

Appendix A to Subpart D to Part **1021**  
Categorical Exclusions Applicable to General Agency Actions

Table of Contents

- A1. Routine administrative/financial/personnel actions (in house)
- A2. Contract interpretations/amendments/modifications, clarifying or administrative
- A3. Certain actions by Office of Hearings and Appeals
- A4. Interpretations/rulings for existing regulations
- A5. Rulemaking (interpreting/amending), no change in environmental effect
- A6. Rulemakings, procedural
- A7. Transfer of property, use unchanged
- A8. Award of contracts for technical support/management and operation/personal services
- A9. Information gathering/data analysis/document preparation/dissemination
- A10. Reports or recommendations on non-DOE legislation
- A11. Technical advice and assistance to organizations
- A12. Emergency preparedness planning
- A13. Procedural Orders, Notices, and guidelines
- A14. Approval of technical exchange arrangements
- A15. Umbrella agreements for cooperation in energy research and development

A1 Routine actions necessary to support the normal conduct of agency business, such as administrative, financial, and personnel actions.

A2 Contract interpretations, amendments, and modifications that are clarifying or administrative in nature.

A3 Adjustments, exceptions, exemptions, appeals, and stays, modifications, or rescissions of orders issued by the Office of Hearings and Appeals.

A4 Interpretations and rulings with respect to existing regulations, or modifications or rescissions of such interpretations and rulings.

A5 Rulemaking interpreting or amending an existing rule or regulation that does not change the environmental effect of the rule or regulation being amended.

A6 Rulemakings that are strictly procedural, such as rulemaking (under 48 CFR part 9) establishing procedures for technical and pricing proposals and establishing contract clauses and contracting practices for the purchase of goods and services, and rulemaking (under 10 CFR part 600) establishing application and review procedures for, and administration, audit, and closeout of, grants and cooperative agreements.

A7 Transfer, lease, disposition, or acquisition of interests in personal property (e.g., equipment and materials) or real property (e.g., permanent structures and land), if property use is to remain unchanged; i.e., the type and magnitude of impacts would remain essentially the same.

A8 Award of contracts for technical support services, management and operation of a government-owned facility, and personal services.

A9 Information gathering (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, audits), data analysis (including computer modeling), document preparation (such as conceptual design or feasibility studies, analytical energy supply and demand studies), and dissemination (including, but not limited to, document mailings, publication, and distribution; and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring. (Also see B3.1.)

A10 Reports or recommendations on legislation or rulemaking that is not proposed by DOE.

A11 Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.

A12 Emergency preparedness planning activities, including the designation of onsite evacuation routes.

A13 Administrative, organizational, or procedural Orders, Notices, and guidelines.

A14 Approval of technical exchange arrangements for information, data, or personnel with other countries or international organizations, including, but not limited to, assistance in identifying and analyzing another country's energy resources, needs and options.

A15 Approval of DOE participation in international "umbrella" agreements for cooperation in energy research and development activities that would not commit the U.S. to any specific projects or activities.

## Appendix B to Subpart D to Part 1021 Categorical Exclusions Applicable to Specific Agency Actions

### Table of Contents

B Conditions that are integral elements of the classes of actions in appendix B

**B1 Categorical exclusions applicable to facility operation**

- B1.1 Rate increases less than inflation (not power marketing, but see B4.3)
- B1.2 Training exercises and simulation
- B1.3 Routine maintenance/custodial services for buildings, structures, infrastructures, equipment
- B1.4 Installation/modification of air conditioning systems for existing equipment
- B1.5 Improvements to cooling water systems within existing building, structure
- B1.6 Installation/modification of retention tanks, small basins to control runoff, spills
- B1.7 Acquisition/installation/operation/removal of communication systems, data processing equipment
- B1.8 Modifications to screened water intake/outflow structures
- B1.9 Placement of airway safety markings/painting (not lighting) of existing lines, antennas
- B1.10 Routine onsite storage of activated material at existing facility
- B1.11 Fencing, no adverse effect on wildlife movement/surface water flow
- B1.12 Detonation/burning of failed/damaged high explosives or propellants
- B1.13 Construction/acquisition/relocation of onsite pathways, short onsite access roads/railroads
- B1.14 Refueling of a nuclear reactor
- B1.15 Siting/construction/operation of support buildings/support structures
- B1.16 Removal of asbestos from buildings
- B1.17 Removal of polychlorinated biphenyl-containing items from buildings, other aboveground locations
- B1.18 Siting/construction/operation of additional/replacement water supply wells
- B1.19 Siting/construction/operation of microwave/radio communication towers
- B1.20 Protect/restore/improve fish and wildlife habitat
- B1.21 Noise abatement
- B1.22 Relocation of buildings
- B1.23 Demolition/disposal of buildings
- B1.24 Transfer of structures/residential, commercial, industrial use
- B1.25 Transfer of land/habitat preservation, wildlife management
- B1.26 Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of small water treatment facilities, less than approximately 250,000 gallons per day capacity
- B1.27 Disconnection of utilities
- B1.28 Minor activities to place a facility in an environmentally safe condition, no proposed uses
- B1.29 Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of small onsite disposal facility for construction and demolition waste
- B1.30 Transfer actions
- B1.31 Relocation/operation of machinery and equipment
- B1.32 Traffic flow adjustments, existing roads
- B2 Categorical exclusions applicable to safety and health**
- B2.1 Modifications to enhance workplace habitability
- B2.2 Installation of/improvements to building/equipment instrumentation (remote controls, emergency warning systems, monitors)
- B2.3 Installation of equipment for personnel safety and health

B2.4 Equipment Qualification Programs

B2.5 Safety and environmental improvements of a facility, replacement/upgrade of facility components

B2.6 Packaging/transportation/storage of radioactive sources upon request by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or other cognizant agency

**B3 Categorical exclusions applicable to site characterization, monitoring, and general research**

B3.1 Site characterization/environmental monitoring

B3.2 Aviation activities for survey/monitoring/security

B3.3 Research related to conservation of fish and wildlife

B3.4 Transport packaging tests for radioactive/hazardous material

B3.5 Tank car tests

B3.6 Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of facilities for bench-scale research, conventional laboratory operations, small-scale research and development and pilot projects

B3.7 Siting/construction/operation of new infill exploratory, experimental oil/gas/geothermal wells

B3.8 Outdoor ecological/environmental research in small area

B3.9 Certain Clean Coal Technology Demonstration Program activities

B3.10 Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of particle accelerators, including electron beam accelerators, primary beam energy less than approximately 100 MeV

B3.11 Outdoor tests, experiments on materials and equipment components, no source, special nuclear, or byproduct materials involved

B3.12 Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of microbiological and biomedical facilities

B3.13 Magnetic fusion experiments, no tritium fuel use

**B4 Categorical exclusions applicable to Power Marketing Administrations and to all of DOE with regard to power resources**

B4.1 Contracts/marketing plans/policies for excess electric power.

