

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE KANSAS CITY NATIONAL SECURITY CAMPUS  
(KCNSC) KCNExT, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI  
DOE/EA-2225**

**Notice:** Kansas City National Security Campus

**Action:** Finding of No Significant Impact; Environmental Assessment for the Kansas City Non-Nuclear Component Expansion Transformation (KCNExT), Kansas City, Missouri (DOE/EA-2225)

**Date:** November 1, 2023

**1) SUMMARY:**

The Kansas City National Security Campus (KCNSC) issues this Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on its proposed action to acquire and operate a new facility/campus east of the existing KCNSC Botts Campus in Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri. In response to the KCNSC's growing workload and in support of NNSA's mission to maintain a safe, secure, and effective nuclear stockpile, NNSA is pursuing a plan to incrementally expand its manufacturing capacity and office space necessary to sustain continued production growth required by the current Program Of Record (POR). As proposed, KCNExT is a multi-year, multi-phase project, to create a series of independent projects to accommodate expected long-term growth beyond Fiscal Year (FY) 2028. The KCNExT facility would be on the property east of the existing KCNSC Botts Campus as shown in **Figure 1**. NNSA has a unique opportunity for non-traditional acquisition and development of the land adjacent to the existing KCNSC Botts Campus to support expanded mission objectives and future enterprise resilience. NNSA seeks to secure this property through an innovative lease-purchase acquisition with construction completed by the current landowner/developer.

The previous relocation of the NNSA non-nuclear production and procurement activities from the Kansas City Plant (KCP) located at the former Bannister Federal Complex (BFC) to the current facility was reviewed in accordance with the *National Environmental Policy Act* (42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 *et seq.*; NEPA) through completion of an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the *Modernization of Facilities and Infrastructure for the Non-Nuclear Production Activities Conducted at the Kansas City Plant* (U.S. Department of Energy [DOE]/EA-1592) and was supported by a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), issued April 29, 2008. Section 4.3 of DOE/EA-1592 provides a description of the KCNSC. An assessment of the current and proposed operations at the existing Botts Campus and Building 23 was evaluated in the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the *KCNSC Sitewide Assessment of Botts and Building 23 Operations, Kansas City, Missouri* (U.S. Department of Energy [DOE]/EA-2167) supported by a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), issued July 21, 2021.

The EA (DOE/EA-2225) provided NNSA with the information needed to make an informed decision regarding the impact to the environment of the acquisition and operation of KCNExT. The EA was prepared to provide the following information to decision makers and other document reviewers:

- The purpose and need for agency action and background information on the KCNSC;
- A description of the proposed action, actions considered but removed from further consideration, and the no-action alternatives considered to meet the applicable facility needs;
- The analysis of the potential direct and indirect effects of the proposed action and no-action alternative on the human and natural environment;
- Identification and characterization of potential cumulative effects that could result from the proposed action in relation to past, present, and other reasonably foreseeable future actions; and
- A discussion of applicable regulatory requirements related to the proposed action.

Based on the findings in the EA, the NNSA has determined that the proposed action is not a major Federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment within the meaning of NEPA. Therefore, the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not necessary, and NNSA is issuing this FONSI.

## **2) FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Further information, including an electronic copy of the EA and this FONSI will be made available on the following website: <https://www.energy.gov/nnsa/national-nuclear-security-administrations-environmental-assessments-and-environmental-impact> or <https://www.energy.gov/nepa/doe-environmental-assessments>.

For further information on the NEPA process, other NEPA documents, or to request a hard copy of the EA or this FONSI contact:

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## **3) SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

This EA and FONSI reference and expand on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the *Modernization of Facilities and Infrastructure for the Non-Nuclear Production Activities Conducted at the Kansas City Plant* (U.S. Department of Energy [DOE]/EA-1592) supported by a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), issued April 29, 2008; and the EA for *The KCNSC Sitewide Assessment of Botts and Building 23 Operation* (U.S. Department of Energy [DOE]/EA-2167) supported by a FONSI, issued July 21, 2021. Those documents should be consulted for additional information.

NNSA prepared EA (DOE/EA-2225) and published it on August 15, 2023. Based on the findings in the EA, NNSA has concluded that no information has been made available that is inconsistent with a FONSI.

#### **4) PURPOSE AND NEED:**

The purpose of the proposed action is to support expanded mission objectives and future enterprise resilience for the continued success of NNSA's Stockpile Stewardship Program. The proposed action would satisfy the following needs:

***Current and forecasted production increases*** - Since completing the move to the KCNSC Botts Campus location in 2013, the NNSA and their onsite operations and management contractor, Honeywell Federal Manufacturing & Technologies (FM&T), have experienced significant growth in workload and personnel to support the modernization of the nuclear stockpile, and supporting mission assignments for new or modernized weapons. Together the existing KCNSC Botts Campus, Building 23, and three major office space leases currently support more than 7,800 employees (across multiple shifts), with approximately 1,000 employees to be added by 2032 to support forecasted operational levels. The NNSA has redistributed staff and operations within the KCNSC Botts Campus, leased additional administrative office space across the Kansas City metropolitan area; and in 2020 purchased Building 23, a warehouse at 14901 Andrews Road in Kansas City, Missouri to provide additional production space near the KCNSC Botts Campus. Updated forecasts and workload projections beyond 2028 indicate the need for additional manufacturing space and the flexibility to rotate operational needs across KCNSC facilities.

