

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exclusion (CX) Applicable
Determination for the East Campus Parking Structure at
the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), Oak Ridge, Tennessee (3548X)**

The Department of Energy (DOE) Oak Ridge Office (ORO) proposes to construct a parking structure in the East Campus region of ORNL. This will provide staff parking in the most heavily populated area of ORNL. Construction activities will include clearing the area of trees and vegetation, grading the site, and constructing an approximately 200 feet long by 120 feet wide and 3-story high concrete and steel-supported structure. In addition, the surface areas on the west and south sides of the proposed structure would be graded and asphalt-paved. Asphalt-paved roads would be constructed to allow access to the parking structure and surface parking.

The proposed action meets the eligibility criteria for conditions that are integral elements of actions covered by categorical exclusions as stated in 10 CFR 1021.

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) and the Corps of Engineers have been consulted regarding Corps of Engineers and Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit (ARAP) requirements for this proposed project since there are wetlands and an intermittent stream that will be impacted. An Individual ARAP Permit has been issued to DOE by TDEC, and the Corps of Engineers has issued their written approval for this project. All undisturbed areas were surveyed for the presence of sensitive resources, which included threatened/endangered animal and plant species. The survey did not find any sensitive resources that required protection. A Wetland Assessment was prepared for activities that would impact the wetland at the proposed site, and the Wetland Notice of Involvement was published in the local newspaper. Public comments on the Notice were received and addressed.

The proposed action would not take place within the 100-year floodplain of any surface water body. Construction of the parking structure would not take place in close proximity to structures that are either eligible or included in the National Register of Historic Places. Waste disposition will include characterizing, packaging, and certifying the waste to assure that it meets the acceptance requirements of the receiving organization.

This project would pose no threat of significant individual or cumulative environmental effects. The described action is not part of an ongoing Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement. No extraordinary circumstances are related to this action, and the proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts.

The applicable CX under 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, for these actions is as identified below:

B1.15 - Siting, construction (or modification), and operation of support buildings and support structures (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated buildings) within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Covered support buildings and structures include those for office purposes, parking, cafeteria services, etc.

The above description accurately describes the proposed action which reflects the requirements of the CX cited above. Therefore, I recommend that the proposed action be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

SIGNED BY WILLIAM MARK BELVIN

March 2, 2010

W. Mark Belvin

Date

DOE-ORO Program Manager

Based on my review and the recommendation of the DOE-ORO Program Manager, I have determined that the proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

SIGNED BY JAMES L. ELMORE /for

March 2, 2010

G. S. Hartman

Date

DOE-ORO NEPA Compliance Officer