

Environmental Review Form for Argonne National Laboratory

Click on the blue question marks (?) for instructions, contacts, and additional information on specific line items.

(?)**Project/Activity Title:** Generic Categorical Exclusion: Routine Grounds and Maintenance Activities

(?)**ASO NEPA Tracking No.** ASO-CX-269 (?)**Type of Funding:** Operating
B&R Code _____

(?)**Identifying number:** ERF-0977R1 WFO proposal # _____ CRADA proposal # _____
Work Project # _____ ANL accounting # (item 3a in Field Work Proposal) _____
Other (explain) Original - ARG-CX-114; ESQ Log #820

(?)**Project Manager:** Casey Sullivan Signature: *Casey Sullivan* Date: 8/17/10

(?)**NEPA Owner:** Philip C. Rash Signature: *Philip C. Rash* Date: 8/16/10

ANL NEPA Reviewer: M. A. Kamiya Signature: *M. A. Kamiya* Date: 8/17/2010

I. (?)**Description of Proposed Action:**

SCOPE

This proposed action covers general grounds maintenance type work. These actions include: 1) grading and re-grading of selected areas and storm water conveyances, 2) erosion control and stabilization activities including rip-rap, erosion matting, filter fabric, and silt fencing, 3) landscaping maintenance and horticultural activities around buildings, park areas, and foot trails, 4) tree removal, pruning and planting and grass/lawn maintenance, 5) fertilizer, herbicide, and pesticide applications, 6) installation, maintenance and repair of wood and metal fencing, 7) storm sewer and culvert maintenance, 8) maintenance and operation of the soil, sand, mulch, and gravel storage and recycling areas in the 800 Area, East Area, and 362 Area, 9) the winter maintenance activities associated with snow removal and de-icing of roads and walkways, 10) control of invasive species.

RESTRICTIONS:

All activities would follow the conditions in 10CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B "Conditions that are Integral Elements of the Classes of Actions in Appendix B." In summary, the activities described in this Generic Categorical Exclusion would not take place in or impact wetlands, flood plains, streams, significant historical or cultural sites, structures, or parts thereof, or adversely affect any of the above.

All ground disturbing work would take place in previously disturbed sites within the boundaries of ANL or by approval with the DuPage County Forest Preserve in the Forest Preserve. Also, the work would occur only in areas approved by the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) concerning archaeological or historic resources.

No actions taken under this Generic Categorical Exclusion would modify or require special or specific Federal or State permits such as EPA required construction permits, USACE Dredge and Fill permits, etc. The maintenance or replacement of any culverts or other storm water conveyances would not adversely impact wetland water elevations.

No actions using this Generic Site-Wide Categorical Exclusion would discharge process water or wastewater to any storm sewer system. No exterior actions taken under this Generic Site-Wide

Categorical Exclusion that disturb the earth or otherwise create the potential for uncontrolled soil erosion would be conducted without an approved Erosion Control Plan.

For activities involving both facility operations and research activities, project managers would verify that all activities planned for the project fall within the assigned Generic Site-Wide Categorical exclusion or some other environmental evaluation documentation.

The removal of all live native trees greater than six inches in diameter would require review and approval by the Argonne Natural Resource Manager and DOE. Removal of live trees six inches or less and the removal of all sizes of dead trees, fallen trees, bushes, or associated trimming of damaged or dead limbs, etc., fall within this Generic Site-Wide Categorical Exclusion. In or adjacent to forested areas, only dead trees or live or dead limbs posing safety hazards to structures, equipment, or pedestrians would/can be removed. In forested areas, invasive tree specimens no matter the tree size may be selected for removal.

Any excavation work would/can only occur in previously disturbed or surveyed undisturbed areas concerning cultural/historic resources.

All long-term material storage areas would have permanent erosion control systems in place (e.g., soil storage area, coal pile etc.).

Any actions planned that do not meet these restrictions or fall within the scope described, would require an independent NEPA review by the Department of Energy.

II. (?)Description of Affected Environment:

These actions all take place outside. These actions would not affect sensitive environmental resources. Appropriate erosion control techniques are required and would be used during all maintenance actions and activities. The Laboratory's landscape would not be adversely affected.

The majority of excess material such as compactable clay soil, landscape debris, asphalt, gravel, sand, and mulch would be recycled by the Laboratory or sub-contractors where possible. Construction debris not recycled would be disposed of in an EPA permitted landfill.

III. (?)Potential Environmental Effects: (Attach explanation for each "yes" response. See Instructions for Completing Environmental Review Form)

A. Complete Section A for all projects.

- 1. (?)Project evaluated for Pollution Prevention and Waste Minimization opportunities and details provided under items 2, 4, 8, 9, 17, 20, and 21 below, as applicable Yes X No
- 2. (?)Air Pollutant Emissions Yes X No
 Only minor emissions from cars, light-duty vehicles, gas powered pumps and generators would occur during the normal execution of actions under the Generic Site-Wide Categorical Exclusion.
- 3. (?)Noise Yes X No
 Minor construction noises consistent with maintenance and construction would occur. All appropriate standards and associated protection per OSHA for excessive noises would be followed.

