



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Categorical Exclusion Determination Form



Categorical Exclusion ID#: NV-2025-024

Proposed Action Title: Building 12-31 Modifications

Program or Field Office: Nevada Field Office

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

Proposed Action Description

The proposed project would encompass the minor modification of facility 12-31 to facilitate the installation and operation of an Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Unicorn Sparkle System (U.S.S.). Modifications would include but are not limited to the installation of the U.S.S ventilation system, compressed air capabilities, electrical upgrades, construction of a concrete pad, and an access road for fire department response support. Duct hangers would be installed in the three-stall bay for the ventilation system, and a three-sided metal shed with roof would be constructed outside to cover the air compressor system. The U.S.S. is a ~100-kilovolt-ampere system energized by the facility (shore power), with a ~125-kilowatt backup generator. An automatic transfer switch and single uninterruptible power supply (UPS) would be installed in event of loss of shore power.

CIVIL:

- Clear and grub identified area for Fire Department access road
- Place type 2 base course, compact, match with elevation to south side of facility
- Raise sewer clean-out to match finished concrete elevation
- Place type 2 base course at east side for 24 ft x 24 ft concrete pad
- Form 24 ft x 24 ft x 10 in concrete pad with #5 rebar at 12-inch o.c.
- Place 19 cubic yards of concrete for strobic exhaust fan, HEPA [high efficiency particulate air] filter, compressor, storage tank, compressed air drier
- Remove raised concrete pad in Room 100, skim coat to finish

SHEET METAL:

- Install ~4 duct hangers to customer specifications; single row
- Remove existing louver assembly from inside, sheet metal cover from outside
- Install ventilation passthrough as per customer specifications
- Design/fabricate/install 3-walled, single slope shed over compressor, storage tank, drier, and regulator; 6 ft 5 in roof height

ELECTRICAL:

- Install and route wire tray(s) above facility ventilation system from electrical room into U.S.S. (apparatus room). Wire tray to waterfall to interface with U.S.S. wire tray



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Categorical Exclusion Determination Form



- Install UPS and distribution panel in electrical room
- Hardwire 200-amp drop (120-volt) from distribution panel to pre-existing ORNL panel at “Central Location”
- Replace existing dual outlets for quad outlets in Room 106
- Surface mount (3 each) additional quad outlets along both south and north walls in Room 106; per customer – 2 each 20-amp circuits serving 2 quads, 1 each 15-amp servicing 1 quad
- Install 2 Ethernet cords for U.S.S. – connect central location to ORNL 19-inch rack
- Fabricate and mount stand on new concrete pad, install (2 each) 480-volt disconnects for strobic exhaust fan and air compressor
- Install 120-volt subpanel inside shed to energize compressed air drier, and 2 additional quad outlets

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied

10 CFR 1021: Appendix B, B1.4 Air conditioning systems for existing equipment; B1.13 Pathways, short access roads, and rail lines; B1.15 Support buildings; B1.31 Installation or relocation of machinery and equipment

Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021

For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see 10 CFR 1021.102, Appendix B to 10 CFR 1021, and also Section 5.4 and Appendices B and C of DOE’s NEPA Implementing Procedures (June 30, 2025).

To find that a proposal is categorically excluded, DOE shall determine the following:

- (1) The proposal fits within a class of actions listed in Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 1021 or Appendix B or C of DOE’s NEPA Implementing Procedures (June 30, 2025). To fit within these classes of actions a proposal must satisfy the conditions that are integral elements of the classes of action in Appendix B of both 10 CFR Part 1021 and DOE’s NEPA Implementing Procedures;
 - (2) There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; and
 - (3) The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion.
-

NEPA Compliance Officer Determination

Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession concerning the proposed action, as a designated NNSA NEPA Compliance Officer, I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other requirements and guidance set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA Compliance Officer: Patricia Gallo

Date Determined: September 25, 2025