



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.: Aerial Photography and Topographic Mapping of the Weldon Spring, Missouri, Site, LM 28 -14

Location: Weldon Spring, Missouri

Proposed Action or Project Description: DOE proposes to hire an aviation subcontractor to provide aerial photography and mapping services needed to document new conditions at the site and update area maps. The subcontractor would provide three types of services: natural color aerial photography, digital ortho-rectified imagery, and topographic mapping. Two areas would be photographed: (1) the southern 8.66-acre area around the Quarry, and (2) the northern 219.5-acre area around the Chemical Plant. Aerial LiDAR data would be used to obtain the most accurate 6-inch topographic contours for the topographic mapping. The subcontractor would perform field surveying, targeting, aerial surveying, and removal of targets based on existing ground control points provided by the LM support contractor. Aerial targets would most likely consist of 15 ground control points marked by reusable 4-millimeter PVC panels staked into the ground.

Aerial photography would require three flight lines at 4,800 feet above ground. LiDAR would require six flight lines at 800 feet above ground. The aviation subcontractor would notify and coordinate with airspace control authorities as required prior to the flight. Total flight time would be about an hour. The flights are expected to occur in December 2014; however, exact flight date(s) and time would depend on the weather and vendor availability.

Environmental laser exposure associated with the LiDAR would not adversely affect the environment because of the short duration and limited intensity of exposure. Noise associated with the airplane flyovers would increase general noise in the air but would not have a long-term adverse impact on the environment because of the short duration, limited intensity, and limited survey locations. Aircraft operators would follow Federal Aviation Administration and state regulations and limitations on aircraft operations and minimum altitude requirements.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied: B3.2 Aviation Activities

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.

Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410(b): (See full text in regulation)

The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D

To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable 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 listed in paragraph B(5) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B.

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

The 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 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Based on my review of 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:

Date Determined: