

<b>REQUEST FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS</b>		<i>Report Control Symbol (RCS):</i> 25-030
INSTRUCTIONS: <i>Section I to be completed by Proponent; Sections II and III to be completed by Environmental Planning Function. Continue on separate sheets as necessary. Reference appropriate item number(s).</i>		
<b>SECTION I - PROPONENT INFORMATION</b>		
1. TO ( <i>Environmental Planning Function</i> ) 319 CES/CENPL	2. FROM ( <i>Proponent organization and functional address symbol</i> ) Air Force - 319 OG/XP	2a. TELEPHONE NO. (701) 747-7446
3. TITLE OF PROPOSED ACTION Global Hawk Battery Recharging/Storage Buildings		
4. PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION ( <i>Identify decision to be made and need date</i> )		
<p><b>1. State the purpose of this action.</b> This action corrects current unsafe Global Hawk lithium battery charging and storage practices at Grand Forks AFB, ND. The remedy is to erect two unoccupied pre-engineered buildings, with utility connections to meet this need.</p> <p><b>2. State the need for this action.</b> Lithium batteries do not vent hydrogen under normal conditions but will vent hazardous and explosive gases upon failure. Current lithium battery charging and storage is in an occupied building and does not meet requirements outlined under Unified Facility Criteria (UFC) 3-520-05, Stationary and Mission Batteries. According to the UFC, paragraph 3-3.1, the preferred location for lithium battery storage is in an unoccupied, segregated shelter adjacent to the occupied building.</p> <p><b>3. What do you intend to accomplish and why is the action necessary?</b> This action erects two standalone pre-engineered structures (one for battery recharging and one for battery storage) adjacent to, but 50 feet away from, Hangar 601. This construction includes concrete foundation pads, access sidewalks, and utility runs from Hangar 601 to these structures. This action meets the requirements laid out under UFC 3-520-05.</p> <p><b>4. What is currently being done to meet the need?</b> Lithium batteries are recharged and stored within occupied building 607. This facility is not designed to meet this UFC requirement.</p> <p><b>5. Provide any additional details related to the Purpose and Need for Action.</b> The 319 Operations Group will purchase these structures, and the 319 Civil Engineer Squadron will provide the concrete pads, sidewalks, and utility connections.</p> <p><b>Need Date:</b> 03/14/2025</p>		
5. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES (DOPAA) ( <i>Provide sufficient details for evaluation of the total action.</i> )		
<p><b>1. Describe the proposed action.</b> Erect two pre-engineered buildings, with utility connections, to recharge and store lithium batteries. These structures shall rest on a 15-foot by 44-foot concrete pad on the north side of building 601 (see attached map). An 8-foot wall will divide the two structures, and the structures shall have electrical power.</p> <p><b>2. Describe alternatives to the proposed action.</b> 1. No Action Alternative: Continue recharging/storing batteries in Building 607, 2. Renovate existing un-occupied building for battery recharging/storage. 3. Construct two standalone buildings for battery recharging/storage.</p> <p><b>3. What alternatives were eliminated from consideration and why?</b> 1. No Action Alternative: The continued practice to recharge/store batteries in Building 607 does not meet UFC requirements and poses a health risk. 2. Renovate existing un-occupied building for battery recharging/storage: Grand Forks AFB does not have un-occupied buildings available in its inventory to meet this need. 3. Construct two standalone buildings for battery recharging/storage: The programming, funding, and construction timeline to support this alternative is too long to make this a reasonable option.</p> <p><b>4. Describe what will happen if no action is taken.</b> As noted in subsection #3, the No Action Alternative does not meet UFC requirements and poses a health risk.</p>		

**5. Please provide a description of the construction action and timing when it will occur.**

Upon Work Task approval, 319 Civil Engineer Squadron will construct the pads and sidewalks by spring/summer 2025. By fall 2025, the 319 Operations Group will purchase the structures for delivery to the site. Following their placement, the 319 Civil Engineer Squadron will provide utility connections.

**6. Describe the project location. Attach map(s)/diagram(s) – make sure to include an overview map of where your requested project area is on the installation.**

Fifty feet west of Hangar 601 (see attached map).

**7. Describe additional project requirements: 1) Construction and site preparation requirements (include approx. area of ground to be disturbed); 2) Does the project require a laydown yard or storage area? If so, describe the location and groundwork required.**

Minimum groundwork and laydown/storage areas are expected.

**8. Describe additional project requirements: 3) Will soil boring/sampling/potholing occur during a design phase? If so, a separate dig permit will be required; 4) Detailed operational activities; 5) Equipment/material lists.**

None

**9. Will the project require utilities? How will those utilities be provided to the facility?**

As noted above, the 319 Civil Engineer Squadron will provide the utility connections.

**10. Provide any additional details related to the Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives (e.g., outline mitigation measures and other issues).**

**Map Attachments:**

[Pages from Tab 2 - FB Slides 20240820 \(20240821\).pdf](#)

**Location Description / Justification:**

See attached siting approved by the GFAFB Facilities Board.

