

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management



Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed action title: System Operation and Analysis at Remote Sites (SOARS) Instrumentation Upgrades at Old Rifle Processing Site

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

LM Categorical Exclusion Evaluation no.: LM 07-26

Location(s) (LM site name or city, county, state): Rifle, Colorado, Processing (Old) Site

Proposed Action Description

The Legacy Management Support (LMS) SOARS team proposes to remove the current data collection equipment at each of the 14 monitoring wells and installing 7 new upgraded telemetry stations to allow continued data collection. These stations would consist of a tripod equipped with a mounted fiberglass National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) enclosure that would house a new data logger, power source, and radio with associated radio antenna and solar panel. Five stations would be constructed on the west side of the site to power the 12 monitoring wells on that side of the site. Two stations would be constructed on the east side of the site to power one monitoring well each. Rigid PVC conduit with communication and power cables would be buried in trenches that run between each telemetry station and its associated monitoring wells. The proposed activities would disturb less than 1 acre and include the following:

- Removal and proper disposal of existing equipment
- Installation of seven tripods with new telemetry sensor equipment
- Creation of 1530 feet of subsurface trenches approximately 2 feet wide and 2–3 feet below ground surface between the five telemetry stations and their associated monitoring wells

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied

B1.3 – Routine maintenance
B1.7 – Electronic equipment
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.
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: 2026.04.30 13:21:25
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NEPA Compliance Officer
Select "Lock document after signing" upon signature.

Date determined