



U.S. Department of Energy

Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed Action Title: Agent Operations Eastern Command Range Drainage Improvements (CX-ORR-17-001)

Program or Field Office: Oak Ridge Reservation

Location(s) (City/County/State): Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Proposed Action Description:

The Office of Secure Transportation (OST) is an organization within the Department of Energy (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) that provides safe and secure transportation of items for the national security of the United States of America. The Agent Operations Eastern Command (AOEC) Training Facility is part of NNSA's OST. At the AOEC Training Facility, training is provided for federal and contractor security personnel in the use and safe handling of firearms, security responses, protection of personnel and property, and physical and tactical training. This facility is located at 1190 West Bear Creek Road, Oak Ridge, Tennessee (35 55'28.26 N 84 21'45.85" E).

The proposed action would take place at the AOEC Training Facility. The total acreage surrounding the construction site is 25 acres of which 1.5 acres will be disturbed. The proposed action would perform necessary maintenance on wet weather conveyance channels that traverse the AOEC training facility to correct the degraded flow capacity. The maintenance activity will also repair and stabilize areas of access roads and install larger culverts or concrete low water crossings with rip rap aprons to improve future channel performance. As the channels are being reshaped and silt is being removed, the soils will be deposited behind the excavator. A bulldozer will be used to spread and blend the soil with the existing topography. The area will be seeded with native vegetation, as practicable, and mulched per specifications. Silt fence will then be installed along the channels for protection, until final stabilization has been achieved. Problems are the result of soil erosion from upstream areas that was deposited in the channels causing reduced flows and slowing the drainage process across the open area on the firing range. Sediment production associated with this construction activity will be minimal and will be controlled with Best Management Practices such as timing (dry weather construction), minimizing disturbance, straw bales, silt fence, straw wattles, erosion control matting, and water bars to divert flow from the roadway.

Some minor fugitive air emissions would result from heavy equipment exhaust and soil disturbance. This action would cause disturbance to wet weather conveyance channels that carry storm water. The effects of sediment transport would be mitigated by implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) reviewed and approved by the State of Tennessee resulting in coverage under TDEC Permit No. TNR100000 (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activities). Petroleum products would be in use throughout the project in the form of fuel and lubricating oil. Equipment would be serviced by mobile oiler trucks with portable fuel containers and products would not be stored on site. Fueling spills and oil leaks would be collected using absorbent materials and by excavating the contaminated soil and placing the materials into containers for appropriate disposal. In the unlikely event of fuel or oil loss into stormwater during a wet weather event that cannot be captured, the National Response Center would be contacted at 1-800-424-8802 or reported directly to the U.S. EPA regional office. Heavy equipment use would produce an elevated noise level. Work will take place during daytime hours. The project will disturb approximately 1.5 acres in and around existing wet weather conveyance channels. The disturbance will be the result of clearing vegetative debris and excavating a constant grade along the channel.

Unless the project creates fuel or oil contaminated soils, project waste would be limited to concrete truck wash out materials and the excavated metal culverts that are being replaced. The waste culverts would be collected and disposed of in an appropriate commercial landfill. A concrete washout area has been designated and is located northeast of the gun range hill. Vegetation and excess soil will be placed in disturbed areas adjacent to wet weather conveyances that will undergo reseeding with native vegetation, as practicable. There are no radionuclides associated with this work.

The two unnamed water features are tributaries to Grassy Creek which flows to the Clinch River. No endangered or threatened species or cultural resources are known to be located within the project area. Tennessee dace (state listed as in need of management) have not been found in Grassy Creek; however, they do occur in surrounding streams and it is likely that they were there historically and could exist there even now, but remain undetected. Measures identified in the SWPPP should protect aquatic resources downstream in Grassy Creek. Previous acoustical surveys of the general project area have revealed the presence of gray bat (federally endangered) and northern long-eared bat (federally threatened). However, this project should not impact those species.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B1.3 - Routine maintenance

B1.15 - Support buildings

B1.33 - Stormwater runoff control

For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Subpart D of [10 CFR Part 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 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.

The above description accurately describes the proposed action, which reflects the requirements of the CX cited above. Therefore, I recommend that the proposed action be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

Program Point of Contact: Erick Robert Ratzer

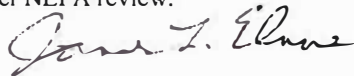
Date Determined: 1/30/17

ERICK RATZER

Digitally signed by ERICK RATZER
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government,
ou=Department of Energy, cn=ERICK RATZER,
0.9.2342.19200300.100.1.1=B9001000055222
Date: 2017.01.30 08:31:58 -0700

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1B), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) 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: James L. Elmore



Date Determined: 1/30/17

This document has been reviewed and determined to be UNCLASSIFIED. 01/30/2017

This review constitutes clearance for Public Release.

Derivative Classifier: Melanie L Underwood
Acting Classification Officer ISC-OR

