



NEPA Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

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

Project Title: Routine Site Inspections, Monitoring, and Maintenance at the Green River, Utah, Disposal Site

Location: Green River, Utah, Disposal Site

Proposed Action or Project Description:

LM is proposing to conduct routine inspections, groundwater and surface water monitoring, and routine maintenance activities. These activities are performed to satisfy requirements documented in the Long-Term Surveillance Plan For the Green River, Utah, Disposal Site. These activities would be performed in a manner that is protective of human health and the environment. The site is under LM control and ownership. Proposed activities would be performed by LM and the Legacy Management Support (LMS) contractor.

Inspections: At a minimum, the site would be visually inspected annually; however, more frequent inspections could be required. Nonintrusive visual inspections and other onsite meetings could include local stakeholders and representatives from other governmental entities. Additionally, rangeland health assessments, vegetation monitoring, and threatened and endangered species surveys would be conducted when required.

Monitoring: Proposed monitoring would include surveying locations and features to generate and maintain spatially accurate databases, maps, or other documents; and conducting groundwater and surface water sampling, including well development and repair activities, and groundwater level measurements. Additionally, the System Operation and Analysis at Remote Sites (SOARS) weather monitoring station would also be monitored and inspected annually or as needed. Some groundwater monitoring wells and surface water sampling locations are on land owned by others (state of Utah, U.S. Army, private entity). When activities require access to land owned by others, notifications would be made prior to performance.

Maintenance: Routine maintenance would be conducted throughout the year and include: well redevelopment, replacing damaged perimeter signs, repairing gates and fences, replacing locks, filling erosion cuts or animal burrows under the fence, vegetation management (pruning and herbicide application by LM contractor pesticide applicator), mowing weeds in the dirt roads, and removing trash. Ground-disturbing activities would be small scale and limited to the use of hand-powered tools. The use of mechanized ground-disturbing equipment and tools is excluded from this scope of work. SOARS equipment may be maintained or calibrated by qualified staff and include calibration, battery charging or replacement, replacement of photovoltaic panels, replacement of transducers and cables, and downloading data from dataloggers.

To the extent possible, all vehicles driven onsite would stay on existing travel routes. At times, personnel may need to travel off-road in previously disturbed areas to conduct monitoring and maintenance activities. Fueling of gas-powered tools or all-terrain vehicles would be performed using an approved 5-gallon fuel container with spill containment in place and spill kit on hand. If herbicide application is needed in an area that has not been previously treated, the LMS pesticide applicator must contact the Environmental Compliance point of contact with the new location.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

- A9 Information Gathering, Analysis, and Dissemination
- B1.3 Routine Maintenance
- B1.24 Property Transfers
- B3.1 Site Characterization and Environmental Monitoring
- B3.8 Outdoor Terrestrial Ecological and Environmental Research

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



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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 by the LM Director per DOE Policy 451.1), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified classes 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 Signature and
Determination Date**

Tracy A. Ribeiro Digitally signed by Tracy A. Ribeiro
Date: 2022.09.27 12:08:00 -06'00'
