



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Pantex Site Office
P. O. Box 30030
Amarillo, TX 79120



NEPA Compliance Officer Rationale

Pantex Site Office

Proj. No.: EXP-10-013-C

NEPA ID No.: PXP-10-0002

Building 12-143 Parking Lot Construction

Application of DOE NEPA Procedure: Categorical Exclusion B1.3, Applicable to Facility Operations (10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B), applies to this proposal. Therefore, neither an Environmental Assessment nor an Environmental Impact Statement is necessary for the activity described in NEPA Review Form (NRF) PXP-10-0002, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Rationale: The U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration, proposes to construct a permanent parking lot at Building 12-143. The project would develop the area west of the building that was established as a temporary parking lot under project number MWO-10-001-N, which underwent earlier NEPA review. The design would include a 150-ft. x 90-ft. parking lot with 26 large, pull-through parking spaces, 12 feet wide, for large, multi-personnel vehicles. Directional arrows and appropriate signs designed to control traffic flow would be provided. The entry ramp from Lafayette Drive would service the new parking lot and use the existing exit ramp that services the parking area south of Buildings 12-142 and 12-143. Paving of the roadway just west of the building would be incorporated into the parking lot for use of the current exit ramp. The parking lot would be constructed with 3 inches of asphalt over 12 inches of caliche base material, with 6 inches of compacted sub-grade.

Lighting for the parking area and any pathways to and from would be included. Drainage of the parking area and its effect on the current flow of the surrounding area drainage would be taken into account during design.

Resurfacing of the existing temporary parking lot fits within the parameters of Categorical Exclusion B1.3:

“Routine maintenance activities and custodial services for buildings, structures, rights-of-way, infrastructures (e.g., pathways, roads, and railroads) Routine maintenance activities include, but are not limited to: (j) Road and parking area resurfacing.”

Based upon the information in PXP-10-0002, this proposal to resurface the existing temporary parking lot and make it permanent does not present any extraordinary circumstances of a unique

or uncertain nature. It is not connected to other actions with potentially or cumulatively significant impacts.¹ It would not²:

1. threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, including requirements of DOE and/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;
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; or
4. adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources (including but not limited to those listed in paragraph B.(4)).

Therefore, this proposal meets the conditions that are the integral elements of the classes of actions to which application of Categorical Exclusion B1.3 is appropriate.

If changes are made to the scope of action as described in the NRF, or if the scope is expanded to encompass other actions, NEPA requirements for the action will need to be reassessed at that time.

Signature: 

Jim Barrows

Title: NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 20 May 2010

¹ See 10 CFR § 1021.410(b)(2)and(3)for full text of regulation.

² See 10 CFR Part 1021 Subpart D Appendix B (B(1)through(4)).