

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-R05-SFUND-2024-0439; FRL 12259-01-R5]

Request for Public Comment on Settlement Agreement for Licking Chemical Spill Site, Licking County, Ohio**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended (“CERCLA”), notice is hereby given by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”), Region 5, of a proposed administrative settlement for recovery of past response costs concerning the Licking Chemical Spill Site (Site) in Licking County, Ohio with William H. Trucking, LLC, as the Settling Party and Respondent.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before January 16, 2025.**ADDRESSES:** You may send comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-R05-SFUND-2024-0439, by the following method:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <https://www.regulations.gov/> (our preferred method). Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket ID No. for this rulemaking. Comments received may be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov/>, including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on sending comments and additional information on the rulemaking process, see the “Public Participation” heading of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Don Schwer, Enforcement Investigator, Superfund & Emergency Management Division, Region 5, EPA, 77 West Jackson Blvd. (SE-5J); telephone number: 312-353-8752; email address: schwer.don@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The settlement requires the Respondent to pay \$300,000 in past response costs. The settlement includes a covenant not to sue pursuant to sections 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9607(a), relating to the Site, subject to limited reservations, and protection from contribution actions or claims as provided by section 113(f)(2) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9613(f)(2). For thirty (30) days following

the date of publication of this notice, EPA will receive written comments relating to this settlement. EPA will consider all comments received and may modify or withdraw its consent to the settlement if comments received disclose facts or considerations that indicate that the proposed settlement is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate. EPA’s response to any comments received will be available for public inspection at <https://response.epa.gov/LickingChemicalSpill>.

A. Written Comments

Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-R05-SFUND-2024-0439, at <https://www.regulations.gov> (our preferred method), or the other methods identified in the **ADDRESSES** section. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from the docket. The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit to EPA’s docket at <https://www.regulations.gov> any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI), Proprietary Business Information (PBI), or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.*, on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). Please visit <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets> for additional submission methods; the full EPA public comment policy; information about CBI, PBI, or multimedia submissions; and general guidance on making effective comments.

Douglas Ballotti,

Director, Superfund & Emergency Management Division, Region 5.

[FR Doc. 2024-29663 Filed 12-16-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**EXPORT-IMPORT BANK****Adoption of Categorical Exclusions from the Department of Energy Under the National Environmental Policy Act****AGENCY:** Export-Import Bank of the United States.**ACTION:** Notice of adoption of multiple Categorical Exclusions from the Department of Energy.**SUMMARY:** The Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM) is adopting

multiple categorical exclusions (CEs) from the agencies as listed: Department of Energy Ces A9, B1.15, B1.23, B2.1, B2.2, and B3.1. This notice identifies the categories of proposed actions and describes the consultation between the agencies.

DATES: The Ces identified below are available for EXIM to use for its proposed actions effective December 17, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott Condren (VP Policy Analysis), Scott.Condren@exim.gov, (202) 565-3777; Tiffin Caverly (VP Engineering & Environment), Tiffin.Caverly@exim.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Background***NEPA and Ces*

The National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347, (NEPA) requires Federal agencies to interpret and administer Federal policies, regulations, and laws in accordance with NEPA’s policies and to consider environmental values in their decision making.

Federal agencies are required to provide a detailed statement on proposals for major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.¹ NEPA also created the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) as the body responsible for implementing NEPA.

Categorical exclusions (Ces) can be used when there is a determination the proposed type of action would not have a significant effect on the human environment; this option eliminates the need for an environmental assessment (EA) or more detailed environmental impact statement (EIS).² CEQ considers Ces “an important mechanism to promote efficiency in the NEPA process” and recognizes an agency’s ability to “identify and substantiate categories of actions that normally do not have a significant effect on the human environment”.³

Section 109 of NEPA, enacted as part of the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023, allows a Federal agency to “adopt” or use another agency’s Ces for a category of proposed agency actions.⁴ To use another agency’s Ces under section 109, an agency must identify the relevant Ces listed in another agency’s (“establishing agency”) NEPA procedures that cover its category of proposed actions or related actions; consult with the establishing agency to ensure that the

¹ 40 CFR 1500.1.² 40 CFR 1501.4.³ 88 FR 49924.⁴ 42 U.S.C. 4336c.

proposed adoption of the CE to a category of actions is appropriate; identify to the public the CE that the agency plans to use for its proposed actions; and document adoption of the CE. EXIM has prepared this notice to meet these statutory requirements.

