

November 2023

Dear Neighbor,

I am writing to let you know about upcoming work on the Fermilab site, near Kirk and Giese Roads. This month, we'll resume site preparation work for the Long-Baseline Neutrino Facility (LBNF), which will house the international Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment (DUNE).

Crews will remove shrubs and trees on about 5 acres of land on the Fermilab site that currently has about 20% tree coverage. Crews also will move soil and regrade the area in preparation for construction. This work will begin in November and will be completed in late spring 2024. Most of this prep work will be carried out weekdays between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m.

There will be noise levels typical of construction sources. Equipment that will be used includes treecutting machines, chain saws, excavators, bulldozers and large trucks.

Construction of the LBNF/DUNE facilities on the Fermilab site is expected to start in late summer or early fall 2025. It includes the construction of two single-story buildings and two multi-story buildings, related underground spaces, access roads, utilities and other infrastructure needed for the experiment.

We have set up a webpage for our neighbors with information about the LBNF/DUNE project: www.fnal.gov/neighbors-il. The website provides answers to frequently asked questions as well as an overview on the project. We also will post updates on that webpage. If you have additional questions, please contact Becky Thompson in the Fermilab Communication Division, 630-840-4283 or email at neighbors@fnal.gov.

Background on the project

Scientists and engineers in more than 35 countries are working on the LBNF/DUNE project to discover more about the role tiny particles called neutrinos play in our universe. The groundbreaking for LBNF at Fermilab took place in November 2019, with the first part of site preparation taking place in 2020. Now we are taking the next step.

Fermilab has conducted neutrino research for more than 40 years. The planning for the new facility started more than 10 years ago. In 2015 we held public meetings to gather input from the local community and stakeholders. The environmental assessment for the project was completed in 2015 as well and can be found on the webpage listed above.

In addition to funding from the U.S. Department of Energy, the project receives major contributions from international funding agencies and the European laboratory CERN.

Sincerely,

Scott Tingey
Fermilab Chief Operating Officer