



U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed Action Title: INTERIM CORRECTIVE MEASURES (ICM) TO CONTROL THE MIGRATION OF CONTAMINATED GROUNDWATER AT THE FORMER BUILDING 51 SITE UNDER THE RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT (RCRA) (LB-ER-12-04)

Program or Field Office: Berkeley Site Office, Berkeley, California

Location (City/County/State): Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), Berkeley, Alameda County, CA

Purpose and Need:

The purpose of the ICM is to help control the downgradient migration of contaminated groundwater from the former Building 51 site.

Proposed Action Description:

The ICM would comprise construction of an extraction well in the former Vacuum Pump Room area of the Building 51 site, extraction of groundwater from the new extraction well and existing observation well OC51-11-11, and treatment of the extracted groundwater at the existing Building 51 Motor Generator Room Activated Carbon Treatment System. The treatment system is a component of a corrective measure previously approved by the Department of Toxic Substances Control. The treatment method for the contaminants to be removed is one of the methods evaluated in the Environmental Assessment DOE/EA-1527 for the Corrective Measures Study Report that resulted in a finding of no significant impacts.

Groundwater will be pumped continuously from the submersible pump that will be installed in the groundwater extraction well described above. Groundwater will also be continuously pumped from observation well OC51-11-11.

Soil samples will be collected from the soil generated from drilling of the extraction wells and other activities to determine the appropriate soil disposal alternatives. The soil excavated during drilling will be analyzed for Volatile Organic Compounds by Environmental Protection Agency Method 8260 and any other analytes required by the prospective disposal facility for profiling purposes. Contaminated soil will be disposed of at a California Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery permitted solid waste facility (landfill).

The proposed RCRA ICM that would take place at LBNL has been reviewed in accordance with 36 CFR 800 subpart B and has no potential to cause effects to historic properties included or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register).

There are no potential impacts to threatened and endangered species, wetlands and floodplains, or historically sensitive areas.

Although an action may fall under the category of "Interim Corrective Measures under RCRA," 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.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B 6.9 Measures to reduce migration of contaminated groundwater.

For the complete DOE NEPA 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 project/activity is appropriate for a determination or a recommendation to the Head of the Field Organization by the NEPA Compliance Officer (NCO) under Subpart D of the DOE NEPA Regulations and complies with the requirements stated in 10 CFR 1021.410

BSO NEPA Program Manager _____ Date 9/18/2012

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 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: 9/19/2012