CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) DESIGNATION FORM

ARRA □ Yes □ No Grant No.: DOE-FGA-0000324
DOE Sponsoring Org. (FE, OE, EE, etc.): FE
NETL Sponsoring Org.: PI
NETL Contact: R. Paul Detwiler

Brief Title of Proposed Action:
US-China Advanced Coal Technologies Consortium (ACT)

Brief Description of Proposed Action:
Information gathering, data analysis, technical advice, and associated administrative tasks undertaken by the Lawrence Livermore NL in support of the US-China Advanced Coal Technologies Consortium.

THE PROPOSED ACTION FALLS WITHIN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION(S) FROM APPENDICES A AND B OF DOE NEPA IMPLEMENTING PROCEDURE:

General Administration/Management
□ A1 – Routine business actions
□ A2 – Administrative contract amendments
□ A7 – Transfer of property, use uncharged
□ A8 – Award of technical support/M&E/personal service contracts
□ A9 – Info gathering, analysis, documentation, dissemination, and training
□ A11 – Technical advice and planning assistance
□ A12 – Emergency Preparedness planning
□ A14 – Approval of technical exchange arrangements

General Research
□ B3.1 – Site characterization/environmental monitoring
□ B3.3 – Research related to conservation of fish and wildlife
□ B3.6 – R&D or pilot facility construction/operation/commissioning
□ B3.7 – New infill exploratory, experimental oil/gas/geothermal well construction/operation/operation
□ B3.8 – Outdoor ecological/environmental research in small area
□ B3.9 – Certain CFT demonstration activities, emissions unchanged
□ B3.11 – Outdoor tests, experiments on materials and equipment components

Power Resources Distribution/Facilities/Generation/Operations/Management
□ B4.1 – Acquisition/utilization of excess electric power without: integration of new generation source(s), major physical changes to transmission system, or changes to normal generation operating limits
□ B4.4 – Power service storage, lead shaping, seasonal adjustments
□ B4.6 – Transmission support addition/modifications at developed facility site
□ B4.8 – Transmission agreements/modifications using one transmission system to transfer power to and from another system, without new generation sources or major physical changes to transmission systems
□ B4.11 – Construction of power substations/support equipment/facilities with power delivery at < 230kV to include project power lines development <10 miles or power line relocation <20 miles; no integration of major new generation resources into a main transmission system.

Conservation, Fossil, and Renewable Energy Activities
□ B5.1 – Actions to conserve energy, no indoor air quality degradation
□ B5.2 – Modification to oil/gas/geothermal pumps and piping, no flow changes or air emission effects
□ B5.3 – Modification (not expansion/abandonment) of oil storage access/brine injection/gas/geothermal wells; no site closure
□ B5.4 – Repair/replacement of pipeline sections within maintenance provisions of a Section 404 permit
□ B5.5 – Short crude oil/gas/steam/geothermal pipeline const/oper within a single industrial complex/existing right-of-way
□ B5.12 – Workover of existing oil, gas, geothermal wells to restore production

Environmental Restoration/Waste Minimization
□ B6.1 – Cleanup actions: small-scale, short-term (< $5M and 5 years)
□ B6.3 – Environmental control system improvements in existing structures, recycle/reuse/disposal within permitted facility

Other
□ Specify category:

This action would not (1) violate applicable E&S/H requirements, (2) require siting of waste TSD or recovery facilities, (3) disturb hazardous substances (excluding substances that are naturally occurring in the project area), or (4) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources. Furthermore, this action (1) would not present any extraordinary circumstances such that the action might have a significant impact upon the human environment; (2) is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts; (3) is not related to other actions with cumulatively significant impacts; and (4) is not inconsistent with 10 CFR 1021.211 or 40 CFR 1506.1. Therefore, the proposed action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

DOE INITIATOR SIGNATURE: ____________________________

NEPA Compliance Officer: ____________________________

NCO Comment: ______________________________________

DATE: ______/______/______

DATE: ______/______/______

Lawrence Livermore National Lab
Action or Project No.: __________
FY: 2010
Performance Period: October 2010 – September 2015
Location: Livermore, CA