



## NEPA Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

**Program or Field Office:** U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management (LM)

**Project Title:** Lease aircraft to provide personnel transport to and from Amchitka, Alaska, Site

**Location:** Amchitka, Alaska, Site

### Proposed Action or Project Description:

LM is coordinating the detailed requirements for geotechnical and chemical sampling at seven mud pits on Amchitka Island, managed by LM, for a human health and ecological risk assessment. The flight would provide support to current negotiations and planning for future management by providing the decision makers an onsite perspective. The goal is to make management decisions on how LM and the State of Alaska would manage the site in the future.

Approximately four LM, Legacy Management Support (LMS) contractor, and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation management personnel need to fly to Amchitka, a location not served by commercial aircraft service. The aircraft would be a fixed-wing twin-engine Cessna Conquest. The landing strip is an asphalt surface approximately 250 feet wide and 10,000 feet long. LM and LMS personnel verified runway conditions during the June 2019 site visit. The charter flight between Anchorage and Amchitka, via Adak, is expected to take approximately 4 days and would be in August 2019. No aviation activity would take place until the required approvals have been received from the DOE aviation manager and permission is received from LM to proceed with aviation activity. The remainder of the proposed activity has already been evaluated under LM 09-19, Corrective Action Site Investigation, Amchitka, Aleutian Islands, Alaska.

### Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

- B3.2 Aviation activities

For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Subpart D of Title 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 1021 (10 CFR 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 by the LM Director per DOE Policy 451.1), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified classes of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

**NEPA Compliance Officer Signature and  
Determination Date**

Digitally signed by JOYCE  
CHAVEZ  
Date: 2019.08.06 07:59:23 -06'00'