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U.S. Department of Energy
Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Project Title: 685-G PAR Pond and 686-G L-Lake Sluice Gate Conduit Cleanouts/Inspections

Program or Field Office: Savannah River Site

Location(s) (City/County/State): Aiken/Aiken/South Carolina

Proposed Action or Project Description:
The purpose of this activity is to perform gate checks and clear weeds and other debris from the conduits at Par Pond Dam and Steel Creek Dam (L-Lake), in part to facilitate Federal Energy Regulatory Commission inspection requirements.This will be accomplished at Par Pond by opening the sluice gate and increasing the flow from the normal 10 CFS incrementally to a fully open flow of 2000 CFS. Flow will be increased by opening the sluice gate in stages of 50% per hour until the gate is fully open. The gate will remain fully open for 5 minutes, whereupon the gate will be closed to its normal position and flow of 10 CFS. At Steel Creek Dam, this will be accomplished in the same manner except normal flow is 4.5 CFS and fully open flow will be 1400 CFS. After fully open flow for 5 minutes, the gate will be returned to its normal position, reestablishing the 4.5 CFS flow. During the periods of increased flow, water samples may be collected to monitor sediment transport. Environmental impacts to the receiving streams are expected be minimal and temporary. This revision is to address the new end date and the complete stoppage of flow for the inspection to take place.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B1.3 - Routine maintenance

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.

☒ There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

☒ This 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 § 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

☒ All of the conditions that are integral elements of the classes of actions in Appendix B to Subpart D of 10 CFR Part 1021 would be met. This proposal would not threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; 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; 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; have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of Appendix B to Subpart D of 10 CFR Part 1021; 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.

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: Andrew R. Grainger Digitally signed by Andrew R. Grainger DN: cn=Andrew R. Grainger, o=DOE-SR, ou=EQMD, email=drew.grainger@srs.gov, c=US Date: 2014.01.30 11:49:43 -05'00' Date Determined: 01/27/2014

Comments: OBU-G-2013-0008, Rev. 1