

U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Legacy Management

## Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed action title: Routine Inspections, Monitoring, and Maintenance at the Rifle, Colorado, Disposal and Processing SitesProgram or field office: Office of Legacy Management (LM)LM Categorical Exclusion Evaluation no.: LM 24-22Location(s) (LM site name or city, county, state): Rifle, Colorado, Disposal and Processing Sites**Proposed Action Description**

The DOE is proposing to conduct routine activities throughout the year, including inspections, monitoring, and maintenance. These activities are necessary to fulfill the general license requirements in Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations Section 40.27 (10 CFR 40.27) which identifies LM as the long-term custodian of the Rifle, Colorado, Disposal Site (Rifle disposal site) and the requirements of 40 CFR 192, "Health and Environmental Protection Standards for Uranium and Thorium Mill Tailings" for the Old and New Rifle, Colorado, Processing Sites (Old and New Rifle sites). These activities would be performed in a manner that protects human health and the environment. These activities would include:

- Non-intrusive visual inspections and other meetings on site that could include local stakeholders and representatives from other governmental entities.
- Monitoring activities, which include rangeland health assessments, ecological surveys, ground and well surveys, water sampling and elevation monitoring in monitoring and extraction wells, and groundwater and surface water sampling at Rifle processing sites. System Operation and Analysis at Remote Sites (SOARS) monitoring stations would be monitored and inspected as needed.
- Routine maintenance activities, which include replacing damaged perimeter signs, repairing gates and fences, replacing padlocks, removing trash, regrading parking areas, road repair, erosion control, vegetation management (mowing, trimming, and herbicide application), SOARS maintenance. Routine maintenance specific to the disposal site includes: evaporation pond liner repair, maintenance of the evaporative storage tanks, and extraction

**Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied**

B1.3 – Routine maintenance

B1.24 – Property transfers

B3.1 – Site characterization and environmental monitoring

B3.3 – Research related to conservation of fish, wildlife, and cultural resources

For the DOE procedures regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Title 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 1021.102 (10 CFR 1021.102) and Appendix B to [10 CFR 1021](#), and also Section 5.4 (*Applying one or more categorical exclusions to a proposal*) and Appendixes B and C to DOE's [National Environmental Policy Act \(NEPA\) Implementing Procedures](#) (June 30, 2025).

**Requirements and guidance in 10 CFR 1021.102 and DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures:** (see full text in regulation and in implementing procedures)

- ☒ The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix B to 10 CFR 1021 or Appendix B and C to DOE's NEPA implementing procedures.  
To fit within the classes of actions listed in Appendix B to 10 CFR 1021, or Appendix B of DOE's NEPA implementing procedures, a proposal must satisfy the conditions that are integral elements of the classes of actions in Appendix B of both 10 CFR 1021 and DOE's NEPA procedures.
- ☒ There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal. DOE or an applicant may modify the proposal to avoid reasonably foreseeable adverse significant effects such that the categorical exclusion would apply.
- ☒ The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion.

[**Note:** For proposals that fit within the categorical exclusions listed in Appendix C to DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures, see DOE's notice of adoption for the subject Appendix C categorical exclusion for additional considerations. DOE notices of adoption for other agency categorical exclusions may be found on DOE's [Section 109: Adopting Categorical Exclusions](#) webpage.]

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA compliance officer, I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other requirements and guidance set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

JENNIFER  
O'BRIEN

Digitally signed by JENNIFER  
O'BRIEN  
Date: 2025.08.25 13:43:01 -06'00'

NEPA Compliance Officer  
Select "Lock document after signing" upon signature.

Date determined