SECTION A. Project Title: Replace 13.8 kV Electrical Cable at MFC

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

The underground powerline at the Materials and Fuels Complex (MFC) between buildings MFC-768 to MFC-710 is about 1000 feet long and runs through 4 buried vaults (13.8 kV electrical cable). The cable is about 40 years old, is degraded, and needs to be replaced. Segments of the conduit are polyvinyl chloride (PVC), and some are galvanized steel. The proposed action replaces the 13.8 kV electrical cable and includes cleaning the conduit with a mandrel.

The segment of cable from MFC-768 to the first vault (162 feet) is expected to be contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) oil. A cable pulled from the same location in 2006 resulted in a PCB spill in MFC-768, and the sample results from the spill were > 260,000 ppm PCBs. Oil and lubricants from other segments of the underground line have the potential to contain PCBs.

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Generating and Managing Waste

There is a high potential for encountering PCB-contaminated cable and conduit, which would generate PCB waste.

Industrial waste such as conduit, cable, and packaging material will be generated.

All waste will be characterized and disposed at the direction of Waste Generator Services.

Releasing Contaminants

The segment of cable from MFC-768 to the first vault (162 feet) is assumed contaminated with PCB oil, and oil or lubricants from other segments might also contain PCBs.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

Uncontaminated scrap conduit and cable will be recycled as appropriate.

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, B4.13, "Upgrading and rebuilding existing powerlines."

Justification: Project activities are consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D, B4.13, "Upgrading or rebuilding approximately 20 miles in length or less of existing electric powerlines, which may involve minor relocations of small segments of the powerlines."

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: 10/09/2018