Program Background

As the official export credit agency of the United States, “the mission of the Export-Import Bank of the United States is to support the creation of American jobs by facilitating the export of U.S. goods and services.” The Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM) steps in when the private sector does not provide financing for American businesses. The Bank’s actions have historically helped support these firms in competing with foreign businesses overseas. The Make More in America (MMIA) initiative applies EXIM’s authorities for medium and long-term (MLT) loans, loan guarantees, and insurance to export-oriented domestic projects. In doing so, MMIA allows EXIM to support American business during the whole export lifecycle. The purpose of such loans remains unchanged: to support U.S. employment.

As EXIM usually lends to projects outside the United States, NEPA has not often been applicable as there is no impact to the human environment in the United States. In the new MMIA initiative which focuses on domestic lending, adopting Ces from another agency will speed up the processing time of deals and conserve staff resources with no need for an EA or EIS. Faster processing times in this initiative will greatly facilitate EXIM’s support of American businesses and workers.

II. Identification of the Categorical Exclusions

Department of Energy Ces

A9 Information Gathering, Analysis, and Dissemination

Information gathering (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, site visits, and audits), data analysis (including, but not limited to, computer modeling), document preparation (including, but not limited to, conceptual design, feasibility studies, and analytical energy supply and demand studies), and information dissemination (including, but not limited to, document publication and distribution, and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring. (See also B3.1 of appendix B to this subpart.)

B1.15 Supporting Buildings

Siting, construction or modification, and operation of support buildings and support structures (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated and modular buildings) within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Covered support buildings and structures include, but are not limited to, those for office purposes; parking; cafeteria services; education and training; visitor reception; computer and data processing services; health services or recreation activities; routine maintenance activities; storage of supplies and equipment for administrative services and routine maintenance activities; security (such as security posts); fire protection; small-scale fabrication (such as machine shop activities), assembly, and testing of non-nuclear equipment or components; and similar support purposes, but exclude facilities for nuclear weapons activities and waste storage activities, such as activities covered in B1.10, B1.29, B1.35, B2.6, B6.2, B6.4, B6.5, B6.6, and B6.10 of this appendix.

B1.23 Demolition and Disposal of Buildings

Demolition and subsequent disposal of buildings, equipment, and support structures (including, but not limited to, smoke stacks and parking lot surfaces), provided that there would be no potential for release of substances at a level, or in a form, that could pose a threat to public health or the environment.

B2.1 Workplace Enhancements

Modifications within or contiguous to an existing structure, in a previously disturbed or developed area, to enhance workplace habitability (including, but not limited to, installation or improvements to lighting, radiation shielding, or heating/ventilating/air conditioning and its instrumentation, and noise reduction).

B2.2 Building and Equipment Instrumentation

Installation of, or improvements to, building and equipment instrumentation (including, but not limited to, remote control panels, remote monitoring capability, alarm and surveillance systems, control systems to provide automatic shutdown, fire detection and protection systems, water consumption monitors and flow control systems, announcement and emergency warning systems, criticality and radiation monitors and alarms, and safeguards and security equipment).

B3.1 Site Characterization and Environmental Monitoring

Site characterization and environmental monitoring (including, but not limited to, siting, construction, modification, operation, and dismantlement and removal or otherwise proper closure (such as of a well) of characterization and monitoring devices, and siting, construction, and associated operation of a small-scale laboratory building or renovation of a room in an existing building for sample analysis). Such activities would be designed in conformance with applicable requirements and use best management practices to limit the potential effects of any resultant ground disturbance. Covered activities include, but are not limited to, site characterization and environmental monitoring under CERCLA and RCRA. (This class of actions excludes activities in aquatic environments. See B3.16 of this appendix for such activities.) Specific activities include, but are not limited to:

(a) Geological, geophysical (such as gravity, magnetic, electrical, seismic, radar, and temperature gradient), geochemical, and engineering surveys and mapping, and the establishment of survey marks. Seismic techniques would not include large-scale reflection or refraction testing;

(b) Installation and operation of field instruments (such as stream-gauging stations or flow-measuring devices, telemetry systems, geochemical monitoring tools, and geophysical exploration tools);

(c) Drilling of wells for sampling or monitoring of groundwater or the vadose (unsaturated) zone, well logging, and installation of water-level recording devices in wells;

(d) Aquifer and underground reservoir response testing;

(e) Installation and operation of ambient air monitoring equipment;

(f) Sampling and characterization of water, soil, rock, or contaminants (such as drilling using truck- or mobile-scale equipment, and modification, use, and plugging of boreholes); 5

(g) Sampling and characterization of water effluents, air emissions, or solid waste streams;

(h) Installation and operation of meteorological towers and associated activities (such as assessment of potential wind energy resources);

(i) Sampling of flora or fauna; and

(j) Archeological, historic, and cultural resource identification in compliance with 36 CFR part 800 and 43 CFR part 7.

