

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION  
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

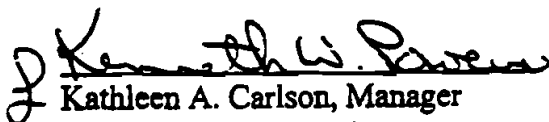
ATLAS RELOCATION AND OPERATION AT THE NEVADA TEST SITE

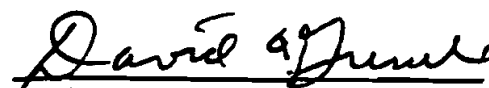
The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) (DOE/EA-1381) to analyze the proposed action to relocate the Atlas pulse power machine from Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) to the Nevada Test Site (NTS). At the NTS, Atlas would be reassembled in a newly constructed building within a designated Industrial, Research, and Support site in Area 6. After reassembly, Atlas would be commissioned to ensure proper operation and then used to conduct approximately 40 pulsed power experiments per year, with a potential to increase to approximately 100 experiments per year, should the Stockpile Stewardship Program require it. The EA also addresses alternatives to the proposed action and analyzes the no-action alternative wherein the Atlas pulse power machine would remain in Los Alamos, New Mexico and continue to be operated at the LANL site.

The purpose and need of the NNSA is described in Section 1.0 of the EA. A detailed description of the proposed action and alternatives is presented in Section 2.0. Section 3.0 describes the affected environment. Section 4.0 describes the environmental consequences of the proposed action and no-action alternative. Cumulative effects are addressed in Section 5.0. The proposed action of moving the Atlas machine to the NTS does not represent a major change to the stockpile stewardship program but rather a relocation of an asset within the stockpile stewardship complex.

**FINDING:**

Based on the information and analysis contained in the EA, the DOE finds that neither the proposed action nor the alternative would constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the meaning of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*). Thus, an environmental impact statement is not required.

  
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Date: 5/29/01