



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

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Proposed Action Title: Acquire Office Space Located in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Program or Field Office: DOE/CBFO

Location(s) (City/County/State): Albuquerque/Bernalillo/New Mexico

Proposed Action Description:

The Carlsbad Field Office seeks to attain office space for at least 10 people to be located in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Due to the low availability of housing and high cost of living in Carlsbad, New Mexico, multiple offices in the Carlsbad Field Office are short staffed. The Carlsbad Field Office seeks to set up a satellite office in Albuquerque to make up for a majority of the staffing shortfall. The Carlsbad Field Office proposes to acquire existing office space and at least one conference room to accommodate at least 10 people. The Carlsbad Field Office will supply their own furniture, office equipment and security if needed. The Carlsbad Field Office has a staffing shortfall because it is experiencing difficulty hiring and retaining people to work in Carlsbad, New Mexico due to the local housing shortage and high cost of living. Due to this staffing shortfall the Carlsbad Field Office is currently having challenges successfully completing aspects of its mission at this time. If the Carlsbad Field Office went with the no action alternative then the Carlsbad Field Office would still have a staffing shortfall causing a negative mission impact not only on the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, but potentially to the other the Department of Energy sites that are tasked with the cleanup of transuranic waste.

The Carlsbad Field Office is proposing to lease office space from the Government Service Administration for existing office space located in Albuquerque, New Mexico on Gold Avenue South West. This office space will support the need for office space in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Administrative work and contract oversight will be the primary job duties performed at this location. No hazardous materials will be used, stored or generated at this location

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B1.24 - Property transfers

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.

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: **George Basabilvazo**

Digitally signed by George Basabilvazo  
DN: cn=us, o=U.S. Government, ou=Department of Energy, ou=Energy IT  
Services, ou=Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, ou=People, cn=George Basabilvazo  
Date: 2020.04.01 14:30:55 -0600

Date Determined: 03/31/2020