The Department of Energy Ces also includes additional conditions referred

to as integral elements. (10 CFR part 1021 subpt. D, app. B) In order to apply these CEs, the 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 the Department of Energy 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 Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act-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. An environmentally sensitive resource is typically a resource that has been identified as needing protection through Executive Order, statute, or regulation by Federal, State, or local government, or a Federally recognized Indian Tribe. An action may be categorically excluded if, although sensitive resources are present, the action would not have the potential to cause significant impacts on those resources (such as construction of a building with its foundation well above a sole-source aquifer or upland surface soil removal on a site that has wetlands). Environmentally sensitive resources include, but are not limited to:

(i) Property (such as sites, buildings, structures, and objects) of historic, archeological, or architectural significance designated by a Federal, State, or local government, federally recognized Indian Tribe, or Native Hawaiian organization; or property determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places;

(ii) Federally listed threatened or endangered species or their habitat (including critical habitat) or federally proposed or candidate species or their habitat (Endangered Species Act); state-listed or state-proposed endangered or threatened species or their habitat; Federally protected marine mammals and Essential Fish Habitat (Marine Mammal Protection Act; Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act); and otherwise Federally protected species (such as the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act or the Migratory Bird Treaty Act);

(iii) Floodplains and wetlands (as defined in 10 CFR 1022.4, "Compliance with Floodplain and Wetland Environmental Review Requirements: Definitions," or its successor);

(iv) Areas having a special designation such as Federally and State-designated wilderness areas, national parks, national monuments, national natural landmarks, wild and scenic rivers, State and Federal wildlife refuges, scenic areas (such as National Scenic and Historic Trails or National Scenic Areas), and marine sanctuaries;

(v) Prime or unique farmland, or other farmland of statewide or local importance, as defined at 7 CFR 658.2(a), "Farmland Protection Policy Act: Definitions," or its successor;

(vi) Special sources of water (such as sole-source aquifers, wellhead protection areas, and other water sources that are vital in a region); and

(vii) Tundra, coral reefs, or rain forests; or

(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 of the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Institutes of Health.

EXIM intends to apply these categorical exclusions to loans, loan guarantees, and insurance transactions. The scope of projects would be akin to projects from the Department of Energy's Loans Program Office to which DOE has applied these categorical exclusions. These include limited construction, full disposal of buildings, desk work for feasibility studies, soil testing, etc. In principle, such transactions would be similar to those EXIM's export finance transactions deemed a category C under its environmental and social procedures and guidelines.⁵

⁵ EXIM's Environmental and Social Due Diligence Procedures and Guidelines state that "applications greater than \$10 Million will be classified as Category C if they are not related to a physical project or if they relate to projects which do not require further environmental review because they are likely to have minimal or no adverse environmental or social risks or impacts. This category includes transactions related to new, expansion or existing projects of the type that have little or no potential to cause environmental effects and do not impact sensitive locations." Procedures and Guidelines | EXIM.GOV.

III. Consideration of Extraordinary Circumstances (if Applicable)

In assessing whether a categorical exclusion applies, EXIM would review whether there were extraordinary circumstances that would indicate a categorical exclusion is not appropriate due to the potential for a significant environmental effect. EXIM would review that proposed actions do not breach the integral elements of classes of action in DOE's regulations (10 CFR 1021, subpart D, appendix B (1)–(5)). When applying these CEs, EXIM will consider whether the proposed action has the potential to result in significant effects as described in DOE's definition of extraordinary circumstances. DOE defines extraordinary circumstances as unique situations presented by specific proposals, including, but not limited to, scientific controversy about the environmental effects of the proposal; uncertain effects or effects involving unique or unknown risks; and unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. 10 CFR 1021.410(b)(2).

EXIM's engineering and environment division will have responsibility for determining if a categorical exclusion applies. These determinations will be posted at <https://www.exim.gov/policies/exim-bank-and-environment/make-more-america-initiative-approved-transactions>.

Consultation and Determination of Appropriateness

Consultations

1. Department of Energy Consultation

In October 2024, EXIM conducted consultation with the Department of Energy's Loans Program Office on adoption of several CE categories. Through those consultation and coordination efforts, DOE and EXIM mutually agreed that EXIM's adoption of CEs A9 (Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination), B1.15 (Supporting Buildings), B1.23, (Demolition and disposal of buildings), B2.1 (Workplace enhancements), B2.2 (Building and equipment instrumentation) and B3.1(site characterization and environmental monitoring) is appropriate. This notice documents EXIM's adoption of Department of Energy CEs for such actions.

