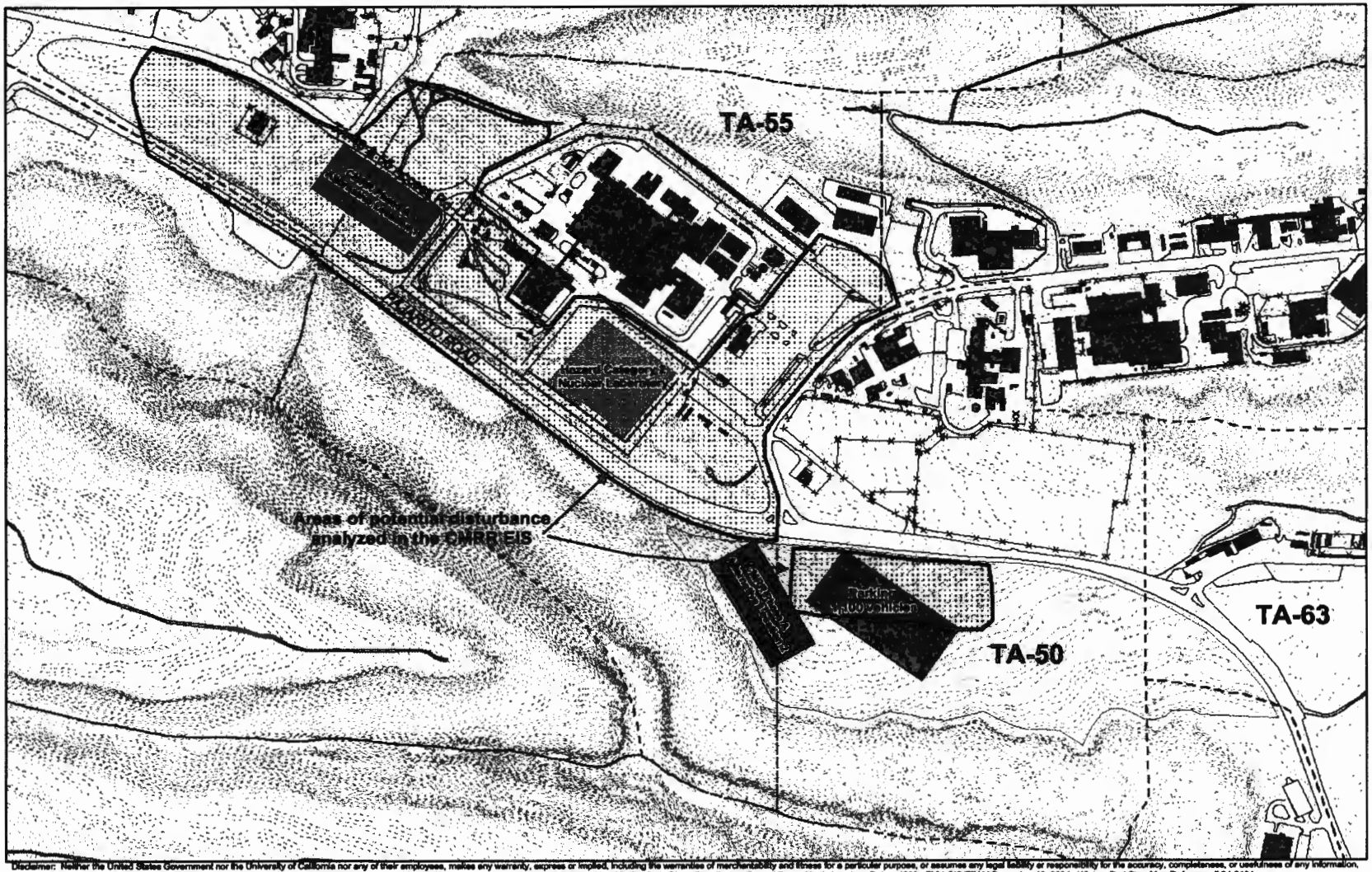
## Introduction

This Supplement Analysis (SA) has been prepared to determine if the *Environmental Impact Statement for the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Building Replacement Project at Los Alamos National Laboratory* (CMRR EIS) (DOE/EIS-0350) adequately addresses the environmental effects of proposed changes in the location of certain components of the Preferred Alternative that the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) selected for implementation in its 2004 Record of Decision (ROD), or if the CMRR EIS needs to be supplemented. Council on Environmental Quality regulations at Title 40, Section 1502.9 (c) of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 1502.9[c]) require federal agencies to prepare a supplement to an EIS when an agency makes substantial changes in the Proposed Action that are relevant to environmental concerns or when there are new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the Proposed Action or its impacts. This SA is prepared in accordance with Section 10 CFR 1021.314(c) of the Department of Energy's (DOE's) regulations for NEPA implementation that state "When it is unclear whether or not an EIS supplement is required, DOE shall prepare a Supplement Analysis."

