



U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed Action Title: Spoils Area Use/Expansion and Ditch Construction (CX-ORR-14-001)

Program or Field Office: Oak Ridge Reservation

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

Proposed Action Description:

The City of Oak Ridge (City) proposes to install an 8-inch sanitary sewer line along Scarboro and Pumphouse Roads, beginning at the lower end of the area. Plans are to install approximately 5,300 feet of new pipe adjacent to the existing 8-inch sewer line which will be abandoned. The City proposes to backfill the new pipe with gravel, resulting in approximately 1,400 cubic yards of displaced spoils, most of which can be deposited in a spoils area near the water intake station on Pumphouse Road. The City has requested that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Oak Ridge Office allow the excess spoils from this project be placed in an existing DOE spoils area. Since Pumphouse Road is a DOE-owned road and it is DOE's policy to dispose of excess soil from DOE-owned areas on the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR), DOE proposes to allow the City to place up to 250 cubic yards (approximately 17 truckloads) of excess spoils from this sewer line project in the DOE spoils area located on Bull Bluff Road (Gate 25-D). This spoils area is approximately one acre in size, is a gated property, and contains existing spoils consisting of soil, rock, asphalt, and other excess material common to roadwork. The roads and grounds contractor to DOE (ES&H, Inc.) maintains this spoils area for DOE. The spoils would be added to the existing mounds of spoils at the site and, as needed, the area would be expanded around the edges of the berm up to approximately 50 feet. Grass seed would be sown on top of the newly applied soil, and the spoils from the area could be reused as fill or top soil on the ORR, as appropriate.

A walk down of the area by DOE program, environmental/cultural resources, and ES&H, Inc., staff was performed to identify any specific actions needed to ensure no environmental impacts would occur. No trees would be felled as a result of the project, and only minor dust emissions would occur. If trees need to be felled in the future, the Program Point of Contact should be notified so appropriate measures would be taken to protect potential sensitive species in the area. Intermittent, temporary noise from heavy machinery could occur; however, the area is not near sensitive receptors. Minor erosion/runoff from the spoils area could occur; however, silt fencing would be installed down-gradient from the newly deposited spoils to limit runoff and to define the maximum area for spoils deposition.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

- B1.29 - Disposal facilities for construction and demolition waste
- B1.35 - Drop-off, collection, and transfer facilities for recyclable materials

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: Steven T. Sherwood **Date Determined:** 5/6/2014

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.

DOE ORO NEPA Compliance Officer: James L. Elmore **Date Determined:** 5/6/2014