



**U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
Categorical Exclusion Determination Form**



Program or Field Office: Office of Legacy Management

Project Title and I.D. No.: Implement Continuous Radiological Monitoring at the Mexican Hat, Utah, Disposal Site (LM 25-18)

Location: Mexican Hat, Utah

Proposed Action or Project Description:

The proposed radiological monitoring approach consists of continuous radon-222 (radon) and gamma radiation monitoring through the installation of a series of paired radon monitoring cups and thermoluminescent dosimeters within and around the perimeter of the disposal cell and outside of the site boundary. The objective of the monitoring is to provide decision makers with radiological data regarding the presence or absence of elevated radiological readings. The data would be compared to background conditions. It would provide supporting evidence that the disposal cell remains protective of human health and the environment. The initial installation would likely take place during the first quarter of fiscal year 2019 (October through December 2018) and is expected to take less than one week to complete. Monitoring devices will be affixed to t-posts and the existing perimeter fence within and outside of the site boundary. Continuous radiological monitoring is anticipated to occur throughout the next several years, with quarterly or semiannual collection and replacement of monitoring devices.

The proposed action would require the placement of radiation monitors in visible locations around the disposal cell perimeter. The proposed action needs to be communicated in advance to the local community by LM and Legacy Management Support (LMS) Public Relations personnel in order to avoid generation of public concern regarding the installation of new radiation monitors at this location.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

- B1.3, Routine maintenance;
- B3.1, Site characterization and environmental monitoring

For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Subpart D of 10 CFR Part 1021.

Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410(b): (See full text in regulation)

The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D

To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, such as those listed in paragraph B(5) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B.

There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1B), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

JOYCE CHAVEZ

Digitally signed by JOYCE CHAVEZ
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=Department of Energy, cn=JOYCE CHAVEZ, o.9.2342.19206300.100.11+09001003339844
Date: 2018.10.04 08:00:39 -0600

NEPA Compliance Officer:

Date Determined: