

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Compliance Cover Sheet

Proposed Action: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposes to provide cost-shared financial support, through a cooperative agreement with Integrated Concepts & Research Corporation (ICRC) and Syntroleum Corporation, for construction and operation of a 70 barrel-per-day gas-to-liquids (GTL) fuels production plant at the Tulsa Port of Catoosa Industrial Park in Rogers County, OK. DOE would provide about 44% of the approximately \$36 million cost of the project, which would comprise a 3-year effort under DOE support, with plant operation for 6 months. The GTL fuels production plant would use natural gas to produce near-zero sulfur content diesel fuel and other clean transportation liquids.

During the 6 months of operation for DOE, the plant would produce sufficient ultra-clean synthetic diesel fuel for fleet vehicle testing in Washington, D.C., and at the Denali National Park in Alaska. Diesel fuel product would also be produced for testing in advanced light- and heavy-duty engines. The plant may be operated for short time periods to produce synthetic jet fuel for testing as a candidate for aircraft engine applications. Following completion of the fuels production project for DOE, the plant could continue operating under private funding.

Type of Statement: Final Environmental Assessment

Lead Agency: U.S. Department of Energy; National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL)

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Abstract: DOE's objective in participating in the cooperative agreement is to support demonstration of a technology potentially capable of producing ultra-clean transportation fuels, primarily clean, near-zero sulfur content diesel fuel for future transportation sector needs. The GTL fuels production plant would be installed within an industrial park possessing the required infrastructure and containing tenants that process or handle similar qualities and quantities of materials and chemicals.

The environmental analysis identified that the most notable changes resulting from the proposed action would occur in the following areas: air emissions, construction impacts, land use, noise, and water discharges. No adverse environmental effects were identified in analyzing the potential consequences of these changes.

Public Comments: DOE encourages public participation in the NEPA process. A Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) was distributed for public review on March 8, 2002, and comments were solicited through the close of the comment period on March 25, 2002. The EA was made available at the Catoosa Public library and the Tulsa City-County Library in Oklahoma. Newspaper notices announcing availability of the Draft EA were printed in the Tulsa World and Claremore Progress. In addition, availability of the draft EA was announced and made available on-line through the NETL website. Copies of the draft EA were also provided to cognizant Federal and State officials. No comments were received from members of the public. The U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, provided comments, and their response is discussed in Section 11 and included in Appendix A. All comments were considered and addressed as appropriate in this Final Environmental Assessment, which will be used for decision-making on proceeding with the proposed action.