

**U.S. Department of Energy  
Naval Reactors Laboratory Field Office**

**Knolls Laboratory**

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exclusion (CX)  
Determination Summary Form

**KNOLLS LABORATORY REPAIR OF THE HILLSIDE BREACH AND  
STORMWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM INSTALLATION PROJECT**

**REFERENCE**

10 CFR Part 1021, Department of Energy National Environmental Policy Act  
Implementing Procedures, Subpart D, Typical Classes of Actions, Appendix B

**PROJECT SCOPE DISCUSSION**

The scope of the project is to install a stormwater treatment system and a by-pass line around a breached section of piping to reduce the amount of total suspended solids discharged to the Mohawk River. The breached section of the piping will be bypassed from the current line, and tied in at a new catch basin south of an existing catch basin and ultimately tied into another new catch basin to be located between Buildings K2 and K4. The stormwater treatment system to be installed is comprised of two gravity separator structures (Clara Gravity Separators) along with a total of eight catch basin structures that support the proper function of the Clara Gravity Separator (CGS) units.

An access road to accommodate inspections and servicing of the CGS units will also be constructed. The road will be located on the north side of the structures and will be constructed of stone with a fabric underlayment and a rip-rap lined channel will be placed on the uphill slope. Installations will be performed using conventional cut-and-cover excavation techniques. All work will be performed in accordance with local, state and federal guidelines.

The project does not violate applicable regulatory requirements, require construction or major expansion of waste handling facilities, result in unpermitted releases of hazardous substances, or adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources, including wetlands. This project does not involve genetically engineered organisms or species. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action. The project has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion and is not connected to other actions with potentially significant and/or cumulative impacts.

## CONCLUSION

The Knolls Laboratory's Repair of the Hillside Breach and Stormwater Treatment System Installation Project is categorically excluded from additional NEPA documentation under 10 CFR 1021 Subpart D, Appendix B, B1.13, B1.33, and B6.3. Specifically, the categorical exclusions that apply are the following:

### *B1.13 Pathways, short access roads, and rail lines*

Construction, acquisition, and relocation, consistent with applicable right-of-way conditions and approved land use or transportation improvement plans, of pedestrian walkways and trails, bicycle paths, small outdoor fitness areas, and short access roads and rail lines (such as branch and spur lines).

### *B1.33 Stormwater runoff control*

Design, construction, and operation of control practices to reduce stormwater runoff and maintain natural hydrology. Activities include, but are not limited to, those that reduce impervious surfaces (such as vegetative practices and use of porous pavements), best management practices (such as silt fences, straw wattles, and fiber rolls), and use of green infrastructure or other low impact development practices (such as cisterns and green roofs).

### *B6.3 Improvements to environmental control systems*

Improvements to environmental monitoring and control systems of an existing building or structure (such as changes to scrubbers in air quality control systems or ion-exchange devices and other filtration processes in water treatment systems), provided that during subsequent operations (1) Any substance collected by the environmental control systems would be recycled, released, or disposed of within existing permitted facilities and (2) there are applicable statutory or regulatory requirements or permit conditions for disposal, release, or recycling of any hazardous substance or CERCLA-excluded petroleum or natural gas products that are collected or released in increased quantity or that were not previously collected or released.

NRLFO  
Approval:

  
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D. A. Delwiche

Date: July 29, 2022

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CX Determination Date