



NEPA Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

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

Project Title: Perform Aerial Surveys at the Green River, Utah, Disposal Site

Location: Green River, Utah, Disposal Site

Proposed Action or Project Description:

LM is proposing to conduct aerial remote sensing surveys at the disposal site to facilitate long-term management of the disposal cell. Aerial surveys would be performed using small unmanned aircraft systems (sUASs), or potentially manned aircraft, including helicopters. If a manned aircraft, including a helicopter, were to be used, the takeoff and landing would occur from a nearby airport. The aerial surveys would provide aerial photography and topographic mapping services onsite and offsite within the geofence boundary. The proposed activities would include ground surveying and the installation of temporary targets. All associated field ground surveying, target placement, and subsequent removal would be the responsibility of Legacy Management Support (LMS) personnel and would be performed by a professional land surveyor. The temporary placement of targets on the ground surface would occur using an object that would be driven into the ground less than 6 inches deep and the targets would be installed and removed using hand-powered tools only. Temporary targets shall be surface-mounted, stationary, and single-use markers. All targets would be removed when the data collection activity was complete.

Efforts would be made to minimize impacts to all vegetation near the temporary targets. If vegetation prevents the proper placement of targets, vegetation may be trimmed or mowed in an area not to exceed 10 × 10 feet per target. Only hand tools, including weed whackers, would be used to trim or mow vegetation; ground disturbance would be minimal. Vehicles and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) or utility task vehicle (UTV) travel would be limited to existing onsite and offsite roads and established trails, unless specified requirements are followed. If onsite fueling is required, the subcontractor would comply with the contractor's *Fueling Plan* (LMS 2623 CON). Equipment must be fueled using an approved fuel container with spill containment and a spill kit in place. No aviation activities would commence until required aviation safety plans are approved by a certified DOE aviation manager and permission is received from the LM site manager to proceed with aviation activities.

Activities proposed under this Categorical Exclusion Evaluation would be valid for 5 years from the date of the final signature for the activities performed within the scope and limitations described.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

- B1.3 Routine Maintenance
- B3.1 Site Characterization and Environmental Monitoring
- B3.2, Aviation activities
- B1.24 Property Transfer

For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Subpart D of Title 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 1021 (10 CFR 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.

**NEPA Compliance Officer Signature and
Determination Date**

Joyce E. Chavez
Digitally signed by Joyce E. Chavez
Date: 2021.09.23 13:44:24 -06'00'