

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
EUGENE DISTRICT
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW
AND EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES CHECKLIST
Wetlands Office Underground Storage Tank Decommissioning Project
CE No: CE-OR-090-07-13

Background

Congress enacted the “Eugene Land Conveyance Act” in December of 2006. The act directed the Secretary of Interior to convey certain Bureau of Land Management Land to the City of Eugene for the purposes of establishing a wildlife viewing area, and construction and operation of an environmental education center.

During an environmental review, records were found that indicate there may be an abandoned underground storage tank located on the site. The office building had an oil burning furnace when BLM acquired it in 1979. A few years later the furnace was replaced with an electric heat pump, however there is no record of the underground heating oil tank being emptied or decommissioned. The suspected tank site is located adjacent to the north end of the office under a concrete walkway.

Address for the office building is 751 South Danebo Ave, Eugene OR 97401. The tract is located in NE ¼ of Section 33, Township 17 South, Range 4 West, Willamette Meridian.

Proposed Action

Investigate the site to determine if an underground storage tank exists. This could include drilling, breaking up the concrete, and disturbance of up to 5 cubic yards of soil.

If a tank is found through the investigative process, the tank would be decommissioned by pumping out all petroleum products, removing the tank and recycling or disposing of the petroleum and metal, and removing all contaminated soils. Soil contamination would require the removal of up to 15 cubic yards of soil and disposal at a designated facility.

Restoration would involve backfilling the tank pit with clean soil, and repairing the concrete walkway.

Temporary fencing would be installed around the perimeter of the site to protect employees and the public during site operations.

Clean soil would be used to backfill the pit if a tank is removed from the site, and concrete repaired upon completion of the project.

All contaminated soils and the underground storage tank would be stored in covered containers after removal and prior to disposal to prevent the spread of petroleum from the site.

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality would be consulted to obtain site closure.

Decision

The proposed action, as described above, is approved to be implemented.

Rationale

The proposed action meets the criteria for the categorical exclusion in 516 DM 11.5H(10) which allows for removal of structures and materials of non-historic value when little or no surface disturbance is involved. None of the “extraordinary circumstances” in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply. Further, the action is in conformance with the Northwest Forest Plan ROD and the Eugene District Resource Management Plan (2005), as amended.

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CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW

Extraordinary Circumstances Checklist

**Proposed Action: Wetlands Office Underground Storage Tank Decommissioning Project
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Review the proposed action against each of the 12 “extraordinary circumstances” listed below. Any action that is normally categorically excluded must be subjected to sufficient environmental review to determine whether it meets any of the extraordinary circumstances, in which case, further analysis and environmental documents must be prepared for the action. If the criterion does not apply, indicate "Not Applicable." Any mitigation measures (such as contract stipulations or terms and conditions on permits) necessary to ensure that the proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion should be identified at the bottom of the page.

Extraordinary Circumstances		Comments
1.	Have significant impacts on public health or safety.	No. Project would have no effect after completion of the investigation and restoration.
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 (EO 11990); floodplains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.	No. The tank site is located on an upland, and depth to groundwater is greater than 60 inches so would not be affected
3.	Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA, Sec. 102(2)(E)]	No. Environmental effects are not controversial.
4.	Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	No. There are no unique or unknown environmental risks at this site.
5.	Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	No. This is a standard action in this situation and would not set precedents.
6.	Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	No. This is a stand alone action.
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. The impact to the site would be minor and temporary.
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. This is an office site, and endangered or threatened species, and critical habitat would not be affected.
9.	Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	No. This action is being taken in accordance with federal and state laws.

10.	Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898).	No. The proposed actions would have insignificant and short term affects in a very small area.
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 (EO 13007).	No. There are no tribal lands in the vicinity of the proposed action.
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 EO 13112).	No. The proposed action is located at an office site under concrete and surrounded by a gravel parking lot, and domestic lawn.

Mitigation Measures: