



**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 and proposed actions at the Riverton, Wyoming, Processing Site. LM # 53-11

Location: Near Riverton, Wyoming

Proposed Action or Project Description:

DOE proposes to use a geoprobe rig to acquire approximately 220 groundwater samples from 120 boreholes. These samples would assist in characterizing the alluvial aquifer groundwater. No wells would be installed. In addition, soil samples would be obtained from approximately 50 locations to assist in characterizing subsurface soils. The majority of the work would be conducted on the Little Wind River floodplain on either private, tribal, or allotted lands and would not be subject to DOE floodplain requirements (10 CFR 1022).

DOE also routinely collects surface and groundwater samples twice a year from 18 monitoring wells, 5 domestic wells, and 9 surface water locations. Activities associated with groundwater sampling include taking water level measurements, collecting data from data loggers, well maintenance actions, and well development. Driving off-road to access many wells locations is required.

Only negligible impacts were found associated with the described activities.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

- B1.3: Routine maintenance actions
- B3.1: Site characterization and environmental 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.

[Handwritten Signature]
NEPA Compliance Officer:

1/12/12
Date Determined: