

February 20, 2024

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment for the Sila Nanotechnologies – Moses Lake Auto-Scale Silicon Anode Plant Project (DOE/EA-2214D)

Dear Reader,

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) - National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) invites comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) for the Sila Nanotechnologies – Moses Lake Auto-Scale Silicon Anode Plant Project. The Draft EA can be found on DOE's NETL EA website at <https://netl.doe.gov/node/6939>.

The Draft EA has been prepared in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) and DOE's NEPA implementing procedures (10 CFR Part 1021). DOE prepared the Draft EA to analyze the potential environmental, cultural, and social impacts of partially funding the construction of Sila Nanotechnologies' silicon anode manufacturing facility in Moses Lake, Washington and evaluated resource areas commonly addressed in EAs. The proposed project would consist of two phases of facility construction and operation, including modifications to an existing 613,000 square foot industrial building, plus site improvements, new sheds/buildings, new equipment installation, and other infrastructure upgrades. All ground disturbances beyond the footprint of the existing 613,000 square foot building would cover approximately 26 acres of the 162 acres of land owned by Sila Nanotechnologies. Phase 1 includes installation of facility infrastructure and equipment to support up to 300 tons/year (tpy) of production capacity, while Phase 2 includes installation of additional equipment to expand production capacity up to 2,300 tpy. The two phases will run concurrently once both are constructed. The proposed project would create more than approximately 150 – 300 full-time equivalent jobs that would offer benefits such as workforce training and education initiatives to raise equity levels in the greater Moses Lake community. Together, these efforts would engage the local workforce and make a positive contribution to the local economy of Moses Lake while significantly strengthening the U.S. lithium-ion battery industry.

A notice of availability will be published in the Columbia Basin Herald newspaper for three days starting on February 20, 2024, to announce the beginning of the 30-day public review and comment period. A hard copy of the Draft EA will be available for review at the Moses Lake Public Library at 418 East 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Moses Lake, WA 98837.

Comments will be accepted on the Draft EA through close of business on March 20, 2024. All comments received during the public comment period will be addressed. Comments received after the end of the comment period will be addressed to the extent practicable. Comments should be marked "Sila Nanotechnologies Draft EA Comments" and should include your name, address, and organization (if applicable). Individual names and addresses, including email addresses, received as part of the public comment period

normally are considered part of the public record. Persons wishing to withhold names, addresses, or other identifying information from the public record must state this request prominently at the beginning of their comments. DOE will honor this request to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations, businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be included in the public record and open to public inspection in their entirety.

Comments should be sent to Stephen Witmer via email ([stephen.witmer@netl.doe.gov](mailto:stephen.witmer@netl.doe.gov)) or letter addressed to:

Stephen Witmer  
U.S. Department of Energy  
National Energy Technology Laboratory  
626 Cochran Mill Road  
M/S 921-227  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

To request a hard copy of the Draft EA, please submit your request (including the physical address where it should be sent) using the contact information above. For additional information, please contact Stephen Witmer using the contact information above, or at 412-386-7589.

Sincerely,



Stephen Witmer  
NEPA Compliance Officer