



National Nuclear Security Administration Categorical Exclusion Determination Form



NEPA ID#: HEDLP 15-001-001

Proposed Action Title: AT&T Cell Site and Antenna System Installation (NV-2014-009)

Program or Field Office: Nevada Field Office

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

Proposed Action Description:

AT&T telecommunications upgrades would be planned for the NNS and the NLVF. These are described below:

Area 6

The effort is to have AT&T install a cell site in area 6, in building 06-CP-18. The equipment would be installed in the building and connected to power and communications links. Power would be extended from the building power already in place. NSTec Telecommunications would install the necessary communications links.

No construction is anticipated; AT&T has performed a walk down and plans to install the equipment in the building and put the elements on top of the building.

Verizon has a tower in Area 6 at CP-18 and they have had an agreement with AT&T over the years that allows AT&T devices to roam on the Verizon tower. That agreement has ended and Verizon plans on shutting service off to AT&T devices sometime during the June/July timeframe this year. Most of the government-provided devices in use at the NNS are AT&T devices, so this is a critical issue for safe operations in the forward areas. AT&T has volunteered to install a cell site in this area at no cost to the government so the AT&T devices can continue to operate in these areas.

NLVF (Area 24)

The effort is to have AT&T install a distributed antenna system (DAS) in buildings C-01 and D-01. A DAS is comprised of a network of antennas that are placed throughout a facility connected by cabling to a hub. Remote units are placed on each floor and are connected to antennas which serve the floor. The DAS would utilize a dedicated Base Transceiver Station as the RF source which would be installed in the C-01 data center and which would be connected to a roof-mounted antenna, building power and communications links. Approximately 28 ceiling-mounted antennas would be installed in the first floor of C-01 and all three floors of D-01. NSTec Telecommunications would install the necessary communications links.

Cabling would be installed between the equipment and each antenna. Single mode fiber is already in place between the two buildings to support the DAS. AT&T has performed a walk down and prepared design documents detailing the placement of each antenna. NFO and NSTec have agreed on these placements.

Cellular service is extremely limited throughout building D-01 and through the majority of the first floor of building C-01. There have been numerous requests from senior management to improve the cellular coverage in these buildings.

Areas 5, 23 and 27

The effort is to have AT&T maintain already existing cell sites in Areas 5 (in building 05-13), 23 (west of building 23-726A) and 27 (in building 27-5240). The equipment is installed in either the building or, in the case of Area 23, on a concrete pad outside the building and is connected to nearby towers with building power and communication links that are already in place.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

Part 1021-8-1.19- Siting, construction of Communication Tower

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: 2/24/2014