



**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.: Install 200 kW solar photovoltaic system and routine maintenance actions
Location: Tuba City UMTRA Title I Site, near Tuba City, Arizona

Proposed Action or Project Description:

DOE proposes to install a 200 kW solar photovoltaic (PV) solar system on the Tuba City, Arizona, Disposal Site to provide a source of power that would be used for onsite purposes. Use of this source of renewable energy would reduce the need for purchased power and assist DOE in meeting renewable energy goals. The PV system would be situated north of the existing water treatment plant and office building on an area that has been previously highly disturbed by activities associated with the remedial action. It is expected that the completed system would require a surface area of 0.9 acre. The site would be graded for positive drainage to an existing drainage channel associated with the nearby rock-covered disposal cell. A meteorological station would be permanently installed to monitor wind and solar conditions.

In addition to installation of the solar system, DOE proposes to use heavy equipment to repair eroded graveled perimeter and site roads. Recent area storms have also resulted in localized rill and gully formation on internal site areas that are in need of repair. Other needed site maintenance includes (1) removing sand that has drifted along segments of the perimeter fence and (2) repairing other areas where erosion of sand and soil has occurred under the fence. In both cases, feral dogs are able to access site areas. Heavy equipment would be used to restore the original land surface.

Only minor impacts were found associated with the proposed actions. There are no listed species or protected resources present on potentially affected areas.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

- B1.3 Routine maintenance
- B1.19: Microwave, meteorological, and radio towers
- B5.16: Solar photovoltaic systems

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.

Lacy A. Rebeiro
NEPA Compliance Officer:

11/2/12
Date Determined: