

ADOPTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT and FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT;

DETERMINATION OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

DOE/EA-1868: MANHATTAN PROJECT SITES

Los Alamos, New Mexico; Hanford, Washington; Oak Ridge, Tennessee; Dayton, Ohio

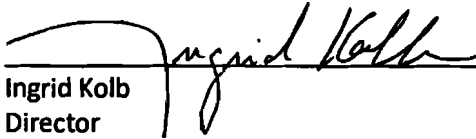
BACKGROUND: The National Park Service (NPS) issued an Environmental Assessment (September 2010) in consultation with DOE for a proposed action of recommending that Congress authorize an innovative Manhattan Project National Historical Park. The Park Service selected an alternative for the proposed park that includes publicly and privately owned facilities in Oak Ridge, Tennessee; Los Alamos, New Mexico; and the Hanford, Washington area. The boundaries of the national historical park would be defined by enabling legislation and refined by the general management planning process. The National Park Service would have the overall responsibility for interpretation and education at the three sites and will provide technical assistance to resource preservation efforts. DOE would continue to have total responsibility for operations, maintenance, and historic preservation of historic Manhattan Project properties now under their jurisdiction. NPS issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (October 18, 2010) for the selected alternative.

The NPS EA states that in full collaboration with DOE, community groups, and stakeholders, NPS will be responsible for preparing a general management plan and environmental impact statement for the national historical park, which will provide the blueprint for the long-term preservation and public use of park resources.

ADOPTION: DOE hereby adopts as a DOE Environmental Assessment, DOE/EA-1868, the National Park Service Special Resource Study/Environmental Assessment, Manhattan Project Sites, which includes a National Park Service Finding of No Significant Impact for the selected alternative.

DETERMINATION: Based on the information presented in DOE/EA-1868, there would be no significant impacts to public health, public safety, threatened or endangered species, historic properties either listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, or other unique characteristics of the region. No highly uncertain or controversial impacts, unique or unknown risks, or significant cumulative effects were identified. Implementation of the action will not violate any Federal, State, or local environmental protection law. Recommending the Congressional authorization of a Manhattan Project National Historical Park is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and, therefore, preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required.

2-25-11
Date



Ingrid Kolb
Director
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