B4.2 Export of electric energy.

B4.3 Electric power marketing rate changes, within normal operating limits.

B4.4 Power marketing services within normal operating limits

B4.5 Temporary adjustments to river operations within existing operating constraints

B4.6 Additions/modifications to electric power transmission facilities within previously developed area.

B4.7 Adding/burying fiber optic cable

B4.8 New electricity transmission agreements for transfer of power

B4.9 Multiple use of DOE transmission line rights-of-way

B4.10 Deactivation, dismantling and removal of electric powerlines and substations.

B4.11 Construction or modification of electric power substations.

B4.12 Construction of electric powerlines approximately 10 miles in length or less, not integrating major new sources.

B4.13 Reconstruction and minor relocation of existing electric powerlines approximately 20 miles in length or less.

**B5 Categorical exclusions applicable to conservation, fossil, and renewable energy activities**

B5.1 Actions to conserve energy

B5.2 Modifications to oil/gas/geothermal pumps and piping

B5.3 Modification (not expansion)/abandonment of oil storage access/brine injection/gas/geothermal wells, not part of site closure

B5.4 Repair/replacement of sections of pipeline within maintenance provisions

B5.5 Construction/operation of short crude oil/gas/steam/geothermal pipeline segments

B5.6 Oil spill cleanup operations

B5.7 Import/export natural gas, no new construction

B5.8 Import/export natural gas, new cogeneration powerplant

B5.9 Temporary exemption for any electric powerplant

B5.10 Certain permanent exemptions for any existing electric powerplant

B5.11 Permanent exemption for mixed natural gas and petroleum

B5.12 Work over of existing oil/gas/geothermal well

**B6 Categorical exclusions applicable to environmental restoration and waste management activities**

- B6.1 Small-scale, short-term cleanup actions under RCRA, Atomic Energy Act, or other authorities
- B6.2 Siting/construction/operation of pilot-scale waste collection/ treatment/ stabilization/ containment facilities
- B6.3 Improvements to environmental control systems
- B6.4 Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of facility for storing packaged hazardous waste for 90 days or less
- B6.5 Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of facility for characterizing/sorting packaged waste, over packing waste
- B6.6 Modification of facility for storing, packaging, repacking waste (not high-level, spent nuclear fuel)
- B6.7 Granting/denying petitions for allocation of commercial disposal capacity
- B6.8 Modifications for waste minimization/reuse of materials
- B6.9 Small-scale temporary measures to reduce migration of contaminated groundwater
- B6.10 Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of small upgraded or replacement waste storage facilities

**B7 Categorical exclusions applicable to international activities**

- B7.1 Emergency measures under the International Energy Program
- B7.2 Import/export of special nuclear or isotopic materials

B. Conditions That Are Integral Elements of the Classes of Actions in Appendix B

B. The classes of actions listed below include the following conditions as integral elements of the classes of actions. To fit within the classes of actions listed below, a proposal must be one that would not:

- (1) Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, including requirements of DOE and/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.
- (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; or
- (4) Adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources. An action may be categorically excluded if, although sensitive resources are present on a site, the action would not adversely affect those resources (e.g., construction of a building with its foundation well above a sole-source aquifer or upland surface soil removal on a site that has wetlands). Environmentally sensitive resources include, but are not limited to:
  - (i) Property (e.g., sites, buildings, structures, objects) of historic, archeological, or architectural significance designated by Federal, state, or local governments or property eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places;
  - (ii) Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or their habitat (including critical habitat), Federally- proposed or candidate species or their habitat, or state-listed endangered or threatened species or their habitat;
  - (iii) Wetlands regulated under the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) and floodplains;
  - (iv) Areas having a special designation such as Federally- and state-designated wilderness areas, national parks, national natural landmarks, wild and scenic rivers, state and Federal wildlife refuges, and marine sanctuaries;
  - (v) Prime agricultural lands;
  - (vi) Special sources of water (such as sole-source aquifers, wellhead protection areas, and other water sources that are vital in a region); and
  - (vii) Tundra, coral reefs, or rain forests.

## **B1. Categorical Exclusions Applicable to Facility Operation**

B1.1 Rate increases for products or services marketed by parts of DOE other than Power Marketing Administrations and approval of rate increases for non-DOE entities that do not exceed the change in the overall price level in the economy (inflation), as measured by the Gross National Product (GNP) fixed weight price index published by the Department of Commerce, during the period since the last rate increase. (Also see B4.3.)

B1.2 Training exercises and simulations (including, but not limited to, firing-range training, emergency response training, fire fighter and rescue training, and spill cleanup training).

B1.3 Routine maintenance activities and custodial services for buildings, structures, rights-of-way, infrastructures (e.g., pathways, roads, and railroads), vehicles and equipment, and localized vegetation and pest control, during which operations may be suspended and resumed. Custodial services are activities to preserve facility appearance, working conditions, and sanitation, such as cleaning, window washing, lawn mowing, trash collection, painting, and snow removal. Routine maintenance activities, corrective (that is, repair), preventive, and predictive, are required to maintain and preserve buildings, structures, infrastructures, and equipment in a condition suitable for a facility to be used for its designated purpose. Routine maintenance may result in replacement to the extent that replacement is in kind and is not a substantial upgrade or improvement. In kind replacement includes installation of new components to replace outmoded components if the replacement does not result in a significant change in the expected useful life, design capacity, or function of the facility. Routine maintenance does not include replacement of a major component that significantly extends the originally intended useful life of a facility (for example, it does not include the replacement of a reactor vessel near the end of its useful life).