NNSA proposes to execute the first phase of the CMRR Project (Phase A) by constructing an administrative offices and support functions building that will include radiological laboratory space and utilities support, a connecting tunnel, and a small access control station at one of two possible locations in or near Technical Area (TA) 55. Both of these locations differ slightly from the locations considered for these structures that were analyzed in the CMRR EIS. The total square footage for these functions (less than 200,000 square feet) and the total disturbed area including construction lay down and parking (about 11 acres) would remain unchanged from that analyzed in the CMRR EIS.

Changes in the security strategy for the TA-55 plutonium complex have necessitated consideration of two alternative locations in and near TA-55 for location of the CMRR Facility Phase A structures. The current design basis for security operations at TA-55 requires locating lower hazard, lower security operations outside of the Perimeter Intrusion and Detection Alarm System (PIDAS), the main security fence around the plutonium operations at TA-55. The two locations under consideration are (1) west of the PIDAS and immediately north of Pajarito Road in portions of TA-55 and TA-48 (which was considered in the CMRR EIS as a possible area for construction of the CMRR Facility components); and (2) south of the intersection of Pajarito Road and Pecos Drive in portions of TA-55 and TA-50 (this area was considered in the CMRR EIS for locating parking facilities but not for locating buildings and other structures). At either of these two locations, the Phase A structures will be encompassed by a security fence limiting access to the buildings. The alternative locations under consideration for Phase A structures and parking for the CMRR Project are shown in Figure 1 (attached).

This SA specifically compares key impact assessment parameters of this proposal to the CMRR Project evaluated in the CMRR EIS and provides an explanation of any differences between the current proposal and the Preferred Alternative described in the CMRR EIS and Record of Decision (ROD).

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**Legend**

- Potential Disturbance
- Technical Area Boundary
- Potential Use Area
- Structures
- CMRR Alt. 2
- CMRR Alt. 1
- CMR Nuclear
- CMR Parking
- Industrial Fence
- Security Fence
- 2 ft Contours
- Dirt, Road
- Paved, Road

## Technical Area 55

0 270 540 1,080 Feet

0 50 100 200 Meters

Figure 1. Alternative Locations for the CMRR Phase A Project.

## Background

NNSA has assigned support work to LANL for the stockpile stewardship and management program, which is critical to NNSA's mission of providing the Nation with nuclear weapons, ensuring their safety and reliability, and supporting programs that reduce nuclear proliferation. The Chemistry and Metallurgy Research (CMR) Building in TA-3 is a critical element of LANL's mission support to NNSA. The CMR Building was designed and built between 1949 and 1952 as an actinide chemistry and metallurgy research facility. An addition (Wing 9) was constructed in 1960 to also give the CMR Building the capability of remote handling of radioactive materials in hot cells. CMR's operational capabilities currently include analytical chemistry, material characterization, and actinide research and development. These capabilities are not available elsewhere in the DOE Complex.

The CMR Building was designed to comply with the building codes in effect at the time of its construction. In 1992, after the CMR Building had been in continuous operation for approximately 40 years, DOE initiated a program of building upgrades to address safety, reliability and security issues with the intent of extending the life of the facility for another 20 to 30 years. However, in 1997 and 1998 a number of operational, safety and seismic issues were identified that seriously affected the long-term viability of the CMR Building and its critical research functions. DOE made the decision to reduce the planned building upgrades and limit the design life of the facility to the year 2010. In January 1999, the DOE approved a risk management strategy for continuing the mission-critical research capabilities. The strategy included restricting some activities at the CMR Building to ensure safe operations while moving forward with long-term facility and site planning to relocate the CMR capabilities elsewhere at LANL by 2010. In July 2002, NNSA released the Notice of Intent (67 FR 48160) to prepare an EIS for a proposed replacement project for the CMR Building.

