

**U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management**



Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed action title: Long-Term Surveillance and Monitoring, Routine Actions, and Aerial Surveys at the L-Bar, New Mexico, Disposal Site

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

LM Categorical Exclusion Evaluation no.: LM 13 - 26

Location(s) (LM site name or city, county, state): L-Bar, New Mexico, Disposal Site

Proposed Action Description

DOE LM proposes to conduct routine inspections, monitoring, maintenance, and aerial surveys at the L-Bar, New Mexico, Disposal Site, located approximately 10 miles north of Laguna Pueblo, in Cibola County, New Mexico. Actions proposed at the site to satisfy requirements of the Long-Term Surveillance Plan would include the following activities: conducting site inspections; reassessing and renewing grazing license and access agreement permits with the Cebolleta Land Grant; replacing and repairing site assets (i.e., perimeter signs; site, survey, and boundary markers; fencing; posts; gates); conducting vegetation management, including mowing and trimming, and herbicide and pesticide application; completing maintenance and monitoring of groundwater wells and System Operation and Analysis at Remote Sites (SOARS) equipment; and conducting aerial surveys to provide photography and topographic mapping of the site's disposal cell integrity.

Proposed work would support DOE LM goals of protecting human health and the environment and for sustainably managing and optimizing use of land and assets.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied

B1.3 – Routine maintenance

B1.11 – Fencing

B1.24 – Property transfers

B3.1 – Site characterization and environmental monitoring

B3.2 – Aviation activities

B3.3 – Research related to conservation of fish, wildlife, and cultural resources

For the DOE procedures regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Title 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 1021.102 (10 CFR 1021.102) and Appendix B to [10 CFR 1021](#), and also Section 5.4 (*Applying one or more categorical exclusions to a proposal*) and Appendixes B and C to DOE's [National Environmental Policy Act \(NEPA\) Implementing Procedures](#) (June 30, 2025).

Requirements and guidance in 10 CFR 1021.102 and DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures: (see full text in regulation and in implementing procedures)

- ☒ The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix B to 10 CFR 1021 or Appendix B and C to DOE's NEPA implementing procedures.
To fit within the classes of actions listed in Appendix B to 10 CFR 1021, or Appendix B of DOE's NEPA implementing procedures, a proposal must satisfy the conditions that are integral elements of the classes of actions in Appendix B of both 10 CFR 1021 and DOE's NEPA procedures.
- ☒ There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal. DOE or an applicant may modify the proposal to avoid reasonably foreseeable adverse significant effects such that the categorical exclusion would apply.
- ☒ The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion.

[**Note:** For proposals that fit within the categorical exclusions listed in Appendix C to DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures, see DOE's notice of adoption for the subject Appendix C categorical exclusion for additional considerations. DOE notices of adoption for other agency categorical exclusions may be found on DOE's [Section 109: Adopting Categorical Exclusions](#) webpage.]

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA compliance officer, I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other requirements and guidance set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

**NICOLE
OLIN**

Digitally signed by
NICOLE OLIN
Date: 2026.07.27
15:55:54 -06'00'

NEPA Compliance Officer

Select "Lock document after signing" upon signature.

Date determined