4. (?) Chemical Storage/Use Yes X No
 Standard maintenance and construction materials are used and stored per Argonne and OSHA regulations. These products could include oils, grease, cleaning products, pesticides and herbicides, cement, etc. The MSDS sheets are stored in an accessible location near the work areas.
- The laboratory stores liquid calcium chloride in a tank with spill prevention at the Building 330J Salt Dome and distributes the material on roads, parking lots, sidewalks, etc. during the winter months. In addition, bagged salt pellets are stored inside buildings and applied to sidewalks. The minimum amount of material is spread on the roads and salt as necessary to control ice and snow accumulations. The salt storage area is covered and excess spillage is collected.
5. (?) Pesticide Use Yes X No
 Herbicides such as Garlon and Roundup would be applied on the site's grounds and on buildings by State of Illinois licensed applicators or operators to control weeds. The herbicides would be sprayed only when rain is not expected within 24 hours or otherwise directed by the label instructions. The material would not be sprayed on ponds, streams or standing water. Only the minimal amounts needed to accomplish the desired task would be used. Pesticides would be used to control noxious bugs etc, such as roaches, bees, wasps, etc. The volume of herbicides would be documented and submitted to the FMS-Grounds manager.
6. (?) Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) Yes No X
7. (?) Biohazards Yes No X
8. (?) Liquid Effluent (wastewater) Yes X No
 Flushing, pressure testing, and cleaning activities may take place associated with storm sewers systems. Any liquid discharges of chlorinated water would be collected and discharged to the sanitary or laboratory sewer system.
- Storm water would be a major effluent from work area and maintenance sites. All storm water would be filtered prior to release from the work areas. All construction and maintenance activities that generate liquid effluent would follow the approved Erosion Control Plan for the project and/or the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.
9. (?) Waste Management
- a) Construction or Demolition Waste Yes X No
 Demolition debris would be generated from all these actions. All debris would be collected and placed in appropriate collection systems for recycling where allowed. Recyclable metals would be recycled when possible. Clean excess soil or gravel would be moved to ANL soil or gravel storage areas stockpile for other uses or recycled off site by a contractor.
- b) Hazardous Waste Yes No X
- c) Radioactive Mixed Waste Yes No X

- d) Radioactive Waste Yes No
- e) PCB or Asbestos Waste Yes No
- f) Biological Waste Yes No
- g) No Path to Disposal Waste Yes No
- h) Nano-material Waste Yes No

Projects undertaken under this Generic Site-Wide Categorical Exclusion would not generate any waste associated with b through h. If this is expected to occur, a separate environmental review form should be completed and reviewed.

- 10. (?)Radiation Yes No
Some grass mowing and site maintenance activities can and do take place in controlled areas. Appropriate monitoring and PPE would be donned.
- 11. (?)Threatened Violation of ES&H Regulations or Permit Requirements Yes No
- 12. (?)New or Modified Federal or State Permits Yes No
- 13. (?)Siting, Construction, or Major Modification of Facility to Recover, Treat, Store, or Dispose of Waste Yes No
- 14. (?)Public Controversy Yes No
- 15. (?)Historic Structures and Objects Yes No
Projects undertaken under this Generic Site Wide Categorical exclusion would not involve modifications to historic structures or areas that have not been previously approved.
- 16. (?)Disturbance of Pre-existing Contamination Yes No
- 17. (?)Energy Efficiency, Resource Conserving, and Sustainable Design Features Yes No
Recycling is a major activity within this item. Asphalt, concrete, and mulch materials would be recycled. Appropriate and allowable recyclable components would be part of the replacement materials. All clean gravel, clay and topsoil and mulch would be recycled. Argonne reduces the salt application in the winter by reducing the amount of roads open to traffic and consequently does not apply salt to those sections of roads. Recycled trees in the form of mulch chips may be used for the creation and maintenance of landscape bedding purposes and habitat improvement where tree debris is simply returned to origin generally throughout the site.

B. For projects that would occur outdoors, complete Section B as well as Section A.

- 18. (?)Threatened or Endangered Species, Critical Habitats, and/or other Protected Species Yes No
Projects undertaken under this Generic Site Wide Categorical Exclusion would not involve activities that would impact environmentally sensitive areas.

19. (?)Wetlands Yes ___ No X
Projects undertaken under this Generic Site Wide Categorical Exclusion would not involve activities that would impact environmentally sensitive areas.

20. (?)Floodplain Yes ___ No X
Projects undertaken under this Generic Site Wide Categorical Exclusion would not construct any new or modify any structure that would increase the existing impact within a flood plain or waterway that is connected to Waters of the State.

