

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management



Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed action title: Secondary Source Term and Plume Characterization Drilling Project

Program or field office: Office of Legacy Management (LM)

LM Categorical Exclusion Evaluation no.: LM 05-26

Location(s) (LM site name or city, county, state): Tuba City, Arizona, Disposal Site

Proposed Action Description

LM is responsible for long-term surveillance and maintenance of the Tuba City, Arizona, Disposal Site. LM is proposing the Secondary Source Term and Plume Characterization Drilling Project to conduct site characterization (i.e., obtain groundwater and geochemical data) and install groundwater monitoring wells in support of the site's revised Groundwater Compliance Action Plan.

Proposed actions include preparing drilling locations (i.e., compacting drill site locations), creating approximately 1900 linear feet of new, unimproved access roads, drilling 10 boreholes utilizing both solid core and sonic drilling methods, collecting core samples, doing geophysical borehole logging, and conducting well installations, completions, and developments.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied

B1.3 - Routine maintenance

B1.13 - Pathways, short access roads, and rail lines

B3.1 - Site characterization and environmental monitoring

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.
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.

[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.

NICOLE OLIN
Digitally signed by NICOLE OLIN
Date: 2026.04.20 12:14:25 -06'00'

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

Date determined