

## **Sitewide Categorical Exclusion for Installation or Modification of Retention Tanks and Small Basins to Control Runoff and Spills**

### **Introduction**

As defined in the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Richland Operations Office Integrated Management System Procedure, *NEPA Analysis at Hanford*, a sitewide categorical exclusion is:

An application of DOE categorical exclusions described in 10 CFR 1021, Appendices A and B, which may apply to Hanford Site proposed actions (activities) that are “sitewide” in nature and extent, which the cognizant DOE Hanford NCO has determined fit within the scope (i.e., same nature and intent, and of the same or lesser scope) of DOE categorical exclusions described in 10 CFR 1021 Appendices A and B. The cognizant DOE Hanford NCO may issue specific sitewide categorical exclusions for use on proposed actions in which separate DOE approval to proceed is not required.

The nature of the proposed action subject of this sitewide categorical exclusion, as well as guidance to implement this exclusion as described herein, may be revised to reflect contemporary experience from the application of this exclusion; changes to, or development of, relevant policy and guidance; and changes to DOE’s categorical exclusions resulting from future rulemakings.

### **Proposed Action**

The DOE’s Richland Operations Office and Office of River Protection propose to install or modify retention tanks and small basins to control storm water runoff and spills.

### **Location of Action**

On and near the Hanford Site, Richland, Washington.

### **Description of Proposed Action**

DOE’s proposed action is to install new, or modify existing, retention tanks and small basins, including their associated components, such as piping and pumps, to control and contain storm water runoff and liquids that may be released from inadvertent spills. Under this proposed action, typical activities would include, but are not limited to, the installation or modification of retention tanks and small basins (normally under one acre), liners, covers, overfill protection and spill containment devices, secondary containment, curbs, berms, culverts, roof drains, parking lot drains, storm water drainage systems, and sumps. DOE also would plug existing drains, and replace components such as piping, valves and pumps.

Consistent with DOE’s procedures that implement NEPA (10 CFR 1021), DOE also would undertake actions foreseeably necessary to implement this proposed action. Therefore, under this proposed action, DOE would transport retention tanks and associated components, as well as necessary construction equipment and material (e.g, excavators, bulldozers) to specific locations for which existing runoff and spill prevention controls are in-place, but require modification or replacement. It also may be necessary to establish temporary structures at those locations to facilitate modification and replacement actions.

Modifications to existing tanks and basins may generate materials and waste, such as hazardous, radioactive, asbestos and construction waste. In such instances, waste would be packaged, staged for transport, transported, and disposed at onsite or offsite facilities; materials may be recycled, reused or disposed. All such activities would be undertaken in compliance with DOE orders, and federal and state regulations and guidelines.

In addition, DOE would move equipment and materials necessary to implement the proposed action onto and within the Hanford Site, as necessary. Use of the equipment and associated vehicles would generate air pollutants from combustion and limited ground-disturbance, local noise levels would increase, water may be used for dust suppression, and nonrenewable resources such as petroleum products would be consumed. In all instances, the demand for resources and environmental impacts resulting from implementation of these proposed activities would be small and temporary in nature.

### **Applicable Categorical Exclusion**

DOE’s Categorical Exclusion B1.6:

Installation or modification of retention tanks or small (normally under one acre) basins and associated piping and pumps for existing operations to control runoff or spills (such as under 40 CFR part 112). Modifications include, but are not limited to, installing liners or covers.

### **Implementing Guidance**

Application of this sitewide categorical exclusion requires compliance with the Richland Integrated Management System Procedure, *NEPA Analysis at Hanford*. Sitewide categorical exclusions are determined solely by the cognizant DOE Hanford NCO and are applied through a screening process which documents that the proposed action:

1. Fits within the scope of actions identified in a DOE Hanford NCO-approved sitewide categorical exclusion
2. Meets the eligibility requirements for Appendix B categorical exclusion (“integral elements”) of 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, B(1) through B(4)

B1.6 SWCX for Installation or Modification of Retention Tanks and Small Basins to Control Runoff and Spills – Revision 0

3. Is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (see 40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)) or with cumulatively significant impacts (see 40 CFR 1508.25(a)(2))
4. Is absent extraordinary circumstances that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposed action
5. Is not located on nor directly impacts the Hanford Reach National Monument, Rattlesnake Mountain, Gable Mountain, Gable Butte, within ¼ mile of the Columbia River, other known Traditional Cultural Properties, or properties of historic, archaeological or architectural significance designated by Federal, state or local governments or properties eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and
6. Is not located on nor cause direct impacts to sensitive species or their habitats, such as old-growth sagebrush.

This sitewide categorical exclusion applies only to existing operations. It may not be applied to basins for which the total land disturbed (the basin plus associated land used or otherwise disturbed during installation or modification) would be greater than a few acres. It also may not be applied to construction or expansion of waste disposal, recovery, treatment, or storage facilities.

**Compliance Action**

I have determined that the proposed action meets the requirements for Categorical Exclusion B1.6 and that there are no extraordinary circumstance related to this action that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the action; this action is not “connected” to other actions with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts, and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211. All activities to be conducted under this Sitewide Categorical Exclusion Determination must be documented with the NEPA Review Screening Form (see Hanford Site Form RL-721) pursuant to *NEPA Analysis at Hanford* and demonstrably meet the criteria described in 1 through 6 above. Accordingly, I have determined that the proposed action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation. This exclusion is being implemented as a one-time yearly application for the proposed action described herein.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ralph W. Russell, DOE NEPA Compliance Officer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date