



## NEPA Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

**Program or Field Office:** U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management (LM)

**Project Title:** Routine Activities at Grand Junction, Colorado, Grand Junction Regional Airport Calibration Pads Site

**Location:** Grand Junction, Colorado

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### Proposed Action or Project Description:

LM would conduct routine activities at the Grand Junction Regional Airport (GJRA) Calibration Pads Site (Site), located in Mesa County, Colorado. The proposed activities include maintaining on-going facility use operations by LM and its stakeholders, performing routine inspections and site visits/tours, and performing general routine maintenance activities. The unstaffed, aircraft accessible facility provides distributed sources of radium, thorium, and potassium and consists of five 30-foot by 40-foot concrete pads that are used as standards to calibrate radiation detectors mounted on vehicle systems (e.g., aircraft, ground vehicles), and for hand-held detectors. The facility consists of an approximately 1-acre segregated area located within the secured Transportation Security Authority perimeter of the GJRA. The facility area is unvegetated and entirely paved except for a small gravel area. There are no LM-associated buildings at the Site. The following proposed activities would be performed within the limitations identified below:

- Allow continued operation of the radiation detector calibration facility, which allows LM and other stakeholders access to, and use of, the facilities to calibrate equipment or conduct other scientific studies. Continued operation of the site would also include performing various administrative actions such as remotely performing routine office activities, holding meetings with stakeholders, and the potential award of subcontracts for technical service support.
- Allow renewal of the property lease from the GJRA Authority, as needed.
- Perform site inspections and conduct site visits and tours. Inspections would be performed by LM/LMS at least annually to visually inspect the site and its features and to perform assessments for informational gathering or sharing purposes. Non-ground-intrusive tasks, such as visual monitoring and measuring features, could occur as part of these activities. Stakeholders, including regulatory agencies and other interested parties, could also participate in or perform these activities.
- Perform routine maintenance activities, including:
  - sweeping/clearing or vacuuming of pads using hand-powered, gasoline-powered, or equipment that can be towed behind vehicles
  - maintaining and repairing existing surface calibration pads and surrounding asphalt and concrete areas, including filling in cracks with tar, performing asphalt fog seal or slurry seal, or patching small areas of asphalt provided ground-penetrating activities (beneath the concrete/asphalt base) are not performed using powered equipment
  - replacing, repairing, repainting, or installing new signage, site markers, and survey/boundary monuments
  - performing land surveying activities
  - raking or placing small quantities of gravel for housekeeping purposes
  - maintenance of security features such as lights and fencing
  - repainting the pads and model identification numbers
  - placing or removing t-posts, survey markers, flagging pins, etc., to support site activities
  - replacing/maintaining locks
  - cleaning up nonhazardous solid waste (trash) and removing it from the facility
  - driving vehicles on-site to support field activities
  - servicing and maintaining an on-site portable toilet and hand-wash station
  - conducting vegetation management activities, which may include trimming, herbicide application, and mowing
- Perform non-ground-intrusive monitoring to obtain information supporting future site operations, projects, or scientific studies

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### Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

A1 Routine DOE Business Actions  
A9 Information Gathering, Analysis, and Dissemination  
B1.3 Routine Maintenance  
B3.1 Site Characterization and Environmental Monitoring  
B3.2 Aviation Activities

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For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Subpart D of Title 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 1021 (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

To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of



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applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, such as those listed in paragraph B(5) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B.

- ☒ 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. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized by the LM Director per DOE Policy 451.1), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified classes of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature and  
Determination Date

JOYCE CHAVEZ Digitally signed by JOYCE CHAVEZ  
Date: 2023.02.23 10:14:17 -07'00'