



National Nuclear Security
Administration
Categorical Exclusion Determination
Form



NEPA ID#: HEDLP 15-001-001

Proposed Action Title: NNS Fiber Optic to Indian Springs (NV-2011-012)

Program or Field Office: Nevada Field Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): NNS and BLM Land to Creech AFB

Proposed Action Description:

Fiber Optic Line – NNS to Creech AFB

This activity consists of burying approximately 23 miles of fiber optic cable between Mercury NNS and Creech AFB. The work will be done by an NSTec Subcontractor. A NEPA Environmental Assessment has been approved that covers the entire project. Cultural and Biological surveys have also been conducted, and the project is cleared to start for those aspects.

Work will be accomplished using a trencher/plow in previously disturbed areas. The NNS portion will be along the West side of Mercury Highway, and the offsite portion will be along the North side of Highway 95. Equipment will be fueled using mobile fuel trucks. Off road travel will be necessary, but work will be done in the previously disturbed area beside the roads. Damage in the excavation area will be minimized, and water spray will be used to control dust.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B-1.7 -Acquisition/Installation/operation/removal of communication systems, data processing equipment

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: Linda Cohn

Date Determined: 1/14/2011