

## **Official Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment**

### **U.S. Department of Energy/ National Nuclear Security Administration Production Office Pantex Plant**

Through proposed action evaluation, as required under Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1021 (10 CFR 1021), the Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration Production Office (DOE/NNSA/NPO) has determined that an environmental assessment (EA) is required for the proposed High Explosives Synthesis, Formulation, and Production Facility (HESFP) project at the Pantex Plant (Pantex) in Amarillo, Texas.

NPO proposes to design, construct, and operate a new synthesis, formulation, and blending facility at Pantex. The HESFP facility would support the Pantex Plant mission through several areas and capabilities to allow Pantex to maintain DOE/NNSA's Center of High Explosives Excellence. This project would consolidate legacy facilities that are inadequate for the mission need, and would ensure the required capability and capacity is available to meet future high explosives workload and mission requirements.

NPO will prepare an EA in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), and the DOE regulations for implementing NEPA (10 CFR 1021). Based on the analysis in the EA, NPO will either prepare a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) and proceed with the action, prepare an environmental impact statement if the EA reveals the potential for significant adverse environmental impact, or prepare a FONSI with mitigation measures. Stakeholders will be provided the opportunity to review and comment on the Preliminary Final EA.

Comments/Input related to this Notice of Intent should be sent by June 12, 2020 to: Environmental Assessment Notice of Intent, Mr. Steven Wyatt, Public Affairs Manager, DOE/NNSA/NPO, P.O. Box 2050, Oak Ridge, TN 37831 or by e-mail at [Steven.Wyatt@npo.doe.gov](mailto:Steven.Wyatt@npo.doe.gov). For information on this proposed action, Mr. Wyatt may be contacted by means listed above or by telephone at (865) 576-9918 or fax (865) 576-1237.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE DOE NEPA PROCESS:** Information on general DOE NEPA-related information is available from: The U.S. Department of Energy, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (GC-20), 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585-0119 or leave a message on the toll-free number: 1-800-472-2756; fax: 202-586-7031; or e-mail [AskNEPA@hq.doe.gov](mailto:AskNEPA@hq.doe.gov).