



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Pantex Site Office
P. O. Box 30030
Amarillo, TX 79120



NEPA Compliance Officer Rationale

Pantex Site Office
Proj. No.: MWO-10-005-C
NEPA ID No.: PXP-10-0006
Equipment Staging at the Yard Tent

Application of DOE NEPA Procedure: Categorical Exclusion B1.15, Applicable to Facility Operations (10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B), applies to this proposal. Therefore, neither an Environmental Assessment nor an Environmental Impact Statement is necessary for the activity described in NEPA Review Form (NRF) PXP-10-0006, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Rationale: The proposed project involves the development of a staging area (parking) on the south side of the Yard Tent near Building 16-01. This area would be used to stage large trailers used by the Yard Group. Currently, the area is vegetated with grass and weeds. The 75' x 325' area would be bladed to a depth not to exceed 4", but would probably be no more than 1". Then rock would be added to provide a surface for the large vehicles to park.

The scraped soil would be stockpiled for later use as backfill.

Construction of a staging area (parking) fits within the parameters of Categorical Exclusion B1.15, which applies to:

“Siting, construction (or modification), and operation of support buildings and support structures (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated buildings) within or contiguous to an already developed area Covered support buildings and structures include those for . . . parking”

Based upon the information in sections A, B, and C of the attached NRF, as well as a site visit, this proposal to construct a staging area next to the Yard Tent, as described in the attached checklist, does not present any extraordinary circumstances of a unique or uncertain nature. It is not connected to other actions with potentially or cumulatively significant impacts.¹ It would not²:

1. threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, including requirements of DOE and/or Executive Orders;

¹ See 10 CFR § 1021.410(b)(2)and(3)for full text of regulation.

² See 10 CFR Part 1021 Subpart D Appendix B (B(1)through(4)).

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;
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; or
4. adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources (including but not limited to those listed in paragraph B.(4)).

Therefore, this proposal meets the conditions that are the integral elements of the classes of actions to which application of Categorical Exclusion B1.15 is appropriate.

If changes are made to the scope of action as described in the NRF, or if the scope is expanded to encompass other actions, NEPA requirements for the action will need to be reassessed at that time.

Signature: 

Jim Barrows

Title: NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 10 June 2010