The final CMRR EIS was issued in November 2003. The EIS evaluated four main alternatives for replacement of the CMR Building, plus the no action alternative. Alternative 1 (NNSA's Preferred Alternative) was to construct the CMRR Project at the TA-55 site; this alternative was selected by NNSA in its 2004 ROD. Figure 1 delineates the boundaries of the proposed construction site as it was analyzed in the CMRR EIS. The location of the CMRR Facility was originally proposed for location within TA-55 either at the southeast corner of TA-55 near the intersection of Pajarito Road and Pecos Drive, at the west side of TA-55 between the Plutonium Facility and TA-48, or at the east side of TA-55 in the existing parking area. An additional area of potential disturbance was analyzed on the south side of Pajarito Road for use as a parking lot for displaced vehicle parking.

The total square footage for the administrative offices and support functions building will not exceed 200,000 square feet and the total disturbed area of the Phase A components will be about 4.0 acres. A utility support area of approximately 25,000 square feet is included in the total estimated square footage for the administrative offices and support

functions building. An additional 2.0 acres would be disturbed for construction lay down area and 5.0 acres for the parking lot.

## Proposed Action

In responses to changes to nuclear facility Design-Basis Threat (DBT) guidance issued by DOE in October 2004, which requires moving lower hazard, lower security operations outside of and away from the immediate vicinity of the PIDAS at TA-55, NNSA must now consider moving the Phase A components of the CMRR Facility from the originally planned location at TA-55. Two alternative site locations for Phase A components (Figure 1) have been identified. This SA will consider the impacts of these changes to the project and compare these to the environmental impact analyses performed in the CMRR EIS.

In 2003, the new structures proposed for the CMRR Project were in the conceptual design stage and, as a result, were not described in great detail within the CMRR EIS. Since the ROD was issued in February 2004, NNSA has completed the conceptual design and has more clearly identified the structural requirements and the building layouts. The conceptual design identified a three-phased approach to completing the project. The CMRR Facility Phase A Project consists of the construction of the administrative offices and support functions building, a connecting tunnel together with a small entrance control structure, and the utility support area.

The Phase A administrative offices and support functions building will house about 20,000 net square feet of radiological laboratories capable of handling radiological (less than 8.4 grams plutonium 239 equivalent) quantities of special nuclear material (SNM). The building will also include office space for CMRR workers located outside of the TA-55 PIDAS, a Training Center with space for classrooms and training personnel, and an Operations Center to monitor functions for all of the CMRR facility. A utility building would be constructed to provide utility services (including heating and chilled water, potable hot and cold water, compressed air, and process gasses) for all CMRR Facility components. Phase A construction start is planned for the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year (FY) 05 and will end in FY 07 or 08.

## Potential Consequences of Proposed Action

This section addresses the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and compares them to the impacts that were bounded and analyzed in the CMRR EIS. Environmental impacts are identified and addressed based on the sliding scale approach discussed in DOE's NEPA guidance (DOE 1993); that is, certain aspects of the Proposed Action have a greater potential for creating environmental impacts than others. Therefore, they are discussed in greater detail in this SA than those aspects of the action that have little potential for effect. For instance, the Proposed Action could affect potential threatened and endangered species habitat, while it is not expected that visual resources would be affected. Tables 1 and 2 list the potential environmental consequences of each location alternative and identify those that are not likely to be affected by the Proposed Action.

**Alternative Location 1: West of TA-55**

Preliminary review of the CMRR EIS indicates that selecting Alternative Location 1 immediately west of the TA-55 PIDAS near TA-48 would not have any further environmental impacts than those analyzed in the CMRR EIS. The proposed area for CMRR Facility Phase A components falls within the study area outlined in Figure 1 that was considered in preparation of the final EIS. The area of disturbance west of the TA-55 PIDAS would be less than the 4 acres analyzed in the CMRR EIS for the Phase A components of the CMRR Facility. Additional disturbance of up to 2.0 acres for construction lay down and 5.0 acres for a new parking lot south of Pajario Road were included in the total 26.75 acres of affected land analyzed in the EIS. The western portion of TA-55 has access to closely located utilities; electrical, water, sanitary sewer and gas utilities are present between TA-55 and TA-48 and are readily accessible. Short pipelines and electric service lines would need to be installed to service the CMRR Facility. The pedestrian/utility tunnel that is part of the CMRR Facility Phase A, would be constructed from the Alternative Location 1 site underground into the TA-55 PIDAS area for future connection to the CMRR Hazard Category 2 nuclear building, which would be part of a later phase of the overall project.

