



National Nuclear Security Administration Categorical Exclusion Determination Form



NEPA ID#: HEDLP 15-001-001

Proposed Action Title: Atlas Machine Disassembly

Program or Field Office: Nevada Field Office

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

Proposed Action Description:

The Atlas facility, located in Building 06-922 at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) was constructed in 2003 and conducted Pulsed Power research and testing until 2006. The facility has been maintained in a standby condition with no experimental activities conducted since the last shot was conducted in June 2006.

This project would support efforts to permanently decommission, dismantle and remove the Atlas pulsed power machine from Building 06-922. Dismantlement of the Atlas machine would enable the salvage and repurposing of critical components parts in support of other experimental NNSA priorities. The building and infrastructure, including the fire pump system and boiler, would remain in place.

Dismantlement activities would primarily be conducted within the confines of Building 06-922. Staging activities would be conducted in the yard area surrounding the building, and would consist of staging of equipment to remove and transport the machine to the Ironworkers material storage yard in Area 6. Heavy equipment (forklifts, flat beds, trucks, etc.) would be used to transport the excess equipment from 06-922 to the storage yard. Machine dismantlement/excess work would consist of removing all remaining programmatic and non-programmatic equipment from the 06-922 building, and draining and removal of the residual dielectric oil (less than 5,000 gallons) in the tanks and lines. All components related to the Atlas project within the 06-922 building would be removed. The Atlas machine includes the firing chamber, tanks, stairs, mezzanine, fencing, test tank, and set down racks. The 40,000-gallon dielectric oil storage tank, pumps, plumbing and associated awning outside of the southern wall would be removed as part of this disassembly effort. The electrical, pneumatic, and fire alarm/suppression systems would be removed from the machine and awning but would remain intact and operational for the rest of the building during and after the disassembly activities. All three screen rooms including the large control room would remain; if the small screen room in the high bay impedes the removal of the machine it may be removed. The two modular computer rooms with the attached deck and awning north of building 06-922 would remain in place. The two air compressors (one interior and one exterior) and associated pneumatic lines in the facility would be left in place. Any identified hazardous materials would be packaged for off-site disposal if/when necessary. All non-waste material including the maintenance units (MUs) and tri-plate tanks, pipes, stairs, mezzanine and racks would be disassembled and transported to the 06-908 Ironworkers materials storage yard, north of the building. The twelve MU tanks and twelve tri-plate tanks would be transported to the Ironworkers materials storage yard individually but mostly intact without further dismantling within the building. The tanks and other large components would be further disassembled or dismantled in the storage yard on an as needed basis.

An evaluation was performed by the Desert Research Institute in November 2017 that determined this activity would not affect historic properties.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

10 CFR 1021: Appendix B, B1.28 Placing a facility in an environmentally safe condition

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: January 11, 2018