6. PROPONENT APPROVAL (Name and Grade) Greene Robert DOD - robert.e.greene3	6a. SIGNATURE Submitted on behalf of: Falch, Jon Contractor (Jon.Falch..3.ctr@us.af.mil - (701) 747-7446) //Greene Robert DOD - robert.e.greene3 i:0e.t fedvis robert.e.greene3//	6b. DATE 01/17/2025
<b>SECTION II - PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY</b> (Check appropriate box and describe potential environmental effects including cumulative effects.) (+ = positive effect; 0 = no effect; - = adverse effect; U = unknown effect)		<b>+      0      -      U</b>
7. AIR INSTALLATION COMPATIBLE LAND USE/ZONE USE (Noise, accident potential, encroachment, etc.)		<b>X</b>
8. AIR QUALITY (Emissions, Attainment status, state implementation plan, etc.)		<b>X</b>
9. WATER RESOURCES (Drinking water, wastewater, quality, quantity, source, water features, etc.)		<b>X</b>
10. SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH (Asbestos/lead-based paint/radiation/chemical exposure, explosives safety quantity distance, bird/wildlife aircraft hazard, etc.)		<b>X</b>
11. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/WASTE (Use/storage/generation, solid waste, toxic materials, etc.)		<b>X</b>
12. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (Wetlands/floodplains, threatened or endangered species, etc.)		<b>X</b>
13. CULTURAL RESOURCES (Burial sites, archaeological, historical, etc.)		<b>X</b>
14. GEOLOGY AND SOILS (Topography, minerals, geothermal, Installation Restoration Program, seismicity, etc.)		<b>X</b>
15. SOCIOECONOMIC (Employment/population projections, school and local fiscal impacts, etc.)		<b>X</b>
16. OTHER (Potential impacts not addressed above, such as Host Nation considerations/concerns for non-US locations.)		
<b>SECTION III - ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS DETERMINATION</b>		

17. ☒ PROPOSED ACTION QUALIFIES FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CATEX) #DA-(c)(1) ; OR
- ☐ PROPOSED ACTION DOES NOT QUALIFY FOR A CATEX; FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS IS REQUIRED.

18. REMARKS

Air Force adopted Army CATEX DA 2(c)(1) Construction of an addition to an existing structure or new construction on a previously undisturbed site if the area to be disturbed has no more than 5.0 cumulative acres of new surface disturbance. This does not include construction of facilities for the transportation, distribution, use, storage, treatment, and disposal of solid waste, medical waste, and hazardous waste (REC required). In accordance with HQs AFCEC guidance, employing this CATEX requires the installation to post the final AF Form 813 on thier webpage.

Added following legal review:

After review, this proposed project does not present any extraordinary circumstances as described by 32 C.F.R. Part 989, Section A2.2 in which a normally excluded action may have a significant effect.

19. ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING  
FUNCTION CERTIFICATION (*Name and Grade*)  
Landon, Lance GS-13

19a. SIGNATURE  
//lance.e.landon i:0e.t[fedvis|lance.e.landon//

19b. DATE  
03/13/2025

AF IMT 813, 199990901, V1

THIS FORM CONSOLIDATES AF FORMS 813 AND 814.  
PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF BOTH FORMS ARE OBSOLETE.

**CONTINUATION SHEET****Review Comments:****Hazardous Materials/Waste** (01/17/2025 - Greene Robert DOD - robert.e.greene3)

1. Would the Project require the use of new or different hazardous or toxic substances that may come in contact with the surrounding environment? No, hazardous substances associated with battery recharging/storage are contained within the project's structure.
2. Would mission personnel be required to use hazardous or toxic materials to implement the Project? Except for the self-contained substances in the batteries, no other hazardous or toxic materials are projected. If found otherwise, the user must coordinate these substances with the 319 Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Compliance Office.
3. If renovation is to occur, has the building been surveyed for asbestos-containing material (ACM)? Coordinate with the Toxics Program POC on whether ACM is present, and if the renovation and disposal will be conducted IAW ACM regulations. N/A This is a new set of structures.
4. Does the Project have the potential to generate hazardous materials and/or waste? No, this project reduces safety risks by relocating the battery charging/storage functions into separate stand-alone structures instead of in an occupied facility.
5. Would the Project require issuance of new or modified solid waste and/or hazardous waste related permit? No. When these batteries can no longer serve their purpose, they are exchanged with the depot maintenance (off the installation) for replacement. Therefore, during their life cycle they do not meet the definition of a hazardous waste.
6. If renovation is to occur, lead base paint (LBP) may be present. Coordinate with the Toxics Program POC accordingly. N/A This is a new set of structures.
7. Does the Project require hazardous waste to be collected and stored on the property? This action does not generate hazardous waste.
8. Does the Project increase potential risks for explosion, spill or the release of hazardous materials or waste? No, these structure are designed specifically for battery charging/storage.
9. Any wastes characterized as Universal (lamps, batteries, etc.) or Hazardous waste must be properly disposed of by the contractor in accordance with (IAW) all federal & state regulations. This requirement is briefed to facility managers.

