U.S. Department of Energy
Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Submit by E-mail

Proposed Action Title: High Frequency (HF) Automatic Link Establishment (ALE) Radio at NNSA Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico (SFO 16-0004)

Program or Field Office: Sandia Field Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): Albuquerque, New Mexico

Proposed Action Description:

The purpose for DOE/NNSA action is to meet national security requirements under the National Communications Systems Directive 3-10 through the installation of a HF ALE radio and antenna on NNSA KAFB, NM. The proposed action would include activities external and internal to the NNSA building. External activities: 1) expansion of an existing wall opening by 0.5 inch to install a 1.5 inch fire stop system; 2) routing of coaxial cable, grounding wire, and 1.0 inch conduit from the antenna through the existing opening in the exterior wall ; 3) installation of a 30-foot mast on existing antenna mounts, 4) securing the antenna to the mast, which is supported by 6 radial cords connected to non-penetrating roof mounts. Internal activities: 1) installation of a HF radio system; 2) routing of cables through an existing opening in an interior wall and 3) connecting to a newly installed low-voltage, wall mounted fiber box. The proposed action is similar to previous activities at this location which support radio communications. Work would be performed as described in project plans to mitigate accidents and comply with worker safety and environmental compliance requirements. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, DOE/NNSA consulted with the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer and received concurrence that the proposed action would have no adverse effect on historic properties within the Area of Potential Effect. Furthermore, it is understood that this project is not connected to EIS-0530: Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Southern United States.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B2.2 - Building and equipment instrumentation

B1.7 - Electronic equipment

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: Karen L. Oden

Digitally signed by Karen L. Oden
DN: c=us, o=u.s. government, ou=department of energy, ou=Energy IT Services, ou=DOE Common Operating Environment, ou=People, cn=Karen L. Oden
Date: 2016.12.05 14:10:35 -07'00'

Date Determined:

(This form will be locked for editing upon signature)