Routine maintenance activities include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Repair of facility equipment, such as lathes, mills, pumps, and presses;
- (b) Door and window repair or replacement;
- (c) Wall, ceiling, or floor repair;
- (d) Reroofing;
- (e) Plumbing, electrical utility, and telephone service repair;
- (f) Routine replacement of high-efficiency particulate air filters;
- (g) Inspection and/or treatment of currently installed utility poles;
- (h) Repair of road embankments;
- (i) Repair or replacement of fire protection sprinkler systems;
- (j) Road and parking area resurfacing, including construction of temporary access to facilitate resurfacing;
- (k) Erosion control and soil stabilization measures (such as reseeding and revegetation);
- (l) Surveillance and maintenance of surplus facilities in accordance with DOE Order 5820.2, "Radioactive Waste Management";
- (m) Repair and maintenance of transmission facilities, including replacement of conductors of the same nominal voltage, poles, circuit breakers, transformers, capacitors, cross arms, insulators, and downed transmission lines, in accordance, where appropriate, with 40 CFR part 761 (Polychlorinated Biphenyls Manufacturing, Processing, Distribution in Commerce, and Use Prohibitions);
- (n) Routine testing and calibration of facility components, subsystems, or portable equipment (including but not limited to, control valves, in-core monitoring devices, transformers, capacitors, monitoring wells, lysimeters, weather stations, and flumes); and
- (o) Routine decontamination of the surfaces of equipment, rooms, hot cells, or other interior surfaces of buildings (by such activities as wiping with rags, using strippable latex, and minor vacuuming), including removal of contaminated intact equipment and other materials (other than spent nuclear fuel or special nuclear material in nuclear reactors).

B1.4 Installation or modification of air conditioning systems required for temperature control for operation of existing equipment.

B1.5 Minor improvements to cooling water systems within an existing building or structure if the improvements would not: (1) Create new sources of water or involve new receiving waters;

(2) adversely affect water withdrawals or the temperature of discharged water; or (3) increase introductions of or involve new introductions of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products.

B1.6 Installation or modification of retention tanks or small (normally under one acre) basins and associated piping and pumps for existing operations to control runoff or spills (such as under 40 CFR part 112). Modifications include, but are not limited to, installing liners or covers.

B1.7 Acquisition, installation, operation, and removal of communication systems, data processing equipment, and similar electronic equipment.

B1.8 Modifications to screened water intake and outflow structures such that intake velocities and volumes and water effluent quality and volumes are consistent with existing permit limits.

B1.9 Placement of airway safety markings and painting (but excluding lighting) of existing electrical transmission lines and antenna structures in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration standards.

B1.10 Routine, onsite storage at an existing facility of activated equipment and material (including lead) used at that facility, to allow reuse after decay of radioisotopes with short half-lives.

B1.11 Installation of fencing, including that for border marking, that will not adversely affect wildlife movements or surface water flow.

B1.12 Detonation or burning of explosives or propellants that failed in outdoor tests (i.e., duds) or were damaged in outdoor tests (e.g., by fracturing) in outdoor areas designated and routinely used for explosive detonation or burning under an existing permit issued by state or local authorities.

B1.13 Construction, acquisition, and relocation of onsite pathways and short onsite access roads and railroads.

B1.14 Refueling of an operating nuclear reactor, during which operations may be suspended and then resumed.

B1.15 Siting, construction (or modification), and operation of support buildings and support structures (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated buildings) within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Covered support buildings and structures include those for office purposes; parking; cafeteria services; education and training; visitor reception; computer and data processing services; employee health services or recreation activities; routine maintenance activities; storage of supplies and equipment for administrative services and routine maintenance activities; security (including security posts); fire protection; and similar support purposes, but excluding facilities for waste storage activities, except as provided in other parts of this appendix.

B1.16 Removal of asbestos-containing materials from buildings in accordance with 40 CFR part 61 (National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants), subpart M (National Emission Standard for Asbestos); 40 CFR part 763 (Asbestos), subpart G (Asbestos Abatement Projects); 29 CFR part 1910, subpart I (Personal Protective Equipment), Sec. 1910.134 (Respiratory Protection); subpart Z (Toxic and Hazardous Substances), Sec. 1910.1001 (Asbestos, tremolite, anthophyllite and actinolite); and 29 CFR part 1926 (Safety and Health Regulations for Construction), subpart D (Occupational Health and Environmental Controls), Sec. 1926.58 (Asbestos, tremolite, anthophyllite, and actinolite), other appropriate Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards in title 29, chapter XVII of the CFR, and appropriate state and local requirements, including certification of removal contractors and technicians.

B1.17 Removal of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)-containing items, such as transformers or capacitors, PCB-containing oils flushed from transformers, PCB-flushing solutions, and PCB-containing spill materials from buildings or other aboveground locations in accordance with 40 CFR part 761 (Polychlorinated Biphenyls Manufacturing, Processing, Distribution in Commerce, and Use Prohibitions).

B1.18 Siting, construction, and operation of additional water supply wells (or replacement wells) within an existing well field, or modification of an existing water supply well to restore production, if there would be no drawdown other than in the immediate vicinity of the pumping well, no resulting long-term decline of the water table, and no degradation of the aquifer from the new or replacement well.

B1.19 Siting, construction, and operation of microwave and radio communication towers and associated facilities, if the towers and associated facilities would not be in an area of great visual value.

B1.20 Small-scale activities undertaken to protect, restore, or improve fish and wildlife habitat, fish passage facilities (such as fish ladders or minor diversion channels), or fisheries.

B1.21 Noise abatement measures, such as construction of noise barriers and installation of noise control materials.

B1.22 Relocation of buildings (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated buildings) to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible).

B1.23 Demolition and subsequent disposal of buildings, equipment, and support structures (including, but not limited to, smoke stacks and parking lot surfaces).

B1.24 Transfer, lease, disposition or acquisition of interests in uncontaminated permanent or temporary structures, equipment therein, and only land that is necessary for use of the transferred structures and equipment, for residential, commercial, or industrial uses (including, but not limited to, office space, warehouses, equipment storage facilities) where, under reasonably foreseeable uses, there would not be any lessening in quality, or increases in volumes, concentrations, or discharge rates, of wastes, air emissions, or water effluents, and environmental impacts would generally be similar to those before the transfer, lease, disposition, or acquisition of interests. Uncontaminated means that there would be no potential for release of substances at a level, or in a form, that would pose a threat to public health or the environment.

B1.25 Transfer, lease, disposition or acquisition of interests in uncontaminated land for habitat preservation or wildlife management, and only associated buildings that support these purposes. Uncontaminated means that there would be no potential for release of substances at a level, or in a form that would pose a threat to public health or the environment.

B1.26 Siting, construction (or expansion, modification, or replacement), operation, and decommissioning of small (total capacity less than approximately 250,000 gallons per day) wastewater and surface water treatment facilities whose liquid discharges are externally regulated, and small potable water and sewage treatment facilities.

B1.27 Activities that are required for the disconnection of utility services such as water, steam, telecommunications, and electrical power after it has been determined that the continued operation of these systems is not needed for safety.

B1.28 Minor activities that are required to place a facility in an environmentally safe condition where there is no proposed use for the facility. These activities would include, but are not limited to, reducing surface contamination, and removing materials, equipment or waste, such as final defueling of a reactor, where there are adequate existing facilities for the treatment, storage, or disposal of the materials, equipment or waste. These activities would not include conditioning, treatment, or processing of spent nuclear fuel, high-level waste, or special nuclear materials.

