



**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.: Revised Groundwater Compliance Action Plan at the New Rifle Processing Site, Rifle, Colorado (LM 14-17)

Location: Rifle, Colorado

Proposed Action or Project Description:

The Groundwater Compliance Action Plan (GCAP) for the New Rifle, Colorado, Processing Site is being revised. The current compliance strategy involves natural flushing for five contaminants of concern (COCs)—arsenic, molybdenum, nitrate, selenium, and uranium. Institutional controls (ICs) and continued monitoring of groundwater and surface water quality are the other key parts of the strategy. No remediation and an alternate concentration limit (ACL) is the compliance strategy for a sixth COC—vanadium. There are multiple layers of ICs including deed restrictions and city and county ordinances that are protective of human health and the environment. The 2016 revision of the GCAP proposes no remediation with establishment of ACLs for all six COCs. Enforcement of the existing ICs would continue.

Continued monitoring of groundwater quality under the revised GCAP would include 16 wells, sampled for ammonia and all six COCs. Eight surface water locations would continue to be sampled for confirmation that site-related contamination is not adversely impacting any complete exposure pathways. Groundwater and surface water quality would be monitored on a semiannual basis for 5 years. The frequency, locations, and analyses would be reevaluated at the 5-year mark. Ongoing actions that are currently conducted at this location would be continued. Routine maintenance activity, such as removing trash, replacing locks and signs, resurfacing roads to parking areas, and removal of invasive weeds would be carried out as needed. No additional groundwater monitoring wells would be installed. Groundwater sampling events may decrease over time.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

- B1.3 Routine maintenance
- B3.1 Site characterization and environmental monitoring
- B3.2 Aviation Activities

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.

Tracy A. Ribeiro

Tracy A. Ribeiro

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NEPA Compliance Officer:

Date Determined: