

Categorical Exclusion Documentation Format for Actions Other Than Hazardous Fuels and Fire Rehabilitation Actions

Handford Mill-site Removal and Restoration **NEPA Number DOI- BLM-AZ-C010-2013-0049-CX**

A. Background

BLM Office: Kingman Field Office Case File No.: MN-89-K-36

Proposed Action Title: Handford Mill-site Removal and Restoration

Location of Proposed Action: Section 16, T. 13 N., R. 13 W., Gila & Salt River Meridian, near Signal, Mohave County, Arizona

Description of Proposed Action: Removal of hazardous materials, structures, equipment, scrap metal, trash and debris. Mohave Electric Cooperative will remove the powerline and poles. After removal, earthwork will be performed to restore the site to as close to original conditions as possible.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Kingman Resource Management Plan (RMP)/EIS

Date Approved: March 1995

The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s):

*“Hazardous Materials Management
Objective*

The objective is to reduce hazards to the public and natural resources on public lands from toxic materials.

Plan Actions

Plot location of land uses which use or generate toxic materials in groundwater basins. All authorized uses on public lands would be monitored through mining plans of operation, mining notices, environmental assessments, right-of-way stipulations, etc., to ensure that the use of hazardous materials is in compliance with existing laws and regulations.” (See p. 86, RMP/EIS, 1995.)

The hazardous materials, structures, equipment, trash and debris are a public safety hazard and degrade the natural resources. This removal will benefit the public and the natural resources on public land, as intended in the RMP.

C: Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, J.10 – Removal of structures and materials of non-historical value, such as abandoned automobiles, fences and buildings, including those built in trespass, and reclamation of the site when little or no surface disturbance is involved.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed (See Attachment 1), and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM2 apply.

I considered the positive impacts (elimination of public safety hazards, restoration of landscapes and habitat) and lack of adverse impacts in making this decision.

D: Signature

Authorized Official: /s/ Ruben A. Sánchez Date: 08/23/2013
(Signature)

Name: Ruben Sanchez

Title: Field Manager

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Paul Misiaszek, Geologist, Kingman Field Office, 2755 Mission Boulevard, Kingman, AZ,(928) 718-3700.

Note: A separate decision document must be prepared for the action covered by the CX. See Attachment 2.

Attachment 1: Extraordinary Circumstances Review

Extraordinary Circumstances	Comment (Yes or No with supporting Rationale)
1. Have significant effects on public health or safety.	No. Will eliminate public health hazards.
2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988) national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.	No. Removal of abandoned structures and restoration of sites restores the landscape . There would be little surface disturbance during reclamation. None of the characteristics noted are expected to be affected.
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].	No. Trash dump removals have occurred many times on KFO and no controversial, unique or unknown effects were ever noted.
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	No. Trash dump removals have occurred many times on KFO and no controversial, unique or unknown effects were ever noted.
5. Establishes a precedent for future action or represents a decision in principle about future actions with significant environmental effects.	No precedent will be established. Each trash dump removal will be analyzed on a site-specific basis.
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	None noted.
7. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.	No registered properties identified at mill-site. This site is not eligible for listing.
8. Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.	Clearance completed by wildlife biologist. No impacts to TE species are expected.
9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	None in the area.
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).	No.
11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).	No.
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).	No. Stipulation 4 states: “ All vehicles and equipment will be power-washed prior to entering public land to prevent the introduction, growth or expansion of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species.”

Approval and Decision

Attachment 2

Compliance and assignment of responsibility:

Kingman Field Office, Minerals Program

Monitoring and assignment of responsibility:

Kingman Field Office, Minerals Program

Review: *We have determined that the proposal is in accordance with the categorical exclusion criteria and that it would not involve any significant environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review.*

Prepared by: /s/ Paul Misiaszek **Date:** 8/19/2013

Paul Misiaszek
Project Lead

Reviewed by: /s/ Ramone B. McCoy **Date:** 8/20/2013

Ramone McCoy
NEPA Coordinator

Reviewed by: /s/ Leonard A. Marceau **Date:** 8/20/2013

Len Marceau
Assistant Field Manager
Supervisor

Project Description: Removal of structures, equipment, scrap metal, trash and debris from Stukey Mill-site, located on public land in Section 16, T. 13 N., R. 13 W., Gila & Salt River Meridian, near Signal, Mohave County, Arizona.

Decision: Based on a review of the project described above and field office staff recommendations, I have determined that the project is in conformance with the land use plan and is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis. It is my decision to approve the action as proposed, with the following stipulations (if applicable).

Approved By: /s/ Ruben A. Sánchez **Date:** 08/23/2013

Ruben Sanchez
Field Manager, Kingman Field Office

Stipulations:

- 1.) Disturbance will be limited to those areas previously disturbed.
- 2.) If any cultural artifacts are encountered, the operator will cease work and notify BLM of the discovery.
- 3.) No petrochemicals will be stored at the site. All petrochemical spills will be immediately and properly mitigated in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

4.) All vehicles and equipment will be power-washed prior to entering public land to prevent the introduction, growth or expansion of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species.