The location description for the Preferred Alternative, found on page 2-11 of the CMRR EIS, states that the CMRR Facility would be located either on the southeast corner near the Pajarito Road and Pecos Road intersection (on the east side of TA-55 where the parking lots are currently located); or on the west side of TA-55 between the TA-55 Plutonium Facility and the TA-48 boundary. The latter location is similar to the area described in Alternative Location 1, except that the proposed construction site would slightly extend across the TA-55/TA-48 boundary into the edge of TA-48.

Cultural resource considerations: As noted in Sections 3.8 and 4.3.7 of the CMRR EIS, there are no prehistoric sites within TA-55, but there is one site eligible for the National Register within TA-48 a few hundred feet from the TA-48/TA-55 boundary. The mitigation for adverse effects to this site would be through avoidance. Alternative Location 1 for CMRR Facility Phase A would extend into TA-48 and extra precautions would need to be taken to avoid this site during construction activities. LANL archaeologists would flag the boundaries of the prehistoric site with tape or some other prominent marker and would provide oversight during construction.

The CMRR EIS did not specifically discuss cultural resources located within the proposed TA-50 area for parking spaces displaced by the CMRR Facility, on the south side of Pajarito Road. There are several pre-Manhattan era homestead features present in this area that were the subject of a July 2001 cultural resource report to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) prepared for a different proposed project. The Cerro Grande Fire burned through this area, so that there are no standing cabin remains, but several homestead features are present, including a cistern, a dugout complex, scattered remains of a wooden corral and a fence line, and a trash disposal area. A separate consultation letter to the SHPO was submitted in May 2003 for the proposed CMRR Facility parking lot. The letter describes NNSA's proposal to execute a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the NNSA and the SHPO. The MOA would ensure that adverse effects

of destroying the homestead remains through construction actions would be resolved first through data recovery LANL archaeologists would perform the data excavation fieldwork, submit any artifacts and samples from the excavation for analysis, and prepare an excavation report for the SHPO.

Biological resource considerations: Consultation was initiated in April 2003 with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (the Service) for the CMRR Project as described in the CMRR EIS that included the parking lot area south of Pajarito Road. The NNSA's determination of affect was that there would be no direct effects from the CMRR Facility north of Pajarito Road but that parking south of Pajarito Road would be in close proximity to potential Mexican spotted owl habitat and that there could be possible indirect affects from nighttime lighting. NNSA took a conservative approach and determined that the proposed CMRR Project was "likely to adversely affect" the Mexican spotted owl's potential habitat area. After telephone discussions with Service staff during which the Service noted that the likely affects of the CMRR Project on the Mexican spotted owl potential habitat would be insignificant because of the small area of disturbance and the fact that the habitat had not been occupied for at least 8 years, the NNSA changed its determination of affect for the proposed project to "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" any individual Mexican spotted owls or critical habitat for the species. The Service concurred in an April 2003 response letter with NNSA's determination of affect for the CMRR Project. As there would be no change to the area or use originally described in the consultation package, the April 2003 Service response letter completed the necessary Endangered Species Act section 7 consultation requirements for CMRR Facility actions at the subject location.

Conclusions: If NNSA elects to build CMRR Facility Phase A at Alternative Location 1, the environmental impacts would not exceed the bounding conditions analyzed in the CMRR EIS, provided construction and operations comply with the bounding requirements in Table 2-1 (page 2-21) and Table 2-2 (page 2-26) of the CMRR EIS. The construction footprint for Phase A should be 4 acres or less with a total floor area of 200,000 square feet or less. Additional disturbed acreage would include up to 2 acres for construction laydown and 5 acres for a new parking lot. The CMRR EIS describes a security station associated with the underground tunnel. The pedestrian/utility tunnel that is part of the CMRR Facility Phase A would be constructed from the Alternative Location 2 site under Pajarito Road into the TA-55 PIDAS area for future connection to the CMRR Hazard Category 2 nuclear building, which would be part of a later phase of the overall project. The utilities area is described in the CMRR EIS and its square footage is included in the 200,000 square foot figure. Thus, CMRR Facility Phase A as currently proposed is bounded by the CMRR EIS description provided the total area of all buildings is 200,000 square feet or less.

