

Sitewide Categorical Exclusion for Relocation of Buildings

Introduction

As defined in the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Richland Operations Office Integrated Management System Procedure, *NEPA Analysis at Hanford*, a sitewide categorical exclusion is:

An application of DOE categorical exclusions described in 10 CFR 1021, Appendices A and B, which may apply to Hanford Site proposed actions (activities) that are “sitewide” in nature and extent, which the cognizant DOE Hanford NCO has determined fit within the scope (i.e., same nature and intent, and of the same or lesser scope) of DOE categorical exclusions described in 10 CFR 1021 Appendices A and B. The cognizant DOE Hanford NCO may issue specific sitewide categorical exclusions for use on proposed actions in which separate DOE approval to proceed is not required.

The nature of the proposed action subject of this sitewide categorical exclusion, as well as guidance to implement this exclusion as described herein, may be revised to reflect contemporary experience from the application of this exclusion; changes to, or development of, relevant policy and guidance; and changes to DOE’s categorical exclusions resulting from future rulemakings.

Proposed Action

The DOE’s Richland Operations Office and Office of River Protection propose to relocate buildings within the Hanford Site.

Location of Action

On and near the Hanford Site, Richland, Washington

Description of Proposed Action

DOE’s proposed action is to relocate buildings, specifically mobile offices and trailers within the Hanford Site. Mobile offices and trailers would be relocated to already developed areas where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible. In this regard, DOE would install supports, tie-down anchors, trailer skirting, stairways, walkways, ramps, and other support systems for the safe use of the office or trailer. DOE also would connect existing utilities such as water lines, and communications, power, fire suppression, and sewage systems to the offices and trailers; utilities would be modified, as needed, to comply with current DOE orders, and federal and state regulations.

Consistent with DOE's procedures that implement NEPA (10 CFR 1021), DOE also would undertake actions foreseeably necessary to implement this proposed action. Therefore, under this proposed action, DOE would move equipment and materials necessary to affect relocation of the mobile offices and trailers onto and within the Hanford Site. Relocation also is likely to generate materials and waste, such as surplus construction materials, and construction debris and sanitary waste. In such instances, DOE would package as necessary, stage for transport, transport, and dispose of this incidental waste at onsite or offsite facilities, or in the sewage system, as appropriate. Incidental materials may be recycled, reused or disposed. All such activities would be undertaken in compliance with DOE orders, and Federal and state regulations and guidelines.

In addition, use of the equipment and associated vehicles would generate air pollutants from combustion and limited ground-disturbance, local noise levels would increase, water may be used for dust suppression, and nonrenewable resources such as petroleum products would be consumed. In all instances, the demand for resources and environmental impacts resulting from implementation of these proposed activities would be small and temporary in nature.

Applicable Categorical Exclusion

DOE's Categorical Exclusion B1.22:

Relocation of buildings (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated buildings) to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible).

Implementing Guidance

This sitewide categorical exclusion may be applied to activities under the proposed actions that are "sitewide" in nature and extent. For example, this sitewide categorical exclusion may be implemented as a one-time yearly application in instances where the proposed action would involve the relocation of multiple buildings within the Hanford Site.

Application of this sitewide categorical exclusion requires compliance with the Richland Integrated Management System Procedure, *NEPA Analysis at Hanford*. Sitewide categorical exclusions are determined solely by the cognizant DOE Hanford NCO and are applied through a screening process which documents that the proposed action:

1. Fits within the scope of actions identified in a DOE Hanford NCO-approved sitewide categorical exclusion
2. Meets the eligibility requirements for Appendix B categorical exclusion ("integral elements") of 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, B(1) through B(4)
3. Is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (see 40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)) or with cumulatively significant impacts (see 40 CFR 1508.25(a)(2))

4. Is absent extraordinary circumstances that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposed action
5. Is not located on nor directly impacts the Hanford Reach National Monument, Rattlesnake Mountain, Gable Mountain, Gable Butte, within ¼ mile of the Columbia River, other known Traditional Cultural Properties, or properties of historic, archaeological or architectural significance designated by Federal, state or local governments or properties eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and
6. Is not located on nor cause direct impacts to sensitive species or their habitats, such as old-growth sagebrush.


This sitewide categorical exclusion may not be applied to proposed actions that involve the siting and installation of new buildings, or the modification of buildings, mobile offices or trailers to enable their relocation. It may not be used to relocate existing buildings, offices or trailers to undeveloped areas, or areas lacking active utilities and currently used roads or for which the active utilities require modification that would result in adverse environmental impacts. It also may not be applied at locations in which previously undisturbed land would be occupied by equipment used to relocate the buildings, offices or trailers.

Compliance Action

I have determined that the proposed action meets the requirements for Categorical Exclusion B1.22 and that there are no extraordinary circumstance related to this action that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the action; this action 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. All activities to be conducted under this Sitewide Categorical Exclusion Determination must be documented with the NEPA Review Screening Form (see Hanford Site Form RL-721) pursuant to *NEPA Analysis at Hanford* and demonstrably meet the criteria described in 1 through 6 above. Accordingly, I have determined that the proposed action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation. This exclusion is being implemented as a one-time yearly application for the proposed action described herein.



Ralph W. Russell, DOE NEPA Compliance Officer



Date