MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subj: CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION FOR BUILDINGS 74 & 75 REPLACE EXISTING FIRE ALARM PANELS AND INSTALL ANTENNAS, NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY BETHESDA

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 5090.6A, Policies and Responsibilities for Implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act within the Department of Navy, dated 26 April 2004
(b) OPNAVINST 5090.1E Ref (c), Environmental Readiness Program Manual, 25 JUN 2021

1. ACTION SPONSOR: Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences

2. Program/Project: 1736876

3. REGULATION/REQUIREMENTS:
   a. Per reference (a), the subject action has been reviewed under Navy procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
   b. Per reference (b), a determination that the proposed action may be Categorically Excluded from additional NEPA review and documentation has been made based on the evaluation of the effect of the proposed action on the human and natural environment.

4. DESCRIPTION of PROPOSED ACTION: The proposed action is to replace the existing fire alarm panels in Buildings 74 and 75. These new panels include antennas that allow them to be linked with Navy Yard dispatch. The antennas, roughly 3 feet in height, are to be installed on the roof of both buildings. The necessary cables will need to be pulled to connect the antenna to the panel. The new systems will also update the fire alarm system in Building 74 with two manual pull stations, one duct smoke detector, one water flow switch, and a tamper switch. In Building 75, the new system includes three manual pull stations, two smoke detectors, one duct smoke detector, and one water flow pressure switch.

5. ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS: The installation of the new fire alarm panels and antennas in Buildings 74 and 75 are not anticipated to have any significant impacts on natural resources, storm water, traffic, air quality, noise, solid waste generation or hazardous waste generation. Buildings 74 and 75 are less than 50 years old, and thus are not considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, nor are they considered contributing resources to the National Naval Medical Center (NNMC) or the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI) Historic District. As such, the project will not have any impact on cultural resources.

This project is not expected to have a significant impact of interior or exterior air quality. Short term traffic and noise impacts are expected during construction. These impacts are
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Temporary and are limited to construction noise or increased construction vehicle traffic. These impacts can be mitigated by following the installation policies on time of day restrictions and avoidance of peak travel hours for both construction work and construction deliveries.

No hazardous material generation is expected during this project; however, should asbestos or other hazardous materials be discovered, the contractor shall work with the Public Works Department to ensure proper disposal per regulatory requirements. All non-hazardous construction debris will be disposed of per regulatory requirements, or recycled where possible.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE DETERMINATION: In accordance with Executive Order 12898, this action is not anticipated to have disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations.

7. NO EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES: The following statements are made for the record to clarify that there are no extraordinary circumstances associated with this proposed action:

a. Buildings 74 and 75 were built in 1989 and are less than 50 years old, and thus are not considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, nor are they considered contributing resources to the NNMC or AFRRI Historic District. The Navy has determined that this action does not have the potential to affect the historic properties within the NNMC Historic District or any other cultural resource on base.

b. After full consideration, this project has been determined not to have, individually or cumulatively, a significant effect on the quality of the human or natural environment under normal circumstances, including public health, security and safety, cultural resources, or that of any endangered or threatened species.

8. DECISION/FINDING: The proposed action has been reviewed and meets the criteria for a Categorical Exclusion per reference (b), see Section 10-3.14 Table 10-6, No. 14, “Alterations of and additions to existing buildings, facilities, and systems when the environmental effects will remain substantially the same and the use is consistent with applicable regulations.” This action can be excluded from further documentation under NEPA.

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Copy to: CO, NSA Bethesda

This document does not relieve the proponent of compliance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations. If the scope of work is modified, the Project Engineer/Planner must inform PWD Environmental to have the Categorical Exclusion reviewed for accuracy.