



**U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Legacy Management  
Categorical Exclusion Determination Form**



**Program or Field Office:** Office of Legacy Management

**Project Title and I.D. No.:** Reclamation Projects in Energy Fuels Resources Lease Tracts C-AM-19 and C-AM-20, Uranium Leasing Program

**Location:** Western Montrose County, CO

**Proposed Action or Project Description:**

Employees or contractors of Energy Fuels Resources under the supervision of U.S. Department of Energy contractor staff would backfill subsided areas associated with the former Cliff Dweller Mine (portal), Worcester Mine (shaft), and King Solomon Mine (vent) on uranium lease tract C-AM-19. All three areas had been previously reclaimed and subsidence has resulted in a safety hazard.

There are several small areas that have subsided to a depth of ten feet over the Cliff Dweller Mine portal. Adjacent mine-waste-rock materials would be used to backfill the subsided areas. Subsidence over the Worcester shaft and King Solomon vent would be backfilled with mine-waste-rock and other surface-soil materials from adjacent areas, topped with a polyurethane foam plug, and covered with additional materials. The foam plug would prohibit further subsidence. After completion of the reclamation, newly disturbed areas would be graded as necessary and seeded with an approved seed mixture.

In addition, there is an open vent on the Abajo Claim No 4 on lease tract C-AM-20. A grate would be welded to the metal-cased vent.

Existing roads would be used to access work areas and all work would be scheduled after migratory bird nesting and breeding season. Due to the highly disturbed nature of the surrounding areas from past mining activities, no impacts to protected resources would be associated with these activities.

**Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:**

B1.28: Minor activities that are required to place a facility in an environmentally safe condition. The open vents and shafts and other subsided areas are an environmental and public safety concern.

B1.3 (k): Erosion control and soil stabilization measures (such as reseeding and revegetation).

\*For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, see Subpart D of 10 CFR 1021.

This action would not threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, including DOE and/or Executive Orders; require siting, construction, or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities, but may include such categorically excluded facilities; disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; or adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources (including but not limited to those listed in paragraph B.(4)) of Appendix B to Subpart D of 10 CFR 1021). Furthermore, there are no extraordinary circumstances related to this action that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the action; this action is not "connected" to other actions with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts, and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 of 10 CFR 1021.211.

Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession (or attached) concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1B), 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:**

*Tracy A. Ribeiro*

**Date Determined:**

*07/26/11*

**Comments:**