



U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed Action Title: Categorical Exclusion Determination for small-scale, short-term cleanup actions under RCRA, Atomic Energy Act or other authorities at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Program or Field Office: Office of Science - ORNL

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

Proposed Action Description:

Reclamation and repurposing of brownfield locations at Oak Ridge National Laboratory - Efforts have been underway in recent years to revitalize the ORNL Campus by renovation of existing facilities, construction of new facilities, and demolition and removal of old structures and buildings no longer needed to support ORNL missions. The proposed actions would repurpose brownfield space for redevelopment in support of DOE ongoing and future research and development missions.

Appropriate storm water pollution controls would be installed and inspected prior to beginning excavation, soil removal, and other construction-like activities. Water spray would be utilized to control airborne dust emissions if needed, and runoff would be monitored and regulated to prevent uncontrolled non-storm water discharges to storm drains and/or waters of the state.

Targeted sites would undergo soil and groundwater characterization and a waste management plan would be developed prior to any subsequent ground-disturbing activities. It is expected that some excavated soils may contain radiological and/or chemical contaminants. Site characterization and targeted cleanup of contaminated materials would be conducted prior to beginning any future construction activities, and all information gathered during those efforts would be incorporated into site selection and project planning for new construction. Any contaminated soils which were not encountered prior to construction activities would be removed and managed in accordance with an approved waste management plan. All nonhazardous and nonradioactive waste material would be disposed at an approved sanitary landfill site. ORNL involvement in the disposal of hazardous and/or mixed waste would include characterizing, packaging, and certifying the waste to ensure that it meets the acceptance requirements of the receiving organization. Project planning would incorporate appropriate best management practices wherever ground-disturbing activities are planned, including but not limited to soil characterization, additional storm water controls, and waste segregation and containment. No excavation waste will be generated until an appropriate disposal path has been identified.

The proposed small-scale, short-term cleanup actions that would take place at Oak Ridge National Laboratory have been reviewed in accordance with the Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP) or applicable sections in a ratified Programmatic Agreement document and would not result in an adverse effect to historic properties included or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). If the proposed ORNL actions would have an adverse effect on properties included or eligible for inclusion in the National Register, DOE would consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and initiate actions specified in procedures set forth in the Advisory Council's regulations in 36 CFR Part 800.

To ensure that sensitive resources are protected, existing maps, surveys and studies on threatened and/or endangered species, wetlands and floodplains, and historically sensitive areas would be used to locate these areas. In addition, personnel responsible for identifying these resources would be consulted and, if warranted, additional surveys and walkovers would be conducted to confirm or update available information.

Although an action might fall under the category of "small-scale, short-term cleanup actions", a separate NEPA review would be performed and documented should the action or related/cumulative effect of the action have the potential to result in an unusual or significant impact to the environment, e.g., see 10 CFR 1021 Appendix B to Subpart D, Conditions that are Integral Elements of the Classes of Action in Appendix B. Should the action not meet the conditions for CX consideration, a separate NEPA document would be prepared and submitted to DOE-SC for review and approval.

¹National Historic Preservation Act Historic Preservation Plan, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, ORNL/TM-2004/62, April 2004.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

- B6.1 - Cleanup actions
- Choose an item.
- Choose an item.
- Choose an item.
- Choose an item.

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: Martha J. Kass **Date Determined:** 10/10/2018
Martha J. Kass, DOE-OSO
Director, Operations and Oversight Division

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: _____ **Date Determined:** _____
Peter R. Siebach, DOE-SC-CH
DOE-OSO NEPA Compliance Officer