***Expansion of activities to support the NNSA's national security mission*** – KCNSC facilities are charged with manufacturing and sourcing more than 80 percent of the non-nuclear components that go into the nuclear stockpile. Support of the Nation's Defense Programs requires large expanses of manufacturing space dedicated to NNSA's mission of keeping our nation's nuclear stockpile safe, secure, and reliable by delivering mission-critical mechanical, electrical, and engineered material components. The continued flexibility to update, share, and relocate manufacturing, warehouse, and administrative operations is needed to address NNSA's mission while relieving existing space pressures within the KCNSC Botts Campus, Building 23, and additional leased office space.

#### **5) DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES:**

**Proposed Action:** To continue to meet the NNSA's nuclear security mission and maintain manufacturing and process requirements to support national security as set forth in the Administration's Nuclear Posture Review and captured in NNSA's Stockpile Stewardship and Management Plan, the NNSA developed a plan to acquire and operate a new facility/campus (KCNEXT) near the existing KCNSC Botts Campus and Building 23 to provide flexibility to expand, reconfigure, and/or move any or all operations conducted across the KCNSC Kansas City metropolitan area facilities. Development of this property will be conducted by the property development company that owns the neighboring parcel of land. Phased development is proposed over several years to construct individually necessary portions of the property to meet expanding requirements. In addition to acquiring and operating the KCNEXT campus, KCNSC may

move operations and employees from other leased facilities in the Kansas City metropolitan area to KCNExT, terminating leases at those locations as warranted.

As proposed, KCNExT is a multi-year, multi-phase project to create an additional 400,000 square feet (SF) of office space and an additional 500,000 SF of manufacturing space to accommodate expected long-term growth. Construction of the South Stage Development (south of the stream) is planned to begin in late 2023 and will likely continue through approximately 2035. The South Development Stage is envisioned to include office space, a separate central utility plant (CUP) along with other manufacturing support facilities; intermodal loading/unloading; truck inspection station; and employee parking for approximately 2,500 vehicles. North Development Stage Development (north of the stream) would begin at a later date, adding another 400,000 SF of manufacturing and office space along with support services, and approximately 1,200 additional employee parking spaces. As facilities come online, development of an Evergy Substation may occur along the western edge of the subject property to support the electrical demands of all three KCNSC facilities. Figure 2-1 illustrates KCNExT.

**No Action Alternative:** Under the no-action alternative, operations currently conducted at the KCNSC Botts Campus and Building 23 would continue with no modification of operating space. At the end of 2023, NNSA/KCNSC would gain an additional 200,000 SF of manufacturing space within Building 23 as addressed in the July 2021 Sitewide Environmental Assessment (DOE/EA-2167) when the current tenant's lease expires. The KCNSC Botts Campus facilities were designed with the goal of maximum flexibility in arranging production work to accommodate surges and changes in workload requirements. Under the no-action alternative, the NNSA would continue to adjust operations and attempt to support required workloads. By FY 2028 and beyond, schedule delays would occur because of projected shortfalls in manufacturing space and capabilities required to meet forecasted workloads and NNSA mission requirements.

Since 2015, the NNSA has taken steps to optimize operations and expand capacity within the Kansas City metropolitan area and at the KCNSC Botts Campus including:

- Added second and third work shifts.
- Purchased new and additional manufacturing equipment.
- Hired 2,000 additional employees to accomplish additional workload.
- From 2016 through 2019, leased approximately 900 additional offsite office spaces.
- In 2020, expanded operations to Building 23.
- In 2024, maximize operational space within Building 23.

The no-action alternative would not satisfy NNSA's operational needs nor its ongoing mission, and therefore is not considered a reasonable alternative. The no-action alternative is only carried forward as a baseline for comparison to the proposed action.

## **6) ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES OF PROPOSED ACTION:**

The following is a summary of the findings of the EA (DOE/EA-2225). As described in Chapter 3.0 of the EA, the current landowner/developer has conducted numerous resource studies (e.g., wetland delineations and stream assessment, bat acoustic survey and analysis, Phase 1 and Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessments, and Preliminary Traffic Impact Study) and has obtained the environmental clearances and permits required to proceed with construction of the site improvements. Under the resource categories of climate, geology and soils, groundwater hydrology, surface water hydrology, waters of the US and wetlands, flora and fauna, historical and cultural resources, and socioeconomics, no effects or very minor effects may occur as a result of the acquisition and operation of KCNExT because either the resources are not present or mitigation has been included as part of the permits obtained by the landowner/developer or as part of the operational plan for KCNExT.

Impacts would occur in the following categories and were evaluated in the EA: Land Use, Air Quality, Aesthetics, Infrastructure, and Waste Management.

