



**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.: Routine Activities at the Hallam, Nebraska, Decommissioned Reactor Site. LM # 48-11.

Location: Hallam, Nebraska

Proposed Action or Project Description:

DOE proposes to conduct routine activities as needed at the Hallam site. The site is located approximately 19 miles south of Lincoln, Nebraska on a 1.4-acre area of the Sheldon Power Plant campus. Permanent site access has been granted to DOE by means of an Ingrant. The site consists of the aboveground, sealed Intermediate Heat Exchanger Building structure; the belowground sealed, entombed reactor; the grass cover on the foundation of the former reactor building; and 19 groundwater monitoring wells.

Site inspections are performed annually as part of the Long-Term Surveillance Plan in order to confirm the integrity of the protective structures, the turf, and the monitoring wells, and to meet with owner representatives. Routine maintenance activities may occur during the annual site inspection or during groundwater sampling visits which occur every 2 years. Those activities may include minor roof repairs, painting, repair or replacement of monitoring well or sprinkler system components; maintenance of turf such as filling in of soil or reseeding. Vehicle mulch mowing of the grass mound takes place weekly between April 15 and November 15. There are no fertilizer or pesticide applications beyond just infrequent spot treatment.

Maintenance activities or site visits may result in incidental amounts of solid waste (e.g., materials that have been replaced, packaging). Solid waste would be managed in accordance with applicable waste requirements and recycled whenever possible. Groundwater sampling activities may result in use of approximately 100 liters of groundwater and approximately 19 liters per well for potential well development. All activities would be conducted in accordance with applicable requirements and best management practices. Only negligible environmental concerns were identified during the evaluation of these actions, and all actions were found to be categorically excluded from further evaluation under the National Environmental Policy Act.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

- B1.3: Routine maintenance activities
- B1.24: Property transfers (pertaining to access agreement)
- B3.1: Site characterization and environmental monitoring (pertaining to groundwater 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.

Lacey A. Reber
NEPA Compliance Officer:

12/22/2011
Date Determined: