



# Office of Environmental Management U.S. Department of Energy

## Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed Action Title: New Oxide Loadout Facility (OLF) at the Paducah DUF6 site

Program or Field Office: Portsmouth Paducah Project Office (PPPO)

Location(s) (City/County/State): Paducah/McCracken/Kentucky

Proposed Action Description:

The depleted uranium hexafluoride (DUF6) project is managed and operated by Mid-America Conversion Services, LLC (MCS) under a contract with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Environmental Management (EM). MCS is constructing a new Oxide Loadout Facility (OLF) to safely and efficiently support the loading of UF6, oxide-filled and empty/heel cylinders into railcars and trucks at the DOE DUF6 Project in Paducah, KY. The OLF will be a partially enclosed structure that consist of three new rail spurs that branch off the existing rail spur currently servicing the DUF6 project. These rail spurs will lead to a new crane bay which will house two 25-ton overhead cranes. Three new modular buildings will be installed north of the crane bay, which will consist of an administrative area, a break area, and a restroom/shower facility. The OLF will be constructed at the former construction spoil pile location north of Montana Ave. The existing north-south service road leading to the Conversion Facility will be re-routed somewhat to accommodate the OLF. Total project construction area is expected to be approximately 3 acres within the current DUF6 footprint on previously developed property owned by DOE. The first phase of the work will be the rail extensions to support the OLF. This phase is anticipated to begin September 4, 2023. The second phase of the OLF is anticipated to start in fiscal year 2024 to complete construction of the OLF, support areas and tie ins (i.e. electric, sewer, water and pathways etc.).

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B1.13 – Pathways, short access roads, and rail lines

B1.15 – Support buildings

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, 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.

NEPA Compliance Officer: **CYNTHIA ZVONAR**  
Digitally signed by CYNTHIA ZVONAR  
Date: 2023.08.16 18:26:18 -04'00'

Date Determined: **August 16, 2023**