

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

NOTICE 94-LERC-05

National Environmental Policy Act; Finding of No Significant Impact; Rehabilitation of the Propulsion Systems Laboratory (PSL), Primary Cooler and Central Air Equipment Building (CAEB) Exhausters, located in Buildings 123, 124, 125 and 64 at the Lewis Research Center

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration

ACTION: Finding of No Significant Impact

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and NASA's Procedures for Implementing NEPA (14 CFR Subpart 1216.3), NASA has made a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with respect to the planned repair and upgrade of existing systems in the PSL (Buildings 124 and 125), Primary Cooler (Building 123) and CAEB (Building 64) at the Lewis Research Center located in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio. The project includes the rehabilitation of six CAEB exhausters, replacement of the third bank PSL primary cooler tubes, and upgrades and repairs in the heater engine building of the PSL complex.

DATE: Comments in response to this notice must be received in writing no later than (30 days after the first date of publication in the local newspaper).

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Mr. Peter W. McCallum, Chief, Office of Environmental Programs, NASA Lewis Research Center, Mail Stop 6-4, 21000 Brookpark Road, Cleveland, OH 44135; telephone 216-433-8852. The Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared for the Rehabilitation of the Propulsion Systems Laboratory (PSL), Primary Cooler and Central Air Equipment Building (CAEB) Exhausters, located in Buildings 123, 124, 125 and 64, which supports this FONSI can be reviewed at:

NASA Lewis Research Center
Office of Environmental Programs, Building 6
(Contact Peter W. McCallum, 216-433-8852)

Berea Public Library, 7 Berea Commons
(Contact Mary Ellen Nichols, 216-234-5475)

Fairview Park Public Library, 4449 West 213th Street
(Contact Gary Claxton, 216-333-4700)

North Olmsted Public Library, 27425 Butternut Ridge Road
(Contact Donna Meyers, 216-777-6211)

Rockport Branch, Cleveland Public Library
4421 W. 140th Street
(Contact Eunice Peters, 216-623-7053)

NASA Headquarters Information Center
Room 1H23
Two Independence Square, S.W.
Washington, DC 20546
(Contact Kenneth M. Kumor, 202-358-1112)

A limited number of copies of the EA are available by contacting Mr. Peter W. McCallum, Chief, Office of Environmental Programs, at the address and/or telephone number indicated herein.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Peter W. McCallum, Chief, Office of Environmental Programs,
NASA Lewis Research Center, Mail Stop 6-4, 21000 Brookpark Road,
Cleveland, OH 44135; telephone 216-433-8852.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

NASA has independently reviewed the EA prepared for the Rehabilitation of Propulsion Systems Laboratory, Primary Cooler and Central Air Equipment project and has determined that it represents an accurate and adequate analysis of the scope and level of associated environmental impacts. The EA is incorporated by reference in this FONSI.

The NASA Lewis Research Center is proposing a project which will rehabilitate specific components of major air handling and conditioning equipment used in support of the NASA/LeRC aeronautics program.

The proposed action consists of three components which involve the repair and upgrade of existing and degraded systems in the Propulsion Systems Laboratory (PSL) complex and the Central Air Equipment Building (CAEB). The first component addresses internal repairs to six CAEB exhausters. The second component addresses the last phase of a three-phase project to replace deteriorated finned-cooler tubes and supports in PSL. The third component of the proposed project addresses the necessary PSL heater building upgrades which include the replacement of exhaust mufflers, an expanded control system and related repairs.

Two major alternatives to the proposed action were considered. First, the implication of not doing the work was examined. This alternative was judged to be significantly less desirable than the proposed action since it would result in continued degradation of the equipment in question. This option would do nothing to improve the operating problems and high maintenance costs associated with these deteriorating systems.

The second alternative considered complete replacement of the subject equipment in PSL and CAEB as opposed to merely rehabilitating it. While this alternative presents environmental impacts at least as great as those associated with the proposed action, it was judged to be inferior since this alternative would result in considerable "down-time" and the cost would be prohibitive.

The proposed rehabilitation effort will generate some solid waste in the form of fabrication materials, old equipment/parts and removed tubes which will be disposed of as scrap. The operation of the PSL and CAEB results in the generation of a quantity of solid waste, but after rehabilitation, the total amount generated will be less than current levels. During rehabilitation, there will also be a minor impact on local air quality due to dust generated by demolition and rehabilitation, and a minor amount of construction noise will occur. Replacement of the heater engine mufflers will ultimately decrease the operating-noise level in the PSL area. The proposed project does not require conversion of any land from other uses. NASA has determined that the proposed project will not affect long-term air or water quality, wetlands, cultural resources, threatened or endangered species or critical habitat, or other flora or fauna. The facilities are not located in a floodplain. No other matters of potential environmental concern have been identified.

On the basis of the EA developed in connection with the Rehabilitation of the Propulsion System Laboratory, Primary Cooler and Central Air Equipment Exhausters (Lewis Research Center) and underlying reference documents, NASA has determined that the environmental impacts associated with this project will not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the quality of the environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required. NASA will take no final action or authorize construction activities prior to the expiration of the 30-day comment period.

for *Donald J. Campbell*
Donald J. Campbell, Director
Lewis Research Center

7/13/94
Date

Concurrence:

Robert E. Hammond
Robert E. Hammond, Director
Environmental Management Division
NASA Headquarters

7/1/94
Date