

Department of Energy
Office of Science
Berkeley Site Office
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
1 Cyclotron Road, MS 90-1023
Berkeley, California 94720

June 17, 2009

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY (NOA)
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

Project Title: BELLA Laser Acquisition, Installation, and Use for Research and Development
Lead Agency: Department of Energy
Project Location: One Cyclotron Road, Berkeley, California 94720
County: Alameda County
Contact Person: Kim Abbott, NEPA Document Manager
Department of Energy, Berkeley Site Office
One Cyclotron Road, MS 90-R1023
Berkeley, CA 94720

Proposed Action: The Department of Energy (DOE) proposes to create and operate an experimental facility for further advancing the development of laser-driven, plasma-based, particle beam accelerators. An existing approximately 7,000 square-foot accelerator laboratory area inside Building 71 at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) would be modified to accommodate the new facility. A utility room and stairwell would be placed in an approximately 2,000 square-foot area of the Building 71 roof. The Berkeley Laboratory Laser Accelerator (BELLA) laser, laser plasma accelerator, ancillary equipment, and radiation shielding would be installed. The laser and laser plasma accelerator would be operated for research and development that would focus the laser system's laser beam pulses on the entry to a meter-long plasma channel (inside the laser plasma accelerator) to produce and accelerate an electron beam pulse to an energy level on the order of 10 giga electron volts (GeV) within the meter length of the channel. The Proposed Action's unique attribute would be the comparatively short distance over which the laser plasma accelerator generates a 10 GeV electron beam. The ultimate goal of this undertaking is support the DOE's need to substantially reduce the size, cost, energy usage, and environmental impacts associated with future electron or positron accelerators.

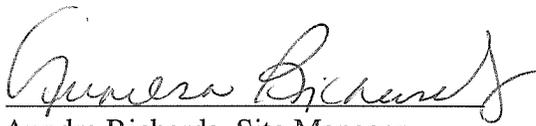
Environmental Review and Comment: DOE, the federal lead agency, has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed action in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and DOE's *NEPA Implementing Procedures* (10 CFR Part 1021). The draft EA includes a description of the proposed project, as well as an environmental impact analysis covering the following resource areas: hazards and human health, hydrology and

water quality, energy use and greenhouse gases, utilities, visual quality, air quality, noise, traffic, cultural resources, intentional destructive acts, and cumulative impacts. Proposed action purpose, need and alternatives are discussed.

This notice formally solicits your comments on the BELLA draft EA referenced above. This document can be obtained from the following website: <http://www.lbl.gov/community/BELLA/>; copies also will be available for viewing at the Berkeley Public Library at 2090 Kittredge, Berkeley, CA 94704.

Comments should include both your name and a mailing address and should be postmarked no later than 5:00 PM on July 18, 2009. Please mail your comments to the attention of Kim Abbott at the address noted above or email your comments to kim.abbott@bso.science.doe.gov.

If you have any questions regarding this NOA, or regarding the availability of the draft EA, or to request a hard copy of the EA please contact Kim Abbott by email at the address noted above or by voicemail at (510) 486-7909.

Signature: 
Aundra Richards, Site Manager
DOE Berkeley Site Office

Date: 6/17/2009

cc:
The Honorable Barbara Lee, U.S. House of Representatives
Carol Borgstrom, GC-20, HQ/FORS

cc: State Agencies

State Clearinghouse
CA Air Resources Board, Executive Officer
CA Department of Fish and Game, Director, Donald Koch
CA Department of Health Services, Chief, Radiological Health Branch, Edgar Bailey, et al.
CA Department of Parks & Recreation, Office of Historic Preservation, State Historic Preservation Officer, M. W. Donaldson, FAIA,
CA Department of Water Resources, Director, Lester Snow
CA Environmental Protection Agency, Secretary, Linda S. Adams, et al.
CA EPA, Department of Toxic Substances Control, Mohindar Sandhu et al
CA Regional Water Quality Control Board, Bruce H. Wolff, Executive Officer, Keith Lichten, Section Leader Environmental Compliance, et al
CA State Resources Agency, Mike Chrisman, Secretary
CA State Water Resources Control Board, Executive Director, Dorothy Rice, et al
CalTrans, Director, Will Kempton; Region 4 Director, Bijan Sartipi, et al

CC: Federal Agencies

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 Administrator, Wayne Nastri; Radiation & Compliance Assurance, Michael Bandrowski, et al
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento Field Office, Susan Moore, Chief Supervisor
U.S. Department of Energy, Berkeley Site Office, Aundra Richards, et al
U.S. Department of Energy, NEPA Compliance Officer – Oakridge Operations Office, Gary Hartman
U.S. Department of Energy, NEPA Document Manager - BSO, Kim Abbott
U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, Elaine Jackson-Retondo, Historian

Regional/County Agencies

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Alameda County, LAFCO, Executive Officer, Mona Palacios
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Alameda County, Planning Department, Agency Director, James Sorenson, et al
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East Bay Municipal Utilities District, General Manager, Dennis Diemer, et al
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City of Berkeley, Energy Officer, Neal DeSnoo
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City of Berkeley, Fire Department, Deby Pryor, Fire Chief, et al
City of Berkeley, Transportation Division Manager, Farid Javandel

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City of Berkeley, Public Works Commission, Jeff Egeberg, Secretary
City of Berkeley, Zero Waste Commission, Tania Levy, Secretary
City of Berkeley, Transportation Commission, Farid Javandel, Secretary

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City of Oakland, City Attorney John Russo
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City of Oakland, City Administrator, Acting Dan Lindheim
City of Oakland, Fire Department, Daniel Farrell, Fire Chief, et al

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City of Albany, City Clerk, Jacqueline Bucholz
City of Albany, Administrator, Beth Pollard

El Cerrito and Kensington

El Cerrito Fire Department & Kensington Fire District, Lance Maples, Fire Chief

CC: University of California Office of the President (UCOP)

UCOP, External Relations, Dan Dooley, Interim Executive Vice President

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UCOP, Federal Government Relations, Carolyn Henrich, Director
UCOP, Physical and Environmental Planning, Acting Director
UCOP, Office of General Counsel, Elisabeth Gunther, University Counsel

CC: UC Berkeley

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UC Berkeley, Executive Vice Chancellor, George Breslauer
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UC Berkeley, Botanical Garden, Paul Licht, Director, et al
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UC Berkeley, Residence Hall Assembly, Oriana Madrigal Zamora, President

CC: Organizations

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Downtown Berkeley Association, Executive Director, Deborah Badhia
Euclid-LeConte Neighbors, Jim Sharp et al
League of Women Voters BAE, President, Jinky Gardner, et al
Nyingma Institute, Program Director, Abbe Blum
Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, President & CEO, Joseph Haraburda
Panoramic Neighborhood Association, President, Jerry Wachtel
Sierra Club, Group Chair, Kent Lewandowski
Urban Creeks Council, UCC Vice Chair, Carole Schemmerling
Friends of Strawberry Creek, Work Programs, Jennifer Pearson
Save Strawberry Canyon, Janice Thomas

CC: Individuals and Neighbors

(Various)