## Table 1. Potential Effects of the Proposed Action, Alternative Location 1 Location of CMRR Phase A West of TA-55

| Resource Area | CMRR EIS/ROD | Proposed Action Alternative Location 1 |
|---|---|---|
| Land Use | Total area of land disturbance for buildings, parking lots and construction lay down areas is 26.75 acres. CMRR Facility Phase A would disturb about 4 acres, plus 2 acres for construction lay down and 5 acres for a new parking lot. | No changes projected. |
| Visual Resources | General appearance of the CMRR Facility structures would be consistent with the industrial nature of other buildings within the TA-35, TA-50, TA-55 complex. | No changes projected. |
| Site Infrastructure | LANL infrastructure resources would be adequate to support proposed mission activities. | No changes projected. |
| Air Quality | No major changes in emissions or air pollutant concentrations at LANL. | No changes projected. |
| Noise | Temporary and minor noise associated with construction; no change in noise impacts on the public outside of LANL. | No changes projected. |
| Geology and Soils | LANL activities are not expected to change geology in the area, trigger seismic events, or substantively change slope stability | No changes projected. |
| Surface Water | Storm water runoff from construction activities could potentially impact downstream surface water resources, but would be minimized through implementation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan. No surface water impacts are expected as a result of operations. | No changes projected. |
| Groundwater | No impacts on groundwater are anticipated for construction and operation of the CMRR Project. | No changes projected. |
| Terrestrial Resources | The CMRR EIS noted the potential loss of some wooded areas, depending on the site selected. | Some trees in the area west of the TA-55 PIDAS would be lost in building on this location. No changes projected. |
| Threatened and Endangered Species | No likely adverse effects expected to potential Mexican spotted owl habitat. Concurrence of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service obtained for "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" determination finding. | No changes projected. |
| Cultural Resources | One prehistoric site eligible for the National Register of Historic Places located west of the TA-55/TA-48 boundary to be mitigated by avoidance. A memorandum of agreement would be signed between NNSA and SHPO to mitigate any adverse effects. | Construction of parking lot south of Pajarito Road would result in loss of several historic features related to pre-Manhattan era homesteads. Data recovery would mitigate loss of these resources. Concurrence of State Historic Preservation Officer would be obtained prior to start of construction. |

| Resource Area | CMRR EIS/ROD | Proposed Action Alternative Location 1 |
|---|---|---|
| Public Health-Radiological | The average annual dose to an individual in the population is 0.0063 mrem for CMRR operations compared to the annual limit of 10 mrem established for DOE operations in 40 CFR 61. Majority of the CMRR dose from the Hazard Category 2 laboratory. | No changes projected. |
| Environmental Justice | No disproportionately high or adverse impacts to minority or low-income populations identified. | No changes projected. |
| Waste Management | Generation of solid nonhazardous waste, hazardous waste, sanitary waste, and radioactive waste would be within the existing capacity of waste treatment and disposal facilities available to LANL. | No changes projected. |

**Alternative Location 2: South of Pajarito Road**

Alternative Location 2 for the CMRR Facility Phase A Project would be within the potential use area in TAs-55 and -50 south of Pajarito Road as shown in Figure 1. The footprint for the Phase A project construction would remain less than 11 acres as analyzed in the CMRR EIS. If Alternative Location 2 were selected, the parking lot for displaced vehicle parking originally planned for this location would be constructed adjacent to the new administrative offices and support functions building. The site topography slopes to the southwest and southeast toward the mesa edge, thus some filling and leveling would be required to construct elements of the CMRR Facility in that portion of the site. Also, development of this portion of the site would result in the loss of some mature trees.

The area of disturbance south of Pajarito Road where the CMRR Facility Phase A structures would be constructed is less than the 4 acres analyzed in the CMRR EIS. Additional disturbance of up to 2 acres for construction lay down and 5 acres for the new parking lot to the east in TA-50 were included in the total 26.75 acres of affected land analyzed in the CMRR EIS. The area south of Pajarito Road has access to most utilities, although some utility pipelines may need to be relocated and new utility lines would need to be installed to service the CMRR Facility. The sanitary sewer pipeline runs directly beneath the proposed construction site, and the potable water pipeline and electrical lines are located on the east side of the potential use area. The pedestrian/utility tunnel that is part of the CMRR Facility Phase A would be constructed underneath Pajarito Road and into the area north of Pajarito Road for future connection to the CMRR Hazard Category 2 nuclear building, which would be part of a later phase of the overall project.