B1.29 Siting, construction, operation, and decommissioning of a small (less than approximately 10 acres) onsite disposal facility for construction and demolition waste which would not release substances at a level, or in a form, that would pose a threat to public health or the environment. These wastes, as defined in the Environmental Protection Agency's regulations under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, specifically 40 CFR 243.101, include building materials, packaging, and rubble.

B1.30 Transfer actions, in which the predominant activity is transportation, and in which the amount and type of materials, equipment or waste to be moved is small and incidental to the amount of such materials, equipment, or waste that is already a part of ongoing operations at the receiving site. Such transfers are not regularly scheduled as part of ongoing routine operations.

B1.31 Relocation of machinery and equipment, such as analytical laboratory apparatus, electronic hardware, maintenance equipment, and health and safety equipment, including minor construction necessary for removal and installation, where uses of the relocated items will be similar to their former uses and consistent with the general missions of the receiving structure.

B1.32 Traffic flow adjustments to existing roads at DOE sites (including, but not limited to, stop sign or traffic light installation, adjusting direction of traffic flow, and adding turning lanes). Road adjustments such as widening or realignment are not included.

## **B2. Categorical Exclusions Applicable to Safety and Health**

B2.1 Modifications of an existing structure to enhance workplace habitability (including, but not limited to: improvements to lighting, radiation shielding, or heating/ventilating/air conditioning and its instrumentation; and noise reduction).

B2.2 Installation of, or improvements to, building and equipment instrumentation (including, but not limited to, remote control panels, remote monitoring capability, alarm and surveillance systems, control systems to provide automatic shutdown, fire detection and protection systems, announcement and emergency warning systems, criticality and radiation monitors and alarms, and safeguards and security equipment).

B2.3 Installation of, or improvements to, equipment for personnel safety and health, including, but not limited to, eye washes, safety showers, radiation monitoring devices, and fumehoods and associated collection and exhaust systems, provided that emissions would not increase.

B2.4 Development and implementation of Equipment Qualification Programs (under DOE Order 5480.6, "Safety of DOE-owned Nuclear Reactors") to augment information on safety-related system components or to improve systems reliability.

B2.5 Safety and environmental improvements of a facility, including replacement and upgrade of facility components, that do not result in a significant change in the expected useful life, design capacity, or function of the facility and during which operations may be suspended and then resumed. Improvements may include, but are not limited to: Replacement/upgrade of control valves, in-core monitoring devices, facility air filtration systems, or substation transformers or capacitors; addition of structural bracing to meet earthquake standards and/or sustain high wind loading; and replacement of aboveground or belowground tanks and related piping if there is no evidence of leakage, based on testing that meets performance requirements in 40 CFR part 280, subpart D (40 CFR part 280.40). This includes activities taken under RCRA, subtitle I; 40 CFR part 265, subpart J; 40 CFR part 280, subparts B, C, and D; and other applicable state, Federal and local requirements for underground storage tanks. These actions do not include rebuilding or modifying substantial portions of a facility, such as replacing a reactor vessel.

B2.6 Packaging, transportation, and storage of radioactive materials from the public domain, in accordance with the Atomic Energy Act upon a request by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or other cognizant agency, which would include a State that regulates radioactive materials under an agreement with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or other agencies that may, under unusual circumstances, have responsibilities regarding the materials that are included in the categorical exclusion. Covered materials are those for which possession and use by Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensees has been categorically excluded under 10 CFR 51.22(14) or its successors. Examples of these radioactive materials (which may contain source, byproduct or special nuclear materials) are density gauges, therapeutic medical devices, generators, reagent kits, irradiators, analytical instruments, well monitoring equipment, uranium shielding material, depleted uranium military munitions, and packaged radioactive waste not exceeding 50 curies.

## **B3. Categorical Exclusions Applicable to Site Characterization, Monitoring, and General Research**

B3.1 Onsite and offsite site characterization and environmental monitoring, including siting, construction (or modification), operation, and dismantlement or closing (abandonment) 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. Activities covered include, but are not limited to, site characterization and environmental monitoring under CERCLA and RCRA. Specific activities include, but are not limited to:

(a) Geological, geophysical (such as gravity, magnetic, electrical, seismic, and radar), geochemical, and engineering surveys and mapping, including the establishment of survey marks;

(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 response testing;
- (e) Installation and operation of ambient air monitoring equipment;
- (f) Sampling and characterization of water, soil, rock, or contaminants;
- (g) Sampling and characterization of water effluents, air emissions, or solid waste streams;
- (h) Installation and operation of meteorological towers and associated activities, including 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.

B3.2 Aviation activities for survey, monitoring, or security purposes that comply with Federal Aviation Administration regulations.

B3.3 Field and laboratory research, inventory, and information collection activities that are directly related to the conservation of fish or wildlife resources and that involve only negligible habitat destruction or population reduction.

B3.4 Drop, puncture, water-immersion, thermal, and fire tests of transport packaging for radioactive or hazardous materials to certify that designs meet the requirements of 49 CFR Secs. 173.411 and 173.412 and requirements of severe accident conditions as specified in 10 CFR Sec. 71.73.

B3.5 Tank car tests under 49 CFR part 179 (including, but not limited to, tests of safety relief devices, pressure regulators, and thermal protection systems).

B3.6 Siting, construction (or modification), operation, and decommissioning of facilities for indoor bench-scale research projects and conventional laboratory operations (for example, preparation of chemical standards and sample analysis); small-scale research and development projects; and small-scale pilot projects (generally less than two years) conducted to verify a concept before demonstration actions. Construction (or modification) will be within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). See also C12.

B3.7 Siting, construction, and operation of new infill exploratory and experimental (test) oil, gas, and geothermal wells, which are to be drilled in a geological formation that has existing operating wells.

B3.8 Outdoor ecological and other environmental research (including siting, construction, and operation of a small-scale laboratory building or renovation of a room in an existing building for sample analysis) in a small area (generally less than five acres) that would not result in any permanent change to the ecosystem.

B3.9 Demonstration actions proposed under the Clean Coal Technology Demonstration Program, if the actions would not increase the quantity or rate of air emissions. These demonstration actions include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Test treatment of 20 percent or less of the throughput product (solid, liquid, or gas) generated at an existing and fully operational coal combustion or coal utilization facility;

- (b) Addition or replacement of equipment for reduction or control of sulfur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, or other regulated substances that requires only minor modification to the existing structures at an existing coal combustion or coal utilization facility for which the existing use remains unchanged; and

- (c) Addition or replacement of equipment for reduction or control of sulfur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, or other regulated substances that involves no permanent change in the quantity or quality of coal being burned or used and involves no permanent change in the capacity factor of the coal combustion or coal utilization facility, other than for demonstration purposes of two years or less in duration.

