



**Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Categorical Exclusion Determination Form**



Categorical Exclusion ID#: NV-2023-017 REV 1

Proposed Action Title: Protective Force Training Complex Activities

Program or Field Office: Nevada Field Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): Nevada National Security Site, Nye County, NV

Proposed Action Description

The scope of work at the Protective Force Training Complex (PFTC) would include administrative work, classroom training, live fire activities, blank fire activities, mounted and dismounted maneuver activities, explosives and munitions storage, and range support activities. Range areas A through E in Areas 22, 23, and 5 would be used for Protective Force training and firearms qualification on both day and night courses, and for combat stress shooting scenarios. Weapons fired on the ranges would include handguns, shotguns, submachine guns, pyrotechnics, flares, flash bang grenades, and rifles with up to 7.62-millimeter (mm) ammunition caliber. Buildings and locations comprising the PFTC include the following:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 05-ML0086 | Burma road |
| 05-ML0239 | Area 5 munitions storage site |
| 06-CP-41 | Training Simulator (constructed in 1985) |
| 06-ML0240 | Area 6 munitions storage site |
| 22-L1-STAGING | Protest support |
| 23-1100 | Brooks Range (constructed in 1975) |
| 23-1101 | Storage (constructed in 1976) |
| 23-1103 | Training Academy (constructed in 1987) |
| 23-1104 | Lowery Range C-Complex (constructed in 1993) |
| 23-1105 | Live Fire Shoot House (constructed in 2007) |
| 23-1106 | SOC Classroom Annex (constructed in 2006) |
| 23-1109 | Live Fire Shoot Tower (constructed in 2008) |
| 23-1110 | GZ Tower (constructed in 1995) |
| 23-1114 | Target Storage (constructed in 1990) |
| 23-1118 | 10 Lane Indoor Shooting Range (constructed in 2023) |
| 23-1120 | 2 Lane Indoor Shooting Range (constructed in 2023) |
| 23-ML0026 | Gate 100 firearms storage for privately owned firearms and ammunition |
| 90-ML0244 | SES Protective Force training area |



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Vehicles would be used for training and activities. Vehicles would use existing paved and unpaved roads. No off-road vehicle travel would occur without prior coordination with the Management and Operating (M&O) contractor Biologists and Cultural Resource Coordinator (CRC).

Surface use and routine maintenance of PFTC facilities would occur, but is limited to activities that do not penetrate the ground, such as parking lot grading or paving, clean-up of spills, and routine weed abatement that would remain within the footprint of the parking lots associated with the buildings/areas listed above and do not require driving off of existing paved, graded, utility access, or dirt two-track roads. Subsurface utility repair, building modifications, new areas of ground disturbance, and off-road driving would require additional review.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied

10 CFR 1021, Appendix B, B1.2 Training exercises and simulations and B1.3 Routine Maintenance

Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021

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 1021.

To find that a proposal is categorically excluded, DOE shall determine the following:

- (1) The proposal fits within a class of actions listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D;
- (2) There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; and
- (3) The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. The 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.

The classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, include the following conditions as integral elements of the classes of actions. To fit within the classes of actions in Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable



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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 of the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Institutes of Health.

NEPA Compliance Officer Determination

Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under NNSA NAP 451.1 and DOE P 451.1), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action and I have reviewed the proposal for integral elements. I have determined that there are no extraordinary circumstances present and that the proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. Therefore, the application of a categorical exclusion is appropriate.

NEPA Compliance Officer: Patricia Gallo

Date Determined: August 2, 2024