Cultural Resource Considerations: The CMRR EIS did not specifically discuss cultural resources located on the south side of Pajarito Road, but prior consultation with the SHPO for that area addressed the pre-Manhattan era homestead features located there. In July 2001, LANL archeologists prepared a cultural resource report for a separate project that was proposed to traverse the same general area. A separate consultation letter to the

SHPO was submitted in May 2003 for the proposed CMRR Facility parking lot. The consultation letter describes NNSA's proposal to execute a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the NNSA and the SHPO. The MOA would ensure that adverse effects of destroying the homestead remains through construction actions would be resolved first through data recovery projects associated with homestead features in the area. LANL archaeologists would perform the data excavation fieldwork, submit any artifacts and samples from the excavation for analysis, and prepare an excavation report for the SHPO.

Biological resource considerations:
As previously stated for Alternative Location 1, consultation was initiated in April 2003 with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the CMRR Project as described in the CMRR EIS. This consultation included the parking lot area located on the south side of Pajarito Road. The consultation package identified an area on the south side of Pajarito Road that was larger than the acreage required for the parking area. The proposed use of the site was only for construction of a parking lot. The Service concurred in an April 2003 response letter with NNSA's determination of "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" either individual Mexican spotted owls or their potential habitat for the CMRR Facility, including the parking lot area on the south side of Pajarito Road. The Service requested that NNSA reopen consultation if the project is changed or new information revealed additional affects of the proposed action to listed species.

NNSA has reopened its consultation with the Service on the CMRR Project with regard to Alternative Location 2. NNSA has determined that constructing both the parking lot and the Phase A CMRR project components at Alternative Location 2 "may affect, but not likely adversely affect" potential Mexican spotted owl habitat in this area. The NNSA considered the additional land disturbance, potential loss of habitat along the mesa edge, and the effects of construction noise and lighting in reaching this determination of affect. Construction would not proceed until NNSA receives concurrence from the Service and agrees on any mitigating actions that may be necessary for the determination of affect.

Conclusions: If NNSA elects to build CMRR Facility Phase A at Alternative Location 2 within the potential use area south of Pajarito Road, the environmental impacts would not exceed the bounding conditions analyzed in the CMRR EIS, provided construction and operations comply with the requirements in Table 2-1 (page 2-21) and Table 2-2 (page 2-26) of the CMRR EIS. The construction footprint for Phase A would be the same as is bounded by the analysis in the CMRR EIS. The area of disturbance for the CMRR Phase A buildings would be 4 acres or less with a total floor area of 200,000 square feet or less. Additional disturbed acreage would include up to 2 acres for construction laydown and 5 acres for a new parking lot. The location south of Pajarito Road has access to most utilities, but some additional trenching would be required to move existing utilities and to construct short pipelines and electric service lines. Also, the topography of the area would require some filling and leveling and the removal of some mature trees. Actions required to mitigate adverse effects to cultural resources have been identified and consultation with the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office is on-going and all actions are scheduled for completion prior to any construction. A determination of "may

affect, not likely to adversely affect" either individual Mexican spotted owls or potential habitat for the species has been made by NNSA and is under consideration for concurrence by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Thus, construction of CMRR Phase A at Alternative Location 2 would have environmental impacts that are bounded by the analysis of impacts presented in the CMRR EIS.

## Table 2. Potential Effects of the Proposed Action, Alternative Location 2 Location of CMRR Phase A South of Pajarito Road

| Resource Area | CMRR EIS/ROD | Proposed Action Alternative Location 2 |
|---|---|---|
| Land Use | Total area of land disturbance for structures, parking lots and construction lay down areas is 26.75 acres. CMRR Phase A would disturb about 4 acres, plus 2 acres for construction lay down and 5 acres for a new parking lot. | No changes projected. |
| Visual Resources | General appearance of the CMRR Facility would be consistent with the industrial nature of other buildings within the TA-35, TA-50, TA-55 complex. | No changes projected. |
| Site Infrastructure | LANL infrastructure resources would be adequate to support proposed mission activities. Up to 1,200 linear feet of pedestrian/utility tunnel would be required. | Some additional trenching would be required to relocate and connect utilities. Also, a pedestrian/ utility tunnel would be constructed under Pajarito Road to connect with the future CMRR Hazard Category 2 nuclear structure. The linear footage of the tunnel is bounded by the CMRR EIS analysis. |
| Air Quality | No major changes in emissions or air pollutant concentrations at LANL. | No changes projected. |
| Noise | Temporary and minor noise associated with construction; no change in noise impacts on the public outside of LANL. | No changes projected. |
| Geology and Soils | LANL activities are not expected to change geology in the area, trigger seismic events, or substantively change slope stability | No changes projected. |
| Surface Water | Storm water runoff from construction activities could potentially impact downstream surface water resources, but would be minimized through implementation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan. No surface water impacts are expected as a result of operations. | No changes projected. |
| Groundwater | No impacts on groundwater are anticipated for construction and operation of the CMRR Project. | No changes projected. |
| Terrestrial Resources | The CMRR EIS noted the potential loss of some wooded areas, depending on the site selected. | Some trees in the area due south of the Pajarito Road/Pecos Drive intersection and along the mesa edge would be lost in building on this location. No changes projected. |