21. (?)Landscaping Yes X No ___
General site landscaping maintenance and installation activities are covered by this generic categorical exclusion. During the conduction of normal maintenance activities and extra ordinary events such as storm events or when vehicles leave normal travel paths, landscaped areas get damaged. The damaged areas are repaired in-kind. Trees or bushes that may require replacement would be replaced with native species. Grass re-establishment or mulch replacement would generally match the existing conditions.

22. (?)Navigable Air Space Yes ___ No X

23. (?)Clearing or Excavation Yes X No ___
Excavation activities would take place within the limits of this Generic Site Wide Categorical Exclusion. Plant beds, trees, bushes, etc. would be weeded, planted transplanted, and otherwise maintained. Established rain gardens, bio-swales areas, etc., would be maintained including weeding, planting and thinning. Earth berms would be established, moved, and maintained all around the site. Materials in the topsoil, clay, and mulch storage piles would be placed, removed, and generally maintained. Culvert and storm sewer lines would be maintained including clean out of and repair of manholes, catch basins, and pipe entrants and exits, and as necessary complete replacement. All excavations within the limits of this generic categorical exclusion would require the execution of an ANL Dig Permit prior disturbing the earth.

Any excess soils left on roadways would be promptly removed from the road surfaces disposed of.

Argonne maintains and stores recycled as well as new topsoil, clay, gravel, sand, and mulch. All these areas would have appropriate erosion control systems in place and would be regularly maintained. These areas would be maintained in accordance with the Laboratory's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.

24. (?)Archaeological Resources [?] Yes ~~X~~ ^{vw} No ~~X~~
Archaeological Resources would not be disturbed under this Generic Site-Wide Categorical Exclusion. For activities in undisturbed areas, surveys may be taken in order to determine if such resources are present and need to be protected. Once approved by an appropriate survey, maintenance activities may be conducted in that area.

- 25. (?)Underground Injection Yes ___ No X
- 26. (?)Underground Storage Tanks Yes ___ No X
- 27. (?)Public Utilities or Services Yes ___ No X
- 28. (?)Depletion of a Non-Renewable Resource Yes ___ No X

C. For projects occurring outside of ANL complete Section C as well as Sections A and B.

- 29. (?)Prime, Unique, or Locally Important Farmland Yes ___ No X
- 30. (?)Special Sources of Groundwater (such as sole source aquifer) Yes ___ No X
- 31. (?)Coastal Zones Yes ___ No X
- 32. (?)Areas with Special National Designations (such as National Forests, Parks, or Trails) Yes ___ No X
- 33. (?)Action of a State Agency in a State with NEPA-type Law Yes ___ No X
- 34. (?)Class I Air Quality Control Region Yes ___ No X

IV. Subpart D Determination: (to be completed by DOE/ASO)

Are there any extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal? Yes ___ No X

Is the project connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts or related to other proposed action with cumulatively significant impacts? Yes ___ No X

If yes, is a categorical exclusion determination precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211? Yes ___ No ___

Can the project or activity be categorically excluded from preparation of an Environment Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement under Subpart D of the DOE NEPA Regulations? Yes X No ___

If yes, indicate the class or classes of action from Appendix A or B of Subpart D under which the project may be excluded. B. 1.3, Routine maintenance / custodial services for buildings, structures, infrastructures, equipment; B. 1.11 Fencing w/ no adverse effects on wildlife movement / surface water flow; B. 1.15 operation of support buildings / structures.

If no, indicate the NEPA recommendation and class(es) of action from Appendix C or D to Subpart D to Part 1021 of 10 CFR.

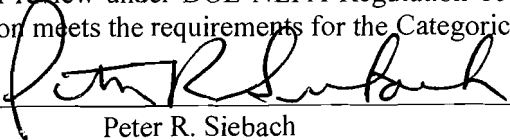
ASO NEPA Coordinator Review: Ken Chiu

Signature: Ken Chiu

Date: 8/19/2010

ASO NCO Approval of CX Determination:

The preceding pages are a record of documentation that an action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review under DOE NEPA Regulation 10 CFR Part 1021.400. I have determined that the proposed action meets the requirements for the Categorical Exclusion identified above.

Signature: 
Peter R. Siebach
Acting Argonne Site Office NCO

Date: 8/24/2010

ASO NCO EA or EIS Recommendation: N/A

Class of Action: _____

Signature: _____
Peter R. Siebach
Acting Argonne Site Office NCO

Date: _____

Concurrence with EA or EIS Recommendation:

CH GLD: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

ASO Manager Approval of EA or EIS Recommendation:

An _____ EA _____ EIS would be prepared for the proposed _____ and
_____ would serve as the document manager.

Signature: _____
Dr. Joanna M. Livengood
Manager

Date: _____