



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Anchorage Field Office  
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## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX)

### A. BACKGROUND

**Project Name / Type:** Campbell Tract Facility Antenna Sites Removal

**NEPA Register Number:** DOI-BLM-AK-010-2015-0012-CX

**Case File Number:** AA-77728

**Location / Legal Description:** within S1/2, Sect 3, T012N, R003W, SM

**Applicant (if any):** Internal

### Description of Proposed Action:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has procured by contract Alaska Environmental (AKE) to remove out-of-use communications antennas and associated infrastructure from three sites (West Communications Hill, Upper Meteor Burst and Lower Meteor Burst) at the Campbell Tract Facility.

West Communications Hill: The following items will be removed from an approx. 30'x30' area:

- 4 each antenna's from 2"x12"x16' Cross bracing attached to 40' utility poles.
- 4 each 2"x12"x16' common wood from two 40' telephone poles.
- 7 each 40' treated utility poles. If these cannot be pulled from the ground, excavation will have to be done to totally remove poles.
- 2 each ground anchors.
- 7 each various lengths of wire from utility poles to 13'x13' slab.
- Concrete slab, approximately 13'x13'x6".
- Grounding rods and any other hardware related to the site.

Upper Meteor Burst Site: The following items will be removed from an approx. 120'x120' area:

- 5 each approximately 20"x20"x36" concrete antenna bases.
- 15 each approximately 16"x16"x36" concrete dead man anchors.
- 5 each various lengths of wire from antenna bases to gravel pad.
- Approximately 600' of communications and antenna wires shallow buried from gravel pad to the lower antenna field.

Lower Meteor Burst Site: The following items will be removed from an approx. 120'x120' area:

- 29" triangle x 60' antenna. This antenna will be dismantled into minimum of 3 each 20' sections and will be retained by BLM.
- 4'x4' approximate 2' depth concrete antenna base.
- 6 each approximately 30"x24"x24" concrete dead man anchors.
- All grounding rods and hardware.
- 6 sets of various lengths of wires from antenna, guide wires, dead man bases.
- Communications and antenna wires that are shallow buried from antenna to the upper meteor burst site.

The project is predicted to begin in mid-September and take one week to complete. The removal equipment will include: a John Deere excavator, a dump truck, flatbed trailers, a Ford 450 pickup truck, and a backhoe. Prior to transportation to the worksite, all equipment will be power washed so as to be free of all outside soil, seed, and vegetation. Equipment will be inspected by BLM prior to entry to the worksites. AKE will ensure that all equipment is free of caked on debris (soil and vegetation) before moving between work sites.

Following the removal and loading of all discarded and recycled material, AKE will reseed and restore the land to as close to the original conditions as possible. As the opportunity arises, vegetation clumps will be salvaged for transplant on-site. Any vegetative mats and clumps, located at the excavation, will be salvaged, set aside, and transplanted as soon as possible. The final task will be reseeding the disturbed areas with a combination of naturally occurring grasses, namely Blue Joint and Red Fescue, to assist in the recovery succession.

## **B. LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE**

**Applicable Land Use Plan:** Ring of Fire Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision, Approved March 2008

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable land use plan, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following land use plan decisions (objectives, terms, and conditions):

The area within which the proposed action would take place is managed by The Ring of Fire Record of Decision and Approved Management Plan (BLM, 2008). This plan directs management of the Campbell Tract Facility (CTF) Special Recreation Management Area to continue to be guided by A Management Plan for Public Use and Resource Management on the Bureau of Land Management Campbell Tract Facility (CTF Management Plan) (BLM, 2008, pg. 10).

The CTF Management Plan states that “the primary objective for management of the Campbell Tract Facility is to continue and facilitate its use as a BLM administrative site.”

Ring of Fire RMP Management Decision G. Hazardous Materials, states BLM will ensure all activities occurring on BLM-managed lands within the planning area comply with Federal and State hazardous materials standards and that all Federal and State Mandates, laws, regulations, Executive Orders and policies are met. The subject antenna sites are out-of-service, derelict, and their debris is classified as solid waste. Solid waste is regulated by the Resource Conservation Recovery Act and by State of Alaska regulations for hazardous and solid wastes. To comply

with these laws and regulations, BLM must properly dispose of the antenna sites debris. To do so requires removal of the materials from the CTF and re-using, recycling, or disposal at a properly permitted off-site disposal facility.

**C. CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION**

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with United States Department of the Interior 43 CFR 46.210 or United States Department of the Interior Manual, Part 516, Chapter 11, which provides:

**J. Other**

10. Removal of structures and materials of no 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.

**D. EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES**

The proposed action must be screened against the Extraordinary Circumstances found in 43 CFR § 46.215 (listed below). Any “yes” finding requires that an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement be prepared for the Proposed Action.

<b>EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES</b>	<b>YES/NO</b>
1. Have significant adverse impacts on public health or safety.	No
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
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].	No
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	No
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	No
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	No
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
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.	No
9. Violate Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	No
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	No

integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).	
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or 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

**F. SIGNATURE**

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable land use plan and is an action that can be categorically excluded. The Proposed Action does not trigger any of the Extraordinary Circumstances found in 516 FM Chapter 2, Appendix 2. I recommend that the Proposed Action be allowed and that no further environmental analysis is required.

/s/ Alan Bittner

9/10/2015

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Alan Bittner  
Anchorage Field Manager

Date