

**U.S. Department of Energy  
Naval Reactors Representative's Office  
Kesselring Site**

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exclusion (CX)  
Determination Summary Form**

**Kesselring Site Sealing of Site Service Water Well 4 and Abandoned Test Wells Project**

**REFERENCE**

10 CFR Part 1021, Department of Energy National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures, Subpart D, Typical Classes of Actions

**PROJECT SCOPE DISCUSSION**

The Kesselring Site Sealing of Site Service Water (SSW) Well 4 and Abandoned Test Wells Project involves the decommissioning of 11 groundwater monitoring wells and the removal of 3 groundwater monitoring wells from the SSW well field along Crook's Grove Road. The work to decommission Well 4 will be included in the subcontractor work package along with the aforementioned decommissioning of the 14 groundwater observations wells. The work is tentatively scheduled to begin in the spring/summer of 2021.

The project does not violate any applicable regulatory requirements, require construction or major expansion of waste handling facilities, result in unpermitted releases of hazardous substances, or adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources, including wetlands. The project does not involve genetically engineered organisms or species. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action. The project has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion and is not connected to other actions with potentially significant and/or cumulative impacts.

**CONCLUSION**

The Kesselring Site Sealing of Site Service Water Well 4 and Abandoned Test Wells Project is categorically excluded from additional NEPA documentation under 10 CFR 1021 Subpart D, Appendix B, B3.1 and B5.3. Specifically, the categorical exclusions that applies are:

**B3.1 Site characterization and environmental monitoring**

Site characterization and environmental monitoring (including, but not limited to, siting, construction, modification, operation, and dismantlement and removal or otherwise proper closure (such as of a well) of characterization and monitoring devices, and siting, construction, and associated operation of a small-scale laboratory building or renovation of a room in an existing building for sample analysis). Such activities would be designed in conformance with applicable requirements and use best management practices to limit the potential effects of any resultant ground disturbance. Covered activities include, but are not limited to, site characterization and environmental monitoring under CERCLA and RCRA. (This class of actions excludes activities in aquatic environments. See B3.16 of this appendix for such activities.) Specific activities include, but are not limited to:

(a) Geological, geophysical (such as gravity, magnetic, electrical, seismic, radar, and temperature gradient), geochemical, and engineering surveys and mapping, and the

establishment of survey marks. Seismic techniques would not include large-scale reflection or refraction testing;

(b) Installation and operation of field instruments (such as stream-gauging stations or flow-measuring devices, telemetry systems, geochemical monitoring tools, and geophysical exploration tools);

(c) Drilling of wells for sampling or monitoring of groundwater or the vadose (unsaturated) zone, well logging, and installation of water-level recording devices in wells;

(d) Aquifer and underground reservoir response testing;

(e) Installation and operation of ambient air monitoring equipment;

(f) Sampling and characterization of water, soil, rock, or contaminants (such as drilling using truck- or mobile-scale equipment, and modification, use, and plugging of boreholes);

(g) Sampling and characterization of water effluents, air emissions, or solid waste streams;

(h) Installation and operation of meteorological towers and associated activities (such as assessment of potential wind energy resources);

(i) Sampling of flora or fauna; and

(j) Archeological, historic, and cultural resource identification in compliance with 36 CFR part 800 and 43 CFR part 7.

### B5.3 Modification or abandonment of wells

Modification (but not expansion) or plugging and abandonment of wells, provided that site characterization has verified a low potential for seismicity, subsidence, and contamination of freshwater aquifers, and the actions are otherwise consistent with best practices and DOE protocols, including those that protect against uncontrolled releases of harmful materials. Such wells may include, but are not limited to, storage and injection wells for brine, carbon dioxide, coalbed methane, gas hydrate, geothermal, natural gas, and oil. Covered modifications would not be part of site closure.

NRRO Approval:



H. S. Miller

Date:

25 SEP 19

CX Determination Date