



U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

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Proposed Action Title: Routine Administrative, Maintenance, and Operating Activities Planned at Pantex Plant for FY2024 and FY2025

Program or Field Office: NNSA Production Office / Pantex

Office Location(s) (City/County/State): Amarillo / Carson / Texas

Proposed Action Description:

This Categorical Exclusion Determination addresses specific activities which can be performed at locations associated with the Pantex Plant, including corrective, preventive, and predictive maintenance, and maintenance-related activities. If a determination is made by the management and operating (M&O) contractor that a proposed project meets the CXD criteria, no further NNSA determination on coverage in advance of the performance of the work is required. Prior to performing work under this CXD or “umbrella CX,” the M&O contractor must appropriately document how it meets the criteria of the CXD in the Pantex National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Form, PX-2114 or via Process Workflow Management (PWM) application. When it is unclear whether a project or work package is covered by this CXD, the project or work package must be submitted to the NPO NEPA Compliance Officer for a final determination. The proposed actions comprise maintenance support services frequently and routinely requested for operational support of DOE facilities and properties. While these actions are intended to maintain current operations, they would not substantially extend the useful life of a facility or allow for substantial upgrade or improvement. Such major renovations, upgrades, or other large-scale improvements would be appropriately documented through the NEPA process. Proposed activities addressed by this standard NEPA Review Form include: Routine maintenance and repair activities, Plant rearrangements and/or building modifications and relocations, maintenance and repair of plant utilities and data processing equipment, fabrication or modification of weapon tooling, equipment and service purchases planned for Pantex facilities, training activities and simulations. Categorical Exclusions to be used for the various activities include: 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix A, Sections A1, A2, A8, and A9. Also, Appendix B, Sections B1.2, B1.3, B1.4, B1.7, B1.11, B1.12, B1.13, B1.15, B1.16, B1.17, B1.19, B1.20, B1.21, B1.22, B1.23, B1.27, B1.31, B1.32, B1.34, B4.7, and B5.1. Some of these activities may be performed by Pantex Plant personnel, and expected to be performed in a manner consistent with Plant Process Documents, Work Instructions, and similar internal requirements and procedures. Work or activities performed by non-Pantex personnel (e.g. subcontractors) would be conducted within the scope of a project-specific contract. Specific contractual specification would address controls which would be in place as identified in this document. This review may be used for either type of activity and not written to be all inclusive, and is generically written as a tiered document for routine Plant activities. Although routine activities may tier off of this document, they would be evaluated on an individual basis. If a project were to have the potential for environmental impacts, a project -specific NEPA Review Form would be prepared to include those factors.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied: A1 Routine DOE business actions, A2 Clarifying or administrative contract actions, A8 Awards of certain contracts, A9 Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination, B1.2 Training exercises and simulations, B1.3 Routine maintenance, B1.4 Air conditioning for existing equipment, B1.7 Electronic equipment, B1.11 Fencing, B1.12 Detonation or burning of explosives or propellants after testing, B1.13 Pathways, short access roads, and rail lines, B1.15 Support buildings, B1.16 Asbestos removal, B1.17 Polychlorinated biphenyl removal, B1.19 Microwave, meteorological, and radio towers, B1.20 Protection of cultural resources, fish and wildlife habitat, B1.21 Noise abatement, B1.22 Relocation of buildings, B1.23 Demolition and disposal of buildings, B1-27 Disconnection of utilities, B1.31 Installation or relocation of machinery & equipment, B1. 32 Traffic flow adjustments, B1.34 Lead-based paint containment, removal, and disposal, B4.7 Fiber optic cable, and B5.1 Actions to conserve energy.

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):

- The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D. See paragraph above for specific categorical exclusion(s) applied.
- The classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B include conditions that are integral elements of the class of actions which must be satisfied in order to determine that a proposal is categorically excluded under Appendix B. Specifically, 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:
- (i) Property (such as sites, buildings, structures, and objects) of historic, archeological, or architectural significance designated by a Federal, state, or local government, Federally recognized Indian tribe, or Native Hawaiian organization, or property determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places;
 - (ii) Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or their habitat (including critical habitat) or Federally-proposed or candidate species or their habitat (Endangered Species Act); state-listed or state-proposed endangered or threatened species or their habitat; Federally-protected marine mammals and Essential Fish Habitat (Marine Mammal Protection Act; Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act); and otherwise Federally-protected species (such as the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act or the Migratory Bird Treaty Act);
 - (iii) Floodplains and wetlands (as defined in 10 CFR 1022.4, "Compliance with Floodplain and Wetland Environmental Review Requirements: Definitions," or its successor);
 - (iv) Areas having a special designation such as Federally- and state-designated wilderness areas, national parks, national monuments, national natural landmarks, wild and scenic rivers, state and Federal wildlife refuges, scenic areas (such as National Scenic and Historic Trails or National Scenic Areas), and marine sanctuaries;
 - (v) Prime or unique farmland, or other farmland of statewide or local importance, as defined at 7 CFR 658.2(a), "Farmland Protection Policy Act: Definitions," or its successor;
 - (vi) Special sources of water (such as sole-source aquifers, wellhead protection areas, and other water sources that are vital in a region); and
 - (vii) Tundra, coral reefs, or rain forests;
- (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. Extraordinary circumstances are unique situations presented by specific proposals, including, but not limited to, scientific controversy about the environmental effects of the proposal; uncertain effects or effects involving unique or unknown risks; and unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.

The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. Segmentation can occur when a proposal is broken down into small parts in order to avoid the appearance of significance of the total action. The scope of a proposal must include the consideration of connected and cumulative actions, that is, the 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 §1021.211 of this part concerning limitations on actions during EIS preparation.

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under NNSA Policy, NAP 451.1), 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:

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