**Land Use:** Operation of the 245-acre KCNExT as part of the overall KCNSC facilities would be compatible with existing and proposed land uses and published plans for the surrounding area. The KCNExT property and surrounding lands are designated for and occupied by industrial uses. Since 2021, additional development associated with the Kansas City Intermodal Facility on the former Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base and the I-49 Industrial Park has occurred south of MO-150 and west of I-49/US 71. The development of KCNExT includes the creation of turn lanes and the addition of a turn signal along Botts Road to manage increased traffic volumes during peak travel periods and shift changes associated with KCNExT operations. These planned roadway improvements would not change or negatively affect the use of adjacent properties.

**Air Quality:** Operation of KCNExT would generate emission levels anticipated to fall below the limits defined in the existing NNSA and CenterPoint special case *de minimis* permits during the early stages of development south of the stream but may require a separate permit as additional manufacturing areas come online during the continuation of operations as the site is built out. Expansion of operations to KCNExT would require installation of new/updated emission control units at all KCNSC facilities, depending on the workload to be supported, to maintain levels under the special case *de minimis* thresholds. The NNSA would continue to monitor air emissions from all facilities to maintain compliance with the permits and any changes in the regulations. If future growth in operations would result in emissions exceeding the current permitted limits, the NNSA would seek to amend existing permits or request that a new permit be issued by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) in accordance with applicable Federal and State regulations. Operation of KCNExT would not affect the overall attainment status of the area, would not exceed the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), and would maintain compliance with the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

**Aesthetics:** KCNExT is anticipated to be of a similar visual style as the adjacent KCNSC Botts Campus. KCNExT would generate the same types of noise generated at the KCNSC Botts Campus and Building 23 as the result of manufacturing practices, material and product shipping and receiving activities, operational noises associated with a new Central Utility Plant (CUP), employee and vendor vehicles traveling across the site and along MO-150, I-49/US 71, and the surrounding road system. Because the KCNSC facilities are in an industrial area and away from sensitive noise receptors, increases in operational noise should have a minimal effect on the overall sound levels within the immediate area. The building type and design of KCNExT would be similar to that of buildings on the KCNSC Botts Campus. Vehicle parking at KCNExT would be accommodated on surface lots and a future two-story parking garage to be developed based on demand. KCNExT would be landscaped in a similar manner to the KCNSC Botts Campus. The stream corridor and its associated vegetation on the KCNExT property would provide a visual buffer through the center of KCNExT and would add to the visual diversity of the property.

**Infrastructure:** KCNExT would be supported by the same utility providers as currently service the KCNSC Botts Facility and Building 23. Permanent utility infrastructure would be extended to the KCNExT property to support ongoing uses of electricity, natural gas, domestic and fire protection system water, and sanitary sewer. As new workloads are monitored, construction of an Industrial Wastewater Pretreatment Facility (IWPF) at KCNExT would occur to address industrial wastewater volumes. The IWPF would be a similarly scaled operation to that of the existing IWPF serving the Botts Campus (occupying approximately 5,000 SF adjacent to Building 23). Appropriate visual screening and security would be installed in conformance with development codes. Temporary utility services may be needed in 2024 to keep pace with forecasted manufacturing activities as the KCNExT facilities come online. KCNSC and Honeywell FM&T are working on a sustainability waiver for carbon-free requirements at KCNExT. To address increases in employee supplier traffic between the existing KCNSC Botts Campus and KCNExT, turning lanes and a traffic signal would be added at the existing intersections along Botts Road and the interchange at Botts Road and MO-150, based on the recommendations from the July 2023 Traffic Impact Study conducted by the landowner/developer, to keep the existing roadways and intersections operating within acceptable levels of service. A private driveway located midway between Botts Road and Colorado Avenue and connecting to MO-150 would be used during Phase 1 to provide construction, employee and emergency access to KCNExT. No changes would be made to Botts Road south of MO-150 or to Andrews Road that provides access to Building 23.

**Waste Management:** The volume of waste generation would increase at KCNSC facilities once KCNExT comes online. Regardless of the characteristics of the waste stream, management of non-hazardous, hazardous, and small quantities of low-level radioactive waste would continue to occur in the same manner as under current operational levels. All wastes would continue to be categorized and disposed of according to the Federal and State permits held by the NNSA and following applicable Federal, State,

and local regulations. At all KCNSC facilities, industrial wastes captured by an IWPF would continue to be disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations. Waste would be minimized through continued and expanded reuse and recycling efforts.

**Cumulatively significant effects:** No cumulative effects would result from the proposed action.

## **7) DETERMINATION:**

In accordance with NEPA and DOE NEPA implementing regulations (10 CFR Part 1021); and based on the findings in the EA, NNSA finds that the relocation of employees and equipment to a new facility is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the meaning of NEPA. Therefore, the preparation of an EIS is not required and KCNSC is issuing this FONSI for the proposed action.

Issued at the Kansas City National Security Campus this 1st day of November 2023.

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Jeff Shoulta  
Field Office Manager



**Building 23**

**KC NEXT**

**KCNSC Botts Campus**

**Study Area Map**  
Kansas City  
National Security Campus  
KC NEXT DOE/NNSA

**BURNS & MCDONNELL**

**Scale in Feet**  
0 500 1,000

**North Arrow**

**Inset Map**  
Kansas City  
Lawrence