



# U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed Action Title: Office of Secure Transportation Vehicle Maintenance Facility Improvements (CX-ORR-13-005)

Program or Field Office: Oak Ridge Reservation

Location(s) (City/County/State): Oak Ridge, Tennessee

---

Proposed Action Description:

The National Nuclear Security Agency's Office of Secure Transportation (OST) proposes to initiate two projects to improve facility conditions at Building 9714, known as the OST Eastern Command's Vehicle Maintenance Facility (VMF). The proposed projects include (1) performing building modifications necessary to integrate a new transformer provided by the City of Oak Ridge and correct electrical power distribution deficiencies and (2) remodeling the administrative and employee support area of Building 9714 to create a second floor within the existing building.

The first proposed project would prepare the facility for replacement of two older 500 KVA government-owned transformers (which are excessively sized) with a single 500 to 700 KVA transformer that would be owned and installed by the City of Oak Ridge Electric Department. To prepare the VMF for the City of Oak Ridge transformer, the contractor conducting the work would be provided with the design detailing the required main distribution equipment and new distribution panels.

The electrical design proposed would support rapid changeover and isolation of the existing main distribution equipment. In addition to the installation of the new distribution equipment, the proposed task would include construction of a concrete pad and duct bank preparations for the City of Oak Ridge transformer. The proposed design would be constructed while the VMF remains functional, and transition to the new distribution system would be expected to result in a short duration power outage for the entire facility and rolling power outages within the facility as sub-panels are replaced for safety reasons during the transition. The government-owned transformers being removed do not contain polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) additives, and oil samples have been analyzed for byproducts of coil breakdown and contamination that would compromise the oils insulating properties; and test results were favorable.

The second proposed project would increase usable square footage of the facility (approximately doubling the size of usable space by constructing a second floor within the existing building), improve the condition of the facility, and provide additional functional spaces in the administrative area in the VMF. A pre-engineered, steel structure for the second floor is proposed, and the Facilities Management Branch would be responsible for the construction, modernization, and maintenance of facilities that support this mission. The proposed task would be performed in an active vehicle maintenance shop with minimal disruptions to ongoing vehicle work. The contractor performing the work would provide technical engineering services, as well as project integration, with ongoing activities in the facility and the necessary labor, materials, equipment, facilities, and management necessary to complete the detailed design and construction according to the assigned technical tasks.

Once the area has been totally cleaned out, the inside of the existing shell of the building would be constructed in a manner to maximize utilization of space on an already constrained site and bring the building into a safe operating condition. The build phase would begin with installation of new sewer lines, foundations, support steel, staircases, and a main electrical distribution center. Temporary office space would be constructed to support ongoing vehicle maintenance activities, and the construction area would be temporarily separated from the operational area using a temporary addition to the limited area security fence.

---

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

- B2.1 - Workplace enhancements
  - B2.2 - Building and equipment instrumentation
  - B2.5 - Facility safety and environmental improvements
  - B4.6 - Additions and modifications to transmission facilities
- 

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 Part 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 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.

The above description accurately describes the proposed action, which reflects the requirements of the CX cited above. Therefore, I recommend that the proposed action be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

**Program Point of Contact:** Erick Ratzer, NNSA

**Date Determined:** 5/29/2013

Based on my review of 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, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

**NEPA Compliance Officer:** Gary S. Hartman, ORO

**Date Determined:** 5/29/2013