B3.10 Siting, construction, operation, and decommissioning of a particle accelerator, including electron beam accelerator with primary beam energy less than approximately 100 MeV, and associated beamlines, storage rings, colliders, and detectors for research and medical purposes, within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible), or internal modification of any accelerator facility regardless of energy that does not increase primary beam energy or current.

B3.11 Outdoor tests and experiments for the development, quality assurance, or reliability of materials and equipment (including, but not limited to, weapon system components), under

controlled conditions that would not involve source, special nuclear, or byproduct materials. Covered activities may include, but are not limited to, burn tests (such as tests of electric cable fire resistance or the combustion characteristics of fuels), impact tests (such as pneumatic ejector tests using earthen embankments or concrete slabs designated and routinely used for that purpose), or drop, puncture, water-immersion, or thermal tests.

B3.12 Siting, construction (or modification), operation, and decommissioning of microbiological and biomedical diagnostic, treatment and research facilities (excluding Biosafety Level-3 and Biosafety Level-4; reference: Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, 3rd Edition, May 1993, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Public Health Service, Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Institutes of Health (HHS Publication No. (CDC) 93-8395)) including, but not limited to, laboratories, treatment areas, offices, and storage areas, within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Operation may include the purchase, installation, and operation of biomedical equipment, such as commercially available cyclotrons that are used to generate radioisotopes and radiopharmaceuticals, and commercially available biomedical imaging and spectroscopy instrumentation.

B3.13 Performing magnetic fusion experiments that do not use tritium as fuel, with existing facilities (including necessary modifications).

#### **B4. Categorical Exclusions Applicable to Power Marketing Administrations and to All of DOE with Regard to Power Resources**

B4.1 Establishment and implementation of contracts, marketing plans, policies, allocation plans, or acquisition of excess electric power that does not involve: (1) the integration of a new generation resource, (2) physical changes in the transmission system beyond the previously developed facility area, unless the changes are themselves categorically excluded, or (3) changes in the normal operating limits of generation resources.

B4.2 Export of electric energy as provided by Section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act over existing transmission systems or using transmission system changes that are themselves categorically excluded.

B4.3 Rate changes for electric power, power transmission, and other products or services provided by a Power Marketing Administration that are based on a change in revenue requirements if the operations of generation projects would remain within normal operating limits.

B4.4 Power marketing services, including storage, load shaping, seasonal exchanges, or other similar activities if the operations of generating projects would remain within normal operating limits.

B4.5 Temporary adjustments to river operations to accommodate day-to-day river fluctuations, power demand changes, fish and wildlife conservation program requirements, and other external events if the adjustments would occur within the existing operating constraints of the particular hydrosystem operation.

B4.6 Additions or modifications to electric power transmission facilities that would not affect the environment beyond the previously developed facility area including, but not limited to, switchyard rock grounding upgrades, secondary containment projects, paving projects, seismic upgrading, tower modifications, changing insulators, and replacement of poles, circuit breakers, conductors, transformers, and crossarms.

B4.7 Adding fiber optic cable to transmission structures or burying fiber optic cable in existing transmission line rights-of-way.

B4.8 New electricity transmission agreements, and modifications to existing transmission arrangements, to use a transmission facility of one system to transfer power of and for another system, if no new generation projects would be involved and no physical changes in the transmission system would be made beyond the previously developed facility area.

B4.9 Grant or denial of requests for multiple use of a transmission facility rights-of-way, such as grazing permits and crossing agreements, including electric lines, water lines, and drainage culverts.

B4.10 Deactivation, dismantling, and removal of electric power lines, substations, switching stations, and other transmission facilities, and right-of-way abandonment.

B4.11 Construction of electric power substations (including switching stations and support facilities) with power delivery at 230 kV or below, or modification (other than voltage increases) of existing substations and support facilities, that could involve the construction of electric power lines approximately 10 miles in length or less, or relocation of existing electric power lines approximately 20 miles in length or less, but not the integration of major new generation resources into a main transmission system.

B4.12 Construction of electric power lines approximately 10 miles in length or less that are not for the integration of major new generation resources into a main transmission system.

B4.13 Reconstruction (upgrading or rebuilding) and/or minor relocation of existing electric power lines approximately 20 miles in length or less to enhance environmental and land use values. Such actions include relocations to avoid right-of-way encroachments, resolve conflict with property development, accommodate road/highway construction, allow for the construction of facilities such as canals and pipelines, or reduce existing impacts to environmentally sensitive areas.

### **B5. Categorical Exclusions Applicable to Conservation, Fossil, and Renewable Energy Activities**

B5.1 Actions to conserve energy, demonstrate potential energy conservation, and promote energy-efficiency that do not increase the indoor concentrations of potentially harmful substances. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, designers), organizations (such as utilities), and state and local governments. Covered actions include, but are not limited to: programmed lowering of thermostat settings, placement of timers on hot water heaters, installation of solar hot water systems, installation of efficient lighting, improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings, development of energy-efficient manufacturing or industrial practices, and small-scale conservation and renewable energy research and development and pilot projects. The actions could involve building renovations or new structures in commercial, residential, agricultural, or industrial sectors. These actions do not include rulemakings, standard-settings, or proposed DOE legislation.

B5.2 Modifications to oil, gas, and geothermal facility pump and piping configurations, manifolds, metering systems, and other instrumentation that would not change design process flow rates or affect permitted air emissions.

B5.3 Modification (but not expansion) or abandonment (including plugging), which is not part of site closure, of crude oil storage access wells, brine injection wells, geothermal wells, and gas wells.

B5.4 Repair or replacement of sections of a crude oil, produced water, brine, or geothermal pipeline, if the actions are determined by the Army Corps of Engineers to be within the maintenance provisions of a DOE permit under section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

B5.5 Construction and subsequent operation of short crude oil, steam, geothermal, or natural gas pipeline segments between DOE facilities and existing transportation, storage, or refining facilities within a single industrial complex, if the pipeline segments are within existing rights-of-way.

B5.6 Removal of oil and contaminated materials recovered in oil spill cleanup operations in accordance with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) and disposed of in accordance with local contingency plans in accordance with the NCP.

B5.7 Approval of new authorization or amendment of existing authorization to import/export natural gas under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act that does not involve new construction and only requires operational changes, such as an increase in natural gas throughput, change in transportation, or change in storage operations.

