

DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION

Idaho National Laboratory

SECTION A. Project Title: Storm Water Injection Well Decommissioning

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

Deep storm water injection wells CFA 1 (34-W-003-004) and SPERT DISP 2 (34-W-003-002) are no longer needed and need to be decommissioned. A storm water runoff impact evaluation has been completed, and it concluded that decommissioning the wells would have minimal impact on facility operations. The wells were permitted by the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR), but the permits were allowed to expire on 6/01/17. Risk evaluations in compliance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) had to be completed prior to decommissioning, and the wells were recommended as no action sites to regulatory agencies. Approval of the no action site determinations is pending. After approvals are received, Idaho National Laboratory will decommission the wells. The well casings will be filled with soil and grout, and a cap will be welded on the inlet pipe, or it will be sealed with grout. A layer of grout will be poured into the concrete vault, and the remainder of the vault will be filled with gravel obtained from the Monroe gravel pit. A licensed Professional Engineer will oversee the work.

Project activities are scheduled for August and September 2017.

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Air Emissions

Project activities have the potential to generate fugitive dust.

Discharging to Surface-, Storm-, or Ground Water

Decommissioning activities will seal a potential route of groundwater contamination.

A storm water runoff impact evaluation concluded project activities would have a minimal impact on facility operations.

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources

Off-road travel to access the well sites has the potential to disturb cultural artifacts and vegetation and nesting birds.

Generating and Managing Waste

Project activities will generate industrial waste.

Releasing Contaminants

Because this project will use petroleum products and possibly other industrial chemicals, there is the potential for small amounts of contaminant release into the air or soil.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

Project activities involve using fossil fuels and release of greenhouse gases.

SECTION D. Determine Recommended Level of Environmental Review, Identify Reference(s), and State Justification: Identify the applicable categorical exclusion from 10 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 1021, Appendix B, give the appropriate justification, and the approval date.

For Categorical Exclusions (CXs), the proposed action must not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environmental, safety, and health, or similar requirements of Department of Energy (DOE) or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources (see 10 CFR 1021). In addition, no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal exist that would affect the significance of the action. In addition, the action is not "connected" to other action actions (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1) and is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1608.27(b)(7)).

References: 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D, item B5.3 "Modification or abandonment of wells."

Justification: The proposed action will protect against a potential uncontrolled release of contamination to the aquifer and is consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D, item B5.3. "Modification (but not expansion) or plugging and abandonment of wells, provided that site characterization has verified low potential for seismicity, subsidence, and contamination of freshwater aquifers, and the actions are otherwise consistent with best practices and

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DOE protocols, including those that protect against uncontrolled releases of harmful materials. Such wells may include, but are not limited to, storage and injection wells for brine, carbon dioxide, coalbed methane, gas hydrate, geothermal, natural gas, and oil. Covered modifications would not be part of site closure."

Is the project funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) Yes No

Approved by Jason Sturm, DOE-ID NEPA Compliance Officer on: 8/24/2017