

6/30/2011

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exclusion (CX) Applicable Determination for the Modification of the Multi-Purpose Building (MPB) to Facilitate Storing Low-Level, Mixed Low Level and Transuranic Waste at the Transuranic (TRU) Waste Processing Center (TWPC) on the Oak Ridge Reservation, Oak Ridge, Tennessee (CX-TWPC-11-0002)

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Oak Ridge Office (ORO) proposed activity is to modify the Multi-Purpose Building (MPB) at the TWPC to support waste storage in the south end of the building. Specific modifications needed include installation of a shield wall to protect workers who will be conducting activities in the north end of the building.

The TWPC mission is to prepare wastes stored at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) for offsite disposal primarily at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) and/or the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). Due to changes in operations related to the TRU Waste certification schedules it has been determined that the TWPC will need additional capacity for waste storage. The waste that is proposed for storage in the MPB is legacy waste that is currently in storage in other units located at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). This modification will allow the waste to be removed from older units at ORNL and transferred to the TWPC where it will be stored prior to processing and off-site shipment. There will be no increase in total waste capacity.

The proposed action will utilize the current TWPC facility and equipment at a developed site with active utilities and readily accessible roads.


This action meets the eligibility criteria for conditions that are integral elements of actions covered by categorical exclusions as stated in 10 CFR 1021.

The TWPC completed an Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0305-F) that covered the following actions: construction, operations, and decontamination and decommissioning of a treatment facility for legacy and newly generated TRU and alpha low level wastes, pending off-site disposal. This EIS found that the DOE needs to treat the legacy TRU and alpha low level waste from ORNL in order to reduce the risk to human health and the environment, to comply with legal mandates from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) of the ORNL Site Treatment Plan.

This activity falls under categorical exclusions per 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B B6.10.

- B6.10 Siting, construction (or modification), operations, and decommissioning of small upgraded or replacement waste storage facilities.

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.

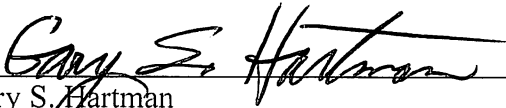


William G. McMillan
TRU Waste Program Manager DOE-OR

6/29/11

Date

Based on my review and the recommendation of the DOE-ORO Program Manager, I have determined that the proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.



Gary S. Hartman
DOE-ORO NEPA Compliance Officer

6/30/2011

Date