**Safety and Occupational Health** (01/17/2025 - Swenson Andrew DOD - andrew.e.swenson)

Reviewed/Approved

NSTR

**AFCEC Restoration** (01/21/2025 - Olderbak Lawrence DOD - lawrence.r.olderbak)

PFAS in the soil and groundwater. Recommend slab on grade. If footings are used, all soil must be reused on site or disposed of as PFAS waste.

**Bioenvironmental** (01/21/2025 - patrick.norindr [User])

If concrete work involving sanding, grinding, cutting, drilling, or breaking up concrete which generates dust is to be performed by Air Force Civilians or Service Members, contact GFAFB Bioenvironmental Engineering prior to the process being performed to conduct a health risk assessment in conjunction with air breathing zone sampling (at least 2 days in advance). If density gauges (e.g., troxler gauges) are to be used, notify the Installation Radiation Safety Officer (IRSO) for authorization to bring radiation producing equipment onto the installation. The IRSO for GFAFB is Major Horus A.V. Cheyne (horus.a.cheyne.mil@health.mil) and the Alternate IRSO is SSgt Patrick Norindr (patrick.norindr.mil@health.mil).

**AICUZ/Land Use** (01/21/2025 - Slivnik Kyle DOD - kyle.s.slivnik)

1. Will the Project produce excessive noise? No.
2. Are there any sensitive receptors within the increased noise zones? No.
3. Will the effects of the Project require changes to the surrounding land use outside the installation boundaries? No.
4. Will the Project increase the potential for encroachment concerns? No.
5. Will installation airspace, range, military training route airspace, special use airspace or uncontrolled airspace be affected and/or require modification? No.

**Water Resources** (01/21/2025 - Klaus Christopher DOD - christopher.j.klaus)

1. Will a new or modified National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), or HN equivalent, permit be required? No. The disturbed area will be less than an acre. Local Construction Stormwater Permit will be sufficient.
2. Would the Project require permitting to discharge effluents into an existing body of water? No. Stormwater best management practices will be followed.
3. Would the Project impact any existing body of water, floodplain or jurisdictional wetland? Not as long as stormwater controls are utilized.
4. Are there downstream sedimentation or storm water-born pollution issues that may be impacted by implementing the Project? No. See #3.
5. Will the Project comply with the installation's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan or require a modification? It will comply.
6. Does the installation drain to an impaired water body and would the Project have the potential to create excessive runoff, sedimentation, and/or erosion as a result of implementing the Project? Yes. While there is the potential for during construction for impacts, stormwater controls will be utilized, and impacts minimized.
7. Would the Project have the potential to adversely affect/require mods or substantial changes to installation or community groundwater, wastewater, storm water or other natural or manmade water systems to accommodate regulated wastewater pollutants? No.
8. Does the installation lack sustainable and adequate potable and process water supplies to support the Project? Yes.

**Other** (01/21/2025 - Habeck William DOD - william.a.habeck)

Real Property - These two structures will be considered Real Property unless they are purchased and approved as Relocatable facilities.

**Tanks** (01/21/2025 - lynn.k.overend [User])

1. Will the Project require a new and/or replacement of a tank(s)? No.  
No tanks are identified.
2. Will the Project require the relocation of a tank(s)? No. No tanks are identified.

**Cultural Resources** (01/22/2025 - ayla.a.morehouse [User])

Previous surveys determined there are no cultural resources in the project area.

no further comment.

**Biological Resources** (01/22/2025 - ayla.a.morehouse [User])

Specify if climate control systems will be installed to minimize spontaneous combustion risk.

No threatened and endangered species or species of concern occur within the project area.

**Natural Resources** (01/22/2025 - ayla.a.morehouse [User])

This project does not occur within wetlands, floodplains or other habits that require additional planning. No further comments at this time.

**Air Quality** (01/23/2025 - lynn.k.overend [User])

1. Will the Project create criteria pollutant and/or hazardous air pollutant emissions during construction and or operations? Largely if damaged, charging and storage of lithium batteries can potentially produce criteria and/or hazardous air pollutants. Ventilation may be required.  
  
Minor ground disturbance during construction can produce fugitive emissions and are expected to be below the regulatory threshold and would be managed in accordance with NDAC 33-15-17-03. Best management practices (BMPs) to reduce fugitive emissions to be implemented to reduce the amount of these emissions.
2. Will implementation of the Project require the issuance of a new or modified air permit? No.
3. Has the Project been analyzed in Air Conformity Applicability Model (ACAM)? Attach the ACAM report. No. ACAM is not required as

GAFAB is in attainment and the state of ND has supremacy for Air Quality NAAQs, not EPA.

4. Will the Project include source(s) that may be classified as a New Source or a major modification of an existing source? No

5. Will mitigation, emissions control devices and/or other management practices be required to minimize or eliminate effects to the region's air quality condition with regard to attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)? No

**Legal** (03/13/2025 - Haney Aimee DOD - aimee.r.haney)

Provided review/comment under separate coordination. Action is legally sufficient with incorporation of additional comment as recommended.

**Attachments:**