



NEPA Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

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

Project Title: Install Institutional Control Markers at Chariot, Alaska, Site

Location: Chariot, Alaska, Site

Proposed Action or Project Description:

LM is proposing a 1-day visit to the Chariot, Alaska, Site to install four institutional control (IC) markers. The Chariot site is under the purview of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Contaminated Sites Program; it is not under Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act or Resource Conservation and Recovery Act corrective action authority. The IC markers are required by ADEC as a condition of closure of the Chariot site.

Installation would be limited to the use of hand tools at each of four locations to place the marker. A 30-inch long × 4-inch wide metal marker would be cut and flared to fit into the excavation. All soil removed in the excavation would be placed on top of the marker, leaving only the marker cap visible. The marker cap, embedded with the site identification and ICs, would be flush with the ground surface when installation is complete.

LM would charter an airplane to transport personnel to the site to perform this work. The existing runway would be used to land personnel at the site. A portion of the runway is included in land ("Native Allotment") that is owned by Alaskan Natives. Access is granted through the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, and LM would request access prior to scheduling the flight. No aviation activities would commence until required flight safety plans are approved by a certified DOE aviation manager and permission is received from LM to proceed with aviation activities. The proposed work is scheduled to take place in September 2020 and would be conducted by the Legacy Management Support (LMS) contractor or a subcontractor under LMS contractor supervision.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

- A 8, Awards of certain contracts
- B3.1, Site characterization and environmental monitoring
- 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**

JOYCE CHAVEZ
Digitally signed by JOYCE
CHAVEZ
Date: 2020.09.17 13:51:37 -06'00'