



U.S. Department of Energy

Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed Action Title: CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) DETERMINATION FOR TRAINING EXERCISES AND SIMULATION PROJECTS (CX-GEN-009)

Program or Field Office: Oak Ridge Office, Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Location(s) (City/County/State): Oak Ridge, TN; Berkeley, CA; Menlo Park, CA; Newport News, VA; and other DOE-operated facilities and ancillary areas associated with these sites, programs, and projects

Proposed Action Description:

The proposed actions would involve conducting training exercises for the protection of personnel. Training would include classroom instruction, drills, and hands-on practice sessions. Topics may include daily operations, vehicle and weapon usage, and other special and routine job functions, as well as special equipment training (including the use of handcuffs, batons, tear gas, etc.).

Firearms training requiring live weapons (whether for practice, familiarization, testing, or qualification) would be conducted on DOE-approved ranges, with DOE-certified firearms instructors overseeing these actions.

Fire protection training exercises in the presence of an actual fire would consist of forcible entry; use of protective breathing apparatus; familiarity with fire hoses, nozzles, appliances, ladders, ventilation, and fire behavior; and practice of rescue and safety measures. Live fire training would take place at the Fire Training and Test Facility or other approved, designated location at each site.

Other fire fighter protection training exercises (field training) would consist of fire hose handling/correct use of hydrants, rescue, initial mitigation of hazardous materials spills, staging area management, resource accountability, basic emergency tool identification, facility evacuation drills, and American Red Cross First Aid Program.

Drill actions would include emergencies, hazardous materials detection and monitoring, evacuation, spill cleanup, and emergency categorization. At least one drill a year would include notification and emergency communications with regional federal, state, and local authorities and DOE Headquarters staff.

The proposed actions, which would involve only conducting various training, drills, and simulation exercises using existing facilities and equipment, would produce minimal amounts of waste. Any wastes generated would be disposed of in existing permitted/approved waste storage, treatment, or disposal facilities. Some waste might be Resource Conservation and Recovery Act-regulated lead waste, which would be managed according to regulatory requirements. The proposed action would be evaluated before implementation to identify options to reduce or eliminate generation of waste materials.

The proposed training exercise and simulation project actions that would take place on the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) have been reviewed in accordance with the Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP) or applicable sections in a ratified Programmatic Agreement document and would not result in an adverse effect to historic properties included or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). If the proposed ORR actions would have an adverse effect on properties included or eligible for inclusion in the National Register, DOE would consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and initiate actions specified in procedures set forth in the Advisory Council's regulations in 36 CFR Part 800.

For sites other than the ORR, DOE would follow the Section 106 process and would consult with the respective SHPO, as appropriate.

Should the proposed training exercises and simulation actions involve ground disturbances at locations where an archeological survey had not been conducted or take place at previously disturbed locations where the potential exists to exceed the depth of previous ground disturbances, DOE would consult with the SHPO to determine whether an archeological survey would be warranted prior to initiating the proposed actions.

To ensure that sensitive resources are protected, existing maps and surveys/studies on threatened and endangered species, wetlands and floodplains, and historically sensitive areas would be used to locate these areas. In addition, personnel responsible for identifying these resources would be consulted and, if warranted, additional surveys and walkovers would be conducted to confirm or update available information.

No known extraordinary circumstances would be associated with these actions that might affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposed action based on past similar actions. These actions would not be connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts or related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts; they would meet the conditions that are integral elements of the classes of actions which may be categorically excluded from further National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation. Should the action not meet the conditions for CX consideration, a separate specific NEPA determination would be made.

Although an action might fall under the category of "training exercises and simulation," 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:

B1.2 - Training exercises and simulations

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.

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.

NEPA Compliance Officer: _____ /s/ _____

Date Determined: 11/19/2012