

RECORD OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

- A. **Proposed Action:** Western proposes to remove 3-4 feet of soil to expose the existing septic tank, remove the tank's lid and remove the irreducible solids. The lid will be put back in place and the disturbed ground will be used for backfill. We will use existing access roads and vehicles such as pickup trucks, crew trucks, backhoes. This work is necessary to maintain sanitary and safe working conditions.

The attached map shows the project area location north of Coolidge, Arizona. The legal description is Section 9 Township 5 South, Range 8 East on the Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian (USGS Blackwater, Arizona 7.5' maps). This work is planned for December 15, 2010 and will be completed by December 30, 2010.

- B. **Categorical Exclusion Applied:** 10 CFR, Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, B1.3: "Routine maintenance activities and custodial services for buildings, structures, rights-of-way, infrastructures (e.g., pathways, roads and railroads), vehicles and equipment and localized vegetation and pest control, during which operations may be suspended and resumed. Custodial services are activities to preserve facility appearance, working conditions and sanitation, such as cleaning, window washing, lawn mowing, trash collection, and painting and snow removal. Routine maintenance activities...."

C. **Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410 (b):**

1. The proposed action fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix B to Subpart D.
 - a. The proposed action was reviewed for the requirements of the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the National Historic Preservation Act, and all applicable Department of Energy Orders.
 - b. The proposed action does not require the siting, construction, or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities.
 - c. The proposed action does not disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled and unpermitted releases.
 - d. The proposed action was reviewed and surveyed for impacts to cultural and sensitive biological resources. Cultural and sensitive biological resources have been determined to not be affected.

2. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; and
3. The proposal is not "connected" to other actions with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts, and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211.

D. Determination: Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession (or attached) concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1A), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class of actions, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

E. Special Conditions: NONE



John R. Holt
NEPA Compliance Officer

12/14/10

Date