



National Nuclear Security Administration Categorical Exclusion Determination Form



NEPA ID#: HEDLP 15-001-001

Proposed Action Title: Area 6 to U1a Water Supply Line Replacement - Potholing (NV-2019-003)

Program or Field Office: Nevada Field Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): Nevada National Security Site (NNSS), Nye County NV

Proposed Action Description:

As part of planning activities for the Area 6 to U1a waterline replacement, subsurface utility discovery work would be performed along selected portions of the existing water lines located in Area 6 and Area 1 at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). This work is required to identify and survey locate existing piping intersections and utilities. This data would be used to support construction of the new water pipeline alignment. The discovery work would consist of small excavations (potholes) at specified locations. The potholes are expected to be 3 to 5 feet deep and up to 5 feet square. Potholing would be done either with hand tools or a hydro excavator. A hydro excavator would inject pressurized water into the ground through a handheld wand to safely wash soil from the underground pipeline/utility area. The resulting slurry would be vacuumed from the excavation through a large-debris hose connected to a debris tank. Since it is a non-destructive process, hydro excavation eliminates the risk of damage to buried utilities. After the utilities are observed and survey located, the pothole areas would be restored to near original condition. Asphaltic areas would be restored by cold asphalt repair methods.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

10 CFR 1021, B3.1 Site Characterization and environmental monitoring

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 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.

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.

Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession concerning 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 and that other-regulatory requirements set forth above are met. Therefore, the application of a categorical exclusion is appropriate.

NEPA Compliance Officer: Carrie Stewart

Date Determined: 11/28/2018