| Resource Area | CMRR EIS/ROD | Proposed Action Alternative Location 2 |
|---|---|---|
| Threatened and Endangered Species | No likely adverse effects expected to Mexican spotted owl habitat. Concurrence of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to be obtained. | Re-initiation of consultation necessary to reflect additional disturbance. No changes to affects projected. Concurrence of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service would be obtained prior to construction. |
| Cultural Resources | Construction and operation impacts to be resolved by avoidance or memoranda of agreement between NNSA and SHPO to mitigate any adverse effects. | Data recovery of historic features on south side of Pajarito Road in proposed area of building construction and parking lot would mitigate loss of these resources. Data recovery and final concurrence of State Historic Preservation Officer would be obtained prior to start of construction. |
| Public Health-Radiological | The average annual dose to an individual in the population is 0.0063 mrem for CMRR operations compared to the annual limit of 10 mrem established for DOE operations in 40 CFR 61. Majority of the CMRR dose from the Hazard Category 2 laboratory. | No changes projected. |
| Environmental Justice | No disproportionately high or adverse impacts to minority or low-income populations identified. | No changes projected. |
| Waste Management | Generation of solid nonhazardous waste, hazardous waste, sanitary waste, and radioactive waste would be within the existing capacity of waste treatment and disposal facilities available to LANL. | No changes projected. |

## Conclusion

The CMRR EIS analyzed four different action alternatives, plus the no action alternative, for the replacement of the aging CMR building at LANL and evaluated the environmental impacts of construction and operations for each of these alternatives. In its ROD for the CMRR EIS, NNSA announced its decision to select the Preferred Alternative for construction of a new CMRR facility at TA-55. New security considerations at LANL have led to proposals for a change to the site location of the administrative offices and support functions building that would include radiological laboratory space and utilities support, a connecting tunnel, and a small access control station. This Phase A component of the CMRR Project would now be located to one of two possible locations in or near Technical Area (TA) 55 that differ slightly from the proposed locations for these structures identified and analyzed in the CMRR EIS. The CMRR EIS provides the NEPA compliance analysis for the Preferred Alternative projected activities. This SA compares key impact assessment parameters of this proposal to the CMRR Project evaluated in the CMRR EIS and provides an explanation of any differences between the current proposal and the Preferred Alternative described in the ROD.

Alternative Location 1 would locate the administrative offices and support functions building west of the PIDAS within TA-55 and TA-48. The construction and operation of the Phase A structures at this alternate location would result in no changes to the impacts analyzed in the CMRR EIS. Alternative Location 2 across Pajarito Road to the south of TA-55 would require the completion of additional consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in order to obtain concurrence with a determination of "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" either individual Mexican spotted owls or potential habitat for the species. Either alternative location would require completion of consultation with the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office and data recovery to mitigate adverse impacts to historic resources located on the south side of Pajarito Road. A Memorandum of Agreement between NNSA and the SHPO and a data recovery program would be completed prior to start of construction. Thus, the SA demonstrates that the impacts of the proposed change to the Preferred Alternative for siting the administrative offices and support functions building and related structures that are part of Phase A of the CMRR Project are bounded by the impacts analyzed in the CMRR EIS.

**FINDING:** The United States Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration finds that the environmental impacts of the Proposed Action are adequately bounded by the analyses of impacts projected by the 2003 *Environmental Impact Statement for the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Building Replacement Project at Los Alamos National Laboratory*, and no Supplemental CMRR EIS is required. The Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration makes this Finding pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 [42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.], the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act [40 CFR 1500] and the Department of Energy National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures [10 CFR 1021].

Signed in Los Alamos, New Mexico this 2nd day of February, 2005.

Edwin L. Wilmot, Manager
Los Alamos Site Office

## References

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