B5.8 Approval of new authorization or amendment of existing authorization to import/export natural gas under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act involving a new cogeneration powerplant (as defined in the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act) within or adjacent to an existing industrial complex and requiring less than 10 miles of new gas pipeline.

B5.9 The grant or denial of any temporary exemption under the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978 for any electric powerplant.

B5.10 The grant or denial of any permanent exemption under the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978 of any existing electric powerplant other than an exemption under (1) section 312(c) relating to cogeneration, (2) section 312(l) relating to scheduled equipment outages, (3) section 312(b) relating to certain state or local requirements, and (4) section 312(g) relating to certain intermediate load powerplants.

B5.11 The grant or denial of a permanent exemption from the prohibitions of Title II of the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978 for any new electric powerplant to permit the use of certain fuel mixtures containing natural gas or petroleum.

B5.12 Workover (operations to restore production, such as deepening, plugging back, pulling and resetting lines, and squeeze cementing) of an existing oil, gas, or geothermal well to restore production when work over operations will be restricted to the existing wellpad and not involve any new site preparation or earth work that would adversely affect adjacent habitat.

## **B6. Categorical Exclusions Applicable to Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Activities**

B6.1 Small-scale, short-term cleanup actions, under RCRA, Atomic Energy Act, or other authorities, less than approximately 5 million dollars in cost and 5 years duration, to reduce risk to human health or the environment from the release or threat of release of a hazardous substance other than high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel, including treatment (e.g., incineration), recovery, storage, or disposal of wastes at existing facilities currently handling the type of waste involved in the action. These actions include, but are not limited to:

(a) Excavation or consolidation of contaminated soils or materials from drainage channels, retention basins, ponds, and spill areas that are not receiving contaminated surface water or wastewater, if surface water or groundwater would not collect and if such actions would reduce the spread of, or direct contact with, the contamination;

(b) Removal of bulk containers (for example, drums, barrels) that contain or may contain hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, CERCLA-excluded petroleum or natural gas products, or hazardous wastes (designated in 40 CFR part 261 or applicable state requirements), if such actions would reduce the likelihood of spillage, leakage, fire, explosion, or exposure to humans, animals, or the food chain;

(c) Removal of an underground storage tank including its associated piping and underlying containment systems in compliance with RCRA, subtitle I; 40 CFR part 265, subpart J; and 40 CFR part 280, subparts F and G if such action would reduce the likelihood of spillage, leakage, or the spread of, or direct contact with, contamination;

(d) Repair or replacement of leaking containers;

(e) Capping or other containment of contaminated soils or sludge if the capping or containment would not affect future groundwater remediation and if needed to reduce migration of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products into soil, groundwater, surface water, or air;

(f) Drainage or closing of man-made surface impoundments if needed to maintain the integrity of the structures;

(g) Confinement or perimeter protection using dikes, trenches, ditches, diversions, or installing underground barriers, if needed to reduce the spread of, or direct contact with, the contamination;

(h) Stabilization, but not expansion, of berms, dikes, impoundments, or caps if needed to maintain integrity of the structures;

(i) Drainage controls (for example, run-off or run-on diversion) if needed to reduce offsite migration of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum or natural gas products or to prevent precipitation or run-off from other sources from entering the release area from other areas;

(j) Segregation of wastes that may react with one another or form a mixture that could result in adverse environmental impacts;

(k) Use of chemicals and other materials to neutralize the pH of wastes;

(l) Use of chemicals and other materials to retard the spread of the release or to mitigate its effects if the use of such chemicals would reduce the spread of, or direct contact with, the contamination;

(m) Installation and operation of gas ventilation systems in soil to remove methane or petroleum vapors without any toxic or radioactive co-contaminants if appropriate filtration or gas treatment is in place;

(n) Installation of fences, warning signs, or other security or site control precautions if humans or animals have access to the release; and

(o) Provision of an alternative water supply that would not create new water sources if necessary immediately to reduce exposure to contaminated household or industrial use water and continuing until such time as local authorities can satisfy the need for a permanent remedy.

B6.2 The siting, construction, and operation of temporary (generally less than 2 years) pilot-scale waste collection and treatment facilities, and pilot-scale (generally less than one acre) waste stabilization and containment facilities (including siting, construction, and operation of a small-scale laboratory building or renovation of a room in an existing building for sample analysis) if the action: (1) Supports remedial investigations/feasibility studies under CERCLA, or similar studies under RCRA, such as RCRA facility investigations/corrective measure studies, or other authorities, and (2) would not unduly limit the choice of reasonable remedial alternatives (by permanently altering substantial site area or by committing large amounts of funds relative to the scope of the remedial alternatives).

B6.3 Improvements to environmental monitoring and control systems of an existing building or structure (for example, changes to scrubbers in air quality control systems or ion-exchange devices and other filtration processes in water treatment systems) if during subsequent operations (1) any substance collected by the environmental control systems would be recycled, released, or disposed of within existing permitted facilities and (2) there are applicable statutory or regulatory requirements or permit conditions for disposal, release, or recycling of any hazardous substance or CERCLA-excluded petroleum natural gas products that are collected or released in increased quantity or that were not previously collected or released.

B6.4 Siting, construction (or modification or expansion), operation, and decommissioning of an onsite facility for storing packaged hazardous waste (as designated in 40 CFR part 261) for 90 days or less or for longer periods as provided in 40 CFR 262.34 (d), (e), or (f) (e.g., accumulation or satellite areas).

B6.5 Siting, construction (or modification or expansion), operation, and decommissioning of an onsite facility for characterizing and sorting previously packaged waste or for overpacking waste, other than high-level radioactive waste, if operations do not involve unpacking waste. These actions do not include waste storage (covered under B6.4, B6.6, B6.10, and C16) or the handling of spent nuclear fuel.

B6.6 Modification (excluding increases in capacity) of an existing structure used for storing, packaging, or repacking waste other than high-level radioactive waste or spent nuclear fuel, to handle the same class of waste as currently handled at that structure.

B6.7 Under the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1985 (5(c)(5)), granting of a petition qualified under 10 CFR 730.6 for allocation of commercial disposal capacity for an unusual or unexpected volume of commercial low-level radioactive waste or denying such a petition when adequate storage capacity exists at the petitioner's facility.

B6.8 Minor operational changes at an existing facility to minimize waste generation and for reuse of materials. These changes include, but are not limited to, adding filtration and recycle piping to allow reuse of machining oil, setting up a sorting area to improve process efficiency, and segregating two waste streams previously mingled and assigning new identification codes to the two resulting wastes.

