



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Manhattan Project National Historical Park
12795 West Alameda Parkway
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287



IN REPLY REFER TO:

April 12, 2022

Memorandum

To: Tamsen Dozier, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

From: Kris Kirby, Superintendent, Manhattan Project National Historical Park

Subject: NPS Scoping Comments on Kairos Test Reactor

The National Park Service (NPS) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) scoping process to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the environmental impacts for a construction permit (CP) requested by Kairos Power, LLC (Kairos). The Hermes test reactor (aka a "testing facility"), is in very close proximity to the K-25 site, which is part of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park's (Manhattan Project NHP) Oak Ridge unit (see attached map). Manhattan Project NHP is jointly operated and administered by the Department of Energy (DOE) and the NPS. DOE is the administrator and owner of the K-25 site. The NPS is responsible for interpretation at the site and in advising DOE to ensure that safe public access is available for the park's visitors once the site is open to the public. In view of this, the NPS offers the following comments:

- The K-25 site is scheduled to be open to the public within the next 5 years. This will allow open access to the area 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and will not be staffed most of the time. We request this be taken into consideration when planning security and public safety for the project.
- There may be some opportunities to include interpretation material at or in proximity to the proposed Kairos facility that illustrates the history of nuclear science and technology and demonstrates linkages to the work done at K-25 during World War II. The NPS would be interested in collaborating with Kairos and/or the NRC on these efforts. The NPS is also currently working with Roane County, Tennessee to develop interpretation and recreation programs based at and near the waterways near the K-25 site.
- DOE is still in the process of developing plans in the area, and public access locations to the K-25 NPS site have not yet been determined. At this point, it is uncertain how close the public will be able to get to the Kairos facility. Adding to the uncertainty is the

planned nearby Oak Ridge airport, which has the possibility of impacting public access to the NPS site and other planned developments. We are monitoring these developments and will take them into consideration in relationship to the Kairos project when planning for public access at the K-25 site.

We look forward to learning more about this project and will continue to provide comments as requested. If you have questions, you may contact Manhattan Project NHP Oak Ridge Site Manager, Niki Nicholas at niki_nicholas@nps.gov.

Kris Kirby
Superintendent

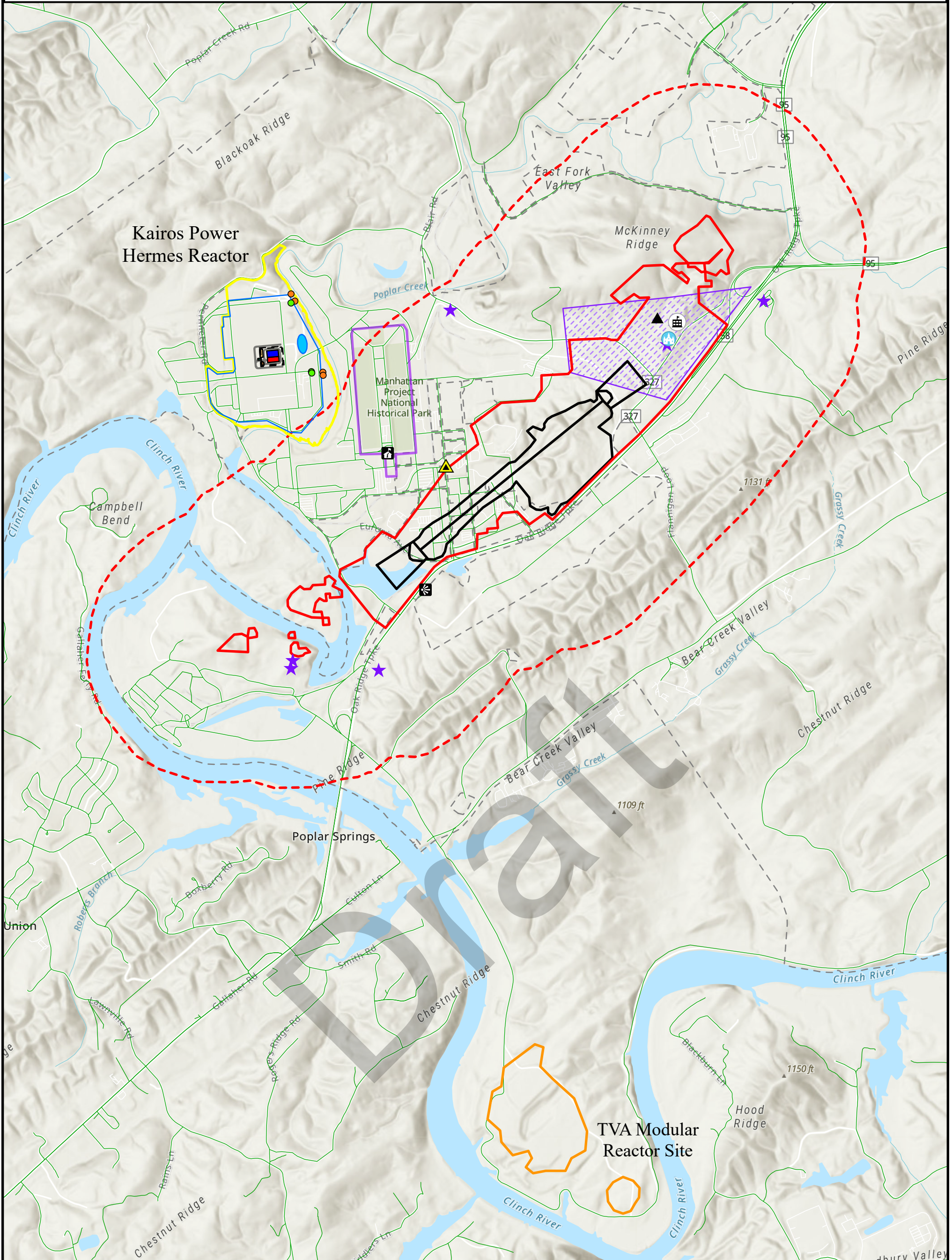
Attachment

cc:

Niki Nicholas, Superintendent, Big South Fork River & Recreation Area and Obed Wild & Scenic River; Oak Ridge Site Manager, Manhattan Project NHP
Dusty Pate, Regional Energy & Minerals Specialist, NPS Southeast Regional Office
Ben West, Planning & Compliance Program Manager, NPS Southeast Regional Office



K-25 Area Oak Ridge Developments



Produced by BISO GIS Office
PCS: WGS 1984 Web Mercator
Auxiliary Sphere



0 0.5 1 Miles

Proposed Airport + Historic Sites

- Airport Layout Plan Boundary
- Direct APE
- Indirect APE
- Wheat Community Archaeological Dist.
- K-25 Historical Area
- Cemeteries
- George Arnold Property

K-25 Portal 4

- K-25 Portal 4
- K-25 Overlooks
- Viewing Platform
- Roane College
- George Jones Baptist Church
- TVA Modular Reactor
- Roane County Roads

Kairos Power Hermes Reactor

- Kairos Project Site
- Kairos Temporary Disturbed Area
- Administration Building
- Auxiliary Systems Building
- Maintenance Storage Building
- Reactor Building
- Road Parking Lot

Security Building

- Stormwater Pond
- Security Fence
- Oak Ridge Reservation Boundary
- Existing Outfall
- Existing Oil Water Separator