



# U.S. Department of Energy

## Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Submit by E-mail

Proposed Action Title: U.S. Air Force (South Dakota Air National Guard - SDANG) - Request for Multiple-Use of T-Line ROW

Program or Field Office: SDMO - Lake Andes Repeater Site

Location(s) (City/County/State): Charles Mix County, South Dakota

Proposed Action Description:

WAPA's proposed action is to grant the South Dakota Air National Guard's request for a multiple use of our transmission facility's ROW. SDANG has requested to install a skid building on an existing concrete pad to house their equipment and install antennas on WAPA's existing Lake Andes Repeater. Power and local telco (fiber) will be trenched and plowed to SDANG's new building.

On March 30, 2022, WAPA received Section 106 concurrence from the Yankton Sioux THPO. At the request of the Yankton THPO, cultural monitors may be needed during on-site work. Also, as a stipulation of the work, no ground disturbance or vehicle entrance is permitted within the off-limits area (available upon request). The project is not located in or near other formally classified lands (National Parks, National Monuments or Battlefields, Wild/Scenic Rivers, Wilderness Areas, recreational rivers, lake shores and trails, national wildlife refuges, State parks, or Native American Reservation land), nor areas of high scenic beauty, scenic overlooks, scenic highways, wilderness areas, etc. There are no water resources in the area. There will be no loss of unique farmland because the concrete foundation is existing and trenching the fiber line will not permanently alter the agricultural potential of the parcel. Project work would have limited impacts to wildlife because the project area and surrounding landscape are developed (existing concrete foundation, bordered by a road to the west, ag field to the east, and human occupancy to the south). No listed species or critical habitat present. Desktop review of impacts to transportation, air quality, hazardous materials, human health and safety, socioeconomic and community resources identified no concerns.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B4.9 - Multiple use of powerline rights-of-way

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](#).

Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410(b): (See full text in regulation)

The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D.

To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE 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 or facilities; (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; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) 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, such as those listed in paragraph B(5) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B.

There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

The 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 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Based on my review of 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: **John D. Russell** Digitally signed by John D. Russell  
Date: 2022.04.11 16:48:04 -06'00'

Date Determined: 04/11/2022