B6.9 Small-scale temporary measures to reduce migration of contaminated groundwater, including the siting, construction, operation, and decommissioning of necessary facilities. These measures include, but are not limited to, pumping, treating, storing, and reinjecting water, by mobile units or facilities that are built and then removed at the end of the action.

B6.10 Siting, construction (or modification), operation, and decommissioning of a small upgraded or replacement facility (less than approximately 50,000 square feet in area) at a DOE site within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible) for storage of waste that is already at the site at the time the storage capacity is to be provided. These actions do not include the storage of high-level radioactive

waste, spent nuclear fuel or any waste that requires special precautions to prevent nuclear criticality. See also B6.4, B6.5, B6.6, and C16.

### **B7. Categorical Exclusions Applicable to International Activities**

B7.1 Planning and implementation of emergency measures pursuant to the International Energy Program.

B7.2 Approval of import or export of small quantities of special nuclear materials or isotopic materials in accordance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978 and the "Procedures Established Pursuant to the Nuclear Non Proliferation Act of 1978" (43 FR 25326, June 9, 1978).[57 FR 15144, Apr. 24, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 36239-36242, July 9, 1996; 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996]

Effective Date Note: At 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996, Appendix B to Subpart D to Part **1021** was amended by revising the Table of Contents entries for B4.1, B4.2, B4.3, B4.6, B4.10, B4.11, B4.12, and B4.13 and by revising paragraphs B4.1, B4.2, B4.3, B4.6, B4.10, B4.11, B4.12 and B4.13, effective Jan. 6, 1997. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

### **Appendix B to Subpart D to Part 1021--Categorical Exclusions Applicable to Specific Agency Actions**

#### Table of Contents

B4.1 Contracts/marketing plans/policies for the short term

B4.2 Export of electricity over existing transmission lines

B4.3 Power marketing rate changes less than inflation

\* \* \* \* \*

B4.6 Additions/modifications to transmission facilities within previously developed area

\* \* \* \* \*

B4.10 Dismantling and removal of transmission lines

B4.11 Construction or modification of substations

B4.12 Construction of tap lines (less than 10 miles in length), not integrating major new sources

B4.13 Minor relocations of existing transmission lines (less than 10 miles in length)

\* \* \* \* \*

### **B4. Categorical Exclusions Applicable to Power Marketing Administrations and to All of DOE with Regard to Power Resources**

B4.1 Establishment and implementation of short-term contracts, marketing plans, policies, annual operating plans, allocation plans, or acquisition of excess power, the terms of any of which do not exceed five years and would not cause changes in the normal operating limits of generating projects, and if transmission would occur over existing transmission systems.

B4.2 Export of electricity over existing transmission lines as provided by section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act.

B4.3 Changes in rates for electric power, power transmission, and other products or services provided by a Power Marketing Administration that are based on a change in revenue requirements that does not exceed the change in the overall price level in the economy (inflation), as measured by the GNP fixed weight price index published by the Department of Commerce, during the period since the last rate adjustment for that product or service or, if the rate change does exceed the change in the GNP fixed weight price index, the rate change would have no potential for affecting the operation of power generation resources.

\* \* \* \* \*

B4.6 Additions or modifications to transmission facilities that would not affect the environment beyond the previously developed facility area, including tower modifications, changing insulators, and replacement of poles, circuit breakers, transformers, and crossarms.

\* \* \* \* \*

B4.10 Dismantling and removal of transmission lines and right-of-way abandonment.

B4.11 Construction or modification of substations (including switching stations) with power delivery at 230 kV or below and/or support facilities, that would not involve the construction or relocation of more than 10 miles of transmission lines or the integration of a major new resource.

B4.12 Construction of tap lines (less than 10 miles in length) that are not for the integration of major new sources of generation into a main transmission system.

B4.13 Minor relocations of existing transmission lines (less than 10 miles in length) made to enhance existing environmental and land use conditions. Such actions include relocations to avoid right-of-way encroachments, resolve conflict with property development, accommodate road/highway construction, allow for the construction of facilities such as canals and pipelines, or reduce existing impacts to environmentally sensitive areas.

## Appendix C to Subpart D to Part 1021 Classes of Actions that Normally Require EAs But Not Necessarily EISs

### Table of Contents

C1. [Reserved]

C2. Rate increases more than inflation, not power marketing

C3. Electric power marketing rate changes, not within normal operating limits.

C4. Reconstructing and constructing electric power lines.

C5. Implementation of Power Marketing Administration system wide vegetation management program

C6. Implementation of Power Marketing Administration system wide erosion control program

C7. Allocation of electric power, no major new generation resource/major changes in operation of generation resources/major new loads.

C8. Protection of fish and wildlife habitat

C9. Field demonstration projects for wetlands

C10. [Reserved]

C11. Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of low- or medium-energy particle acceleration facility with primary beam energy greater than approximately 100 MeV

C12. Siting/construction/operation of energy system prototypes

C13. Import/export natural gas, minor new construction (other than a cogeneration powerplant)

C14. Siting/construction/operation of water treatment facilities greater than approximately 250,000 gallons per day capacity

C15. Siting/construction/operation of research and development incinerators/nonhazardous waste incinerators

C16. Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of large waste storage facilities

C1 [Reserved]

C2 Rate increases for products or services marketed by DOE, except for electric power, power transmission, and other products or services provided by the Power Marketing Administrations, and approval of rate increases for non-DOE entities, that exceed the change in the overall price level in the economy (inflation), as measured by the GNP fixed weight price index published by the Department of Commerce, during the period since the last rate increase for that product or service.

C3 Rate changes for electric power, power transmission, and other products or services provided by Power Marketing Administrations that are based on changes in revenue requirements if the operations of generation projects would not remain within normal operating limits.

C4 Reconstructing (upgrading or rebuilding) existing electric power lines more than approximately 20 miles in length or constructing new electric power lines more than approximately 10 miles in length.

C5 Implementation of a Power Marketing Administration system-wide vegetation management program.

C6 Implementation of a Power Marketing Administration system-wide erosion control program.

C7 Establishment and implementation of contracts, policies, marketing plans, or allocation plans for the allocation of electric power that do not involve (1) the addition of new generation resources greater than 50 average megawatts, (2) major changes in the operating limits of generation resources greater than 50 average megawatts, or (3) service to discrete new loads of 10 average megawatts or more over a 12 month period. This applies to power marketing operations and to siting, construction, and operation of power generating facilities at DOE sites.

C8 Protection, restoration, or improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, fish passage facilities, and fish hatcheries if the proposed action may adversely affect an environmentally sensitive resource.

C9 Field demonstration projects for wetlands mitigation, creation, and restoration.

