



National Nuclear Security Administration Categorical Exclusion Determination Form



NEPA ID#: HEDLP 15-001-001

Proposed Action Title: Soil Sampling, Building 12-930 (NV-2016-024)

Program or Field Office: Nevada Field Office

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

Proposed Action Description:

The Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) is in need of a building to be located in Area 12 of the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). Prior to initiating construction, the soil would be tested to determine its suitability for installing a concrete foundation for the building. The tests would be conducted on disturbed land, located on the east side of Road 12, approximately 1 mile north of Ranier Road, and immediately north of Building 12-929. When constructed, the new building would be referred to as Building 12-930.

The soils test would include sub-surface sampling. The subcontractor would dig three pits approximately 18" wide x 15' deep x 10' long. They would be dug with a track back hoe and backfilled prior to the equipment leaving the site. The area to be used to stockpile excavated soil would be cleared of weeds and brush. This area would be approximately 5' wide x 10' long and would run parallel to and immediately adjacent to each pit location. Dust Control will be administered with the use of a water truck. The backhoe would bring the soil to the surface where the Soils Engineer would collect the samples using hand tools. No other power tools would be used. Personnel would not enter the trench. Once the Engineer completed his observations and collected samples, the pits would be backfilled.

Note: The subcontractor will follow the approved Site Specific Safety Plan related to excavation. The subcontractor will perform work in accordance with the approved Excavation Permit.

A FRM-0901 was submitted and a biological survey was conducted that included the building site, an equipment laydown area, and the soil-excavation locations. Results of the survey determined that the project would not affect biological resources.

A FRM-0901A was submitted and a cultural/historic survey was conducted that included the building site, an equipment laydown area, and the soil-excavation locations. Results of the survey determined that there are no cultural resource issues on the site.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

10 CFR 1021:

B.3.1 (f) - Site Characterization: Sampling and characterization of water, soil, rock,, or contaminants (such as drilling using truck- or mobile-scale equipment, and ...)

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: 6/02/2016