



U.S. Department of Energy

Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Submit by E-mail

Project Title: In Situ Real-time Monitoring at the F-Area Wetlands

Program or Field Office: Savannah River Site

Location(s) (City/County/State): Aiken/Aiken/South Carolina

Proposed Action or Project Description:

SRNL is supporting the development and implementation of a long-term strategy that is focused on ensuring remobilization of attenuated contaminants does not occur. The new approach focuses primarily on monitoring systemic changes in groundwater flow and chemistry that could potentially remobilize attenuated contaminants rather than focusing on increases in contaminant concentrations after they have been remobilized. The new approach is more efficient and promotes proactive decisions if site conditions change in a way that increases the risk of reversal of contaminant attenuation. SRNL objective is to deploy an in-situ sensor to test long term monitoring (LTM) strategy at the F-Area wetlands. The sensor used in this study can provide inexpensive "master variable" data such as temperature, pH, oxidation-reduction potential (ORP) and specific conductivity data. Evaluating "master variables" is useful in long-term monitoring for assessing changes in the stability of immobilized contaminants. To accomplish this, in-well sensor will be installed in an existing groundwater piezometer well in the F-Area wetlands. Monitoring will be performed remotely. Periodic maintenance and sensor replacement will be performed over the data acquisition timeframe.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B3.1 - Site characterization and environmental monitoring

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](#).

- ☒ There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.
- ☒ This 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 § 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.
- ☒ All of the conditions that are integral elements of the classes of actions in Appendix B to Subpart D of 10 CFR Part 1021 would be met. This proposal would not threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; 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; 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; have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of Appendix B to Subpart D of 10 CFR Part 1021; 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.

Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession (or attached) concerning 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: **Tracy Williams** Digitally signed by Tracy Williams
Date: 2022.06.27 13:27:05 -04'00'

Date Determined: 06/08/2022

Comments: TC-G-2022-0038, Rev. 0