At the conclusion of that process, DOE determined that EXIM's proposed use of the CE as described in this notice would be appropriate because the categories of actions for which EXIM plans to use the CE are consistent with the adopted CEs.

Notice to the Public and Documentation of the Adoption

This notice serves to identify to the public and document EXIM's adoption of several CEs from both the Department of Energy. The notice identifies the types of actions to which EXIM will apply the CE, as well as the considerations that EXIM will use in determining whether an action is within the scope of the CE.

Scott Condren,

Vice President, Policy Analysis.

[FR Doc. 2024-29608 Filed 12-16-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6690-01-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[DA 24-1235; FR ID 267996]

In the Matter of 2,411 Robocall Mitigation Database Filers

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice of Order.

SUMMARY: On December 10, 2024, the Enforcement Bureau (Bureau) released an Order directing the 2,411 companies named in Appendix A to the Order (each, a Company; collectively, the Companies) to cure the deficiencies in each Company's Robocall Mitigation Database (RMD) certification and notify the Bureau that the deficiencies have been cured, or to file a response explaining why the Bureau should not remove the Company's certification from the RMD. Each Company's RMD certification is deficient because a robocall mitigation plan was not provided or the plan lacks newly-required information; and the certification lacks newly-required information. Removal of a Company's certification from the RMD would require all intermediate providers and voice service providers to cease accepting all calls directly from the Company.

DATES: Responses are due no later than December 31, 2024.

ADDRESSES: The responses must be mailed to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554, ATTN: Enforcement Bureau—Telecommunications Consumers Division. The responses must also be emailed to EnforcementBureauTCD@fcc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristi Thompson, Federal Communications Commission,

Enforcement Bureau, Telecommunications Consumers Division, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554 or at kristi.thompson@fcc.gov, 202-418-1318.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Bureau adopted the Order pursuant to sections 4(i), 4(j), 227b, 251(e), and 403 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 154(i), 154(j), 227b, 251(e), and 403, and §§ 0.111, 0.311, 1.1, and 64.6305 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR 0.111, 0.311, 1.1, and 64.6305. The Order is available here: <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-24-1235A1.pdf>.

Federal Communications Commission.

Peter S. Hyun,

Acting Chief, Enforcement Bureau.

[FR Doc. 2024-29800 Filed 12-16-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

FEDERAL REGISTER CITATION NOTICE OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: 89 FR 97617.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TIME AND DATE OF THE MEETING: Thursday, December 12, 2024 at 10 a.m., Hybrid Meeting: 1050 First Street NE, Washington, DC (12th Floor) and Virtual.

CHANGES IN THE MEETING: The following item was also discussed: Statement of Policy Regarding the Notification of Respondents in Matters Under Review Remanded from a Challenge Pursuant to 52 U.S.C. 3019(a)(8).

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Judith Ingram, Press Officer, Telephone: (202) 694-1220.

(Authority: Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b)

Vicktoria J. Allen,

Deputy Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024-30054 Filed 12-13-24; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 6715-01-P

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

FEDERAL REGISTER CITATION NOTICE OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: 89 FR 94730.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TIME AND DATE OF THE MEETING: Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 10 a.m. and its continuation at the conclusion of the open meeting on December 12, 2024.

CHANGES IN THE MEETING: The meeting also discussed: Matters relating to internal personnel decisions, or internal rules and practices.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Judith Ingram, Press Officer, Telephone: (202) 694-1220.

(Authority: Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b)

Vicktoria J. Allen,

Deputy Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024-30051 Filed 12-13-24; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 6715-01-P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Change in Bank Control Notices; Acquisitions of Shares of a Bank or Bank Holding Company

The notificants listed below have applied under the Change in Bank Control Act (Act) (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) and § 225.41 of the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.41) to acquire shares of a bank or bank holding company. The factors that are considered in acting on the applications are set forth in paragraph 7 of the Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(7)).

The public portions of the applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, if any, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank(s) indicated below and at the offices of the Board of Governors. This information may also be obtained on an expedited basis, upon request, by contacting the appropriate Federal Reserve Bank and from the Board's Freedom of Information Office at <https://www.federalreserve.gov/foia/request.htm>. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in paragraph 7 of the Act.

Comments received are subject to public disclosure. In general, comments received will be made available without change and will not be modified to remove personal or business information including confidential, contact, or other identifying information. Comments should not include any information such as confidential information that would not be appropriate for public disclosure.

Comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors, Ann E. Misback, Secretary of the Board, 20th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20551-0001, not later than January 2, 2025.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (Colette A. Fried, Assistant Vice President) 230 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60690-1414. Comments can also be sent