C10 [Reserved]

C11 Siting, construction (or modification), operation, and decommissioning of a low- or medium-energy (but greater than approximately 100 MeV primary beam energy) particle acceleration facility, including electron beam acceleration facilities, and associated beam lines, storage rings, colliders, and detectors for research and medical purposes, within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible).

C12 Siting, construction, and operation of energy system prototypes including, but not limited to, wind resource, hydropower, geothermal, fossil fuel, biomass, and solar energy pilot projects.

C13 Approval or disapproval of an application to import/export natural gas under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act involving minor new construction (other than a cogeneration powerplant), such as adding new connections, looping, or compression to an existing natural gas pipeline or converting an existing oil pipeline to a natural gas pipeline using the same right-of-way.

C14 Siting, construction (or expansion), operation, and decommissioning of wastewater, surface water, potable water, and sewage treatment facilities with a total capacity greater than approximately 250,000 gallons per day, and of lower capacity wastewater and surface water treatment facilities whose liquid discharges are not subject to external regulation.

C15 Siting, construction (or expansion), and operation of research and development incinerators for any type of waste and of any other incinerators that would treat nonhazardous solid waste (as designated in 40 CFR Part 261.4(b)).

C16 Siting, construction (or modification to increase capacity), operation, and decommissioning of packaging and unpacking facilities (that may include characterization operations) and large storage facilities (greater than approximately 50,000 square feet in area) for waste, except high-level radioactive waste, generated onsite or resulting from activities connected to site operations. These actions do not include storage, packaging, or unpacking of spent nuclear fuel. See also B6.4, B6.5, B6.6, and B6.10.[57 FR 15144, Apr. 24, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 36242, July 9, 1996; 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996]

Effective Date Note: At 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996, Appendix C to Subpart D to Part **1021** was amended by revising the Table of Contents entries for C3, C4, and C7 and by revising paragraphs C3, C4, and C7, effective Jan. 6, 1996. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

Appendix C to Subpart D to Part **1021**--Classes of Actions that Normally  
Require EAs But Not Necessarily EISs  
Table of Contents

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C3. Rate increases more than inflation, power marketing

C4. Upgrading (reconstructing) an existing transmission line

C7. Allocation of power for five years or longer, no major new generation resource/major new loads/major changes in operation of power generation resources

C3 Rate changes for electric power, power transmission, and other products or services provided by Power Marketing Administrations that are based on changes in revenue requirements that exceed the change in the overall price level in the economy (inflation), as

measured by the GNP fixed weight price index published by the Department of Commerce, during the period since the last rate change for that power or service and have potential for affecting the operation of power generation resources.

C4 Upgrading (reconstructing) an existing transmission line.

C7 Establishment and implementation of contracts, policies, marketing plans, or allocation plans for the allocation of power for periods of five years or longer that do not involve (1) the addition of major (greater than 50 average megawatts) new generation resources, (2) service to discrete major (10 average megawatts or more over a 12 month period) new loads, or (3) major changes in the operating parameters of power generation resources.

## Appendix D to Subpart D to Part 1021 Classes of Actions That Normally Require EISs

### Table of Contents

D1. Strategic Systems

D2. Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of nuclear fuel reprocessing facilities

D3. Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of uranium enrichment facilities

D4. Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of reactors

D5. Main transmission system additions

D6. Integrating transmission facilities

D7. Allocation of electric power, major new generation resources/major changes in operation of generation resources/major loads.

D8. Import/export of natural gas, involving major new facilities

D9. Import/export of natural gas, involving significant operational change

D10. Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of major treatment, storage, and disposal facilities for high-level waste and spent nuclear fuel

D11. Siting/construction/expansion of waste disposal facility for transuranic waste

D12. Siting/construction/operation of incinerators (other than research and development, other than nonhazardous solid waste)

D1 Strategic Systems, as defined in DOE Order 430.1, "Life-Cycle Asset Management," and designated by the Secretary.

D2 Siting, construction, operation, and decommissioning of nuclear fuel reprocessing facilities.

D3 Siting, construction, operation, and decommissioning of uranium enrichment facilities.

D4 Siting, construction, operation, and decommissioning of power reactors, nuclear material production reactors, and test and research reactors.

D5 Main transmission system additions (that is, additions of new transmission lines) to a Power Marketing Administration's main transmission grid.

D6 Integrating transmission facilities (that is, transmission system additions for integrating major new sources of generation into a Power Marketing Administration's main grid).

D7 Establishment and implementation of contracts, policies, marketing plans or allocation plans for the allocation of electric power that involve (1) the addition of new generation resources greater than 50 average megawatts, (2) major changes in the operating limits of generation resources greater than 50 average megawatts, or (3) service to discrete new loads of 10 average megawatts or more over a 12 month period. This applies to power marketing operations and to siting construction, and operation of power generating facilities at DOE sites.

D8 Approval or disapproval of an application to import/export natural gas under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act involving major new natural gas pipeline construction or related facilities, such as construction of new liquid natural gas (LNG) terminals, regasification or storage facilities, or a significant expansion of an existing pipeline or related facility or LNG terminal, regasification, or storage facility.

D9 Approval or disapproval of an application to import/export natural gas under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act involving a significant operational change, such as a major increase in the quantity of liquid natural gas imported or exported.

D10 Siting, construction, operation, and decommissioning of major treatment, storage, and disposal facilities for high-level waste and spent nuclear fuel, including geologic repositories, but not including onsite replacement or upgrades of storage facilities for spent nuclear fuel at DOE sites where such replacement or upgrade will not result in increased storage capacity.

D11 Siting, construction (or expansion), and operation of a disposal facility for transuranic (TRU) waste and TRU mixed waste (TRU waste also containing hazardous waste as designated in 40 CFR part 261).

D12 Siting, construction, and operation of incinerators, other than research and development incinerators or incinerators for nonhazardous solid waste (as designated in 40 CFR part 261.4(b)). [57 FR 15144, Apr. 24, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 36243, July 9, 1996; 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996]

Effective Date Note: At 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996, Appendix D to Subpart D to Part **1021** was amended by revising the Table of Contents entry for D7 and by revising paragraph D7, effective Jan. 6, 1997. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

#### Appendix D to Subpart D to Part **1021**--Classes of Actions That Normally Require EISs

##### Table of Contents

D7. Allocation of power for five years or longer, major new generation resources/major loads/major changes in operation of power generation resources

D7 Establishment and implementation of contracts, policies, marketing plans, or allocation plans for periods of five years or longer that involve (1) the addition of major (greater than 50 average megawatts) new generation resources, (2) service to discrete, major (10 average megawatts or more over a 12 month period) new loads, or (3) major changes in the operating parameters of power generation resources.