

Administrative Procedure, Level 1 - Company Wide

# CPCC-PRO-FP-40424

## Equivalencies, Exemptions, and Interpretation/Clarification Requests (ICRs)

Revision 1, Change 0

Published: 12/13/2023

Effective: 12/13/2023

Periodic Review Due Date:

Program: Fire Protection Engineering

Topic: Fire Protection

Technical Authority: Baker, Rachel K

Alternate Technical Authority: Monroe, Floyd D

Functional Manager: Kopf, Joshua D

## Use Type: Administrative



USQ Facility	USQ Review (Screening/Determination)	Screeners
Solid Waste Operations Complex	Performed (no issues)) <i>SWOC-23-089S</i>	Masulonis, John
Canister Storage Building/Interim Storage Area	<b>Exclusion Reason:</b> <i>N/A per CPCC-PRO-NS-53097 Table 1</i>	
Central Plateau Surveillance and Maintenance	GCX-8 (Not in Safety Basis Compliance Matrices)	Griebel, Scott
Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility	<b>Exclusion Reason:</b> <i>N/A per CPCC-PRO-NS-53097 Table 1</i>	
Capsule Storage Area	<b>Exclusion Reason:</b> <i>N/A per CPCC-PRO-NS-53097 Table 1</i>	
105 KW Facility	<b>Exclusion Reason:</b> <i>N/A per CPCC-PRO-NS-53097 Table 1</i>	
324 Building	<b>Exclusion Reason:</b> <i>Excluded per Table 1 CPCC-PRO-NS-53097</i>	

**JHA:** Administrative

**Periodic Review Due Date:** 12/13/2028

Rev. 1, Chg. 0

## Change Summary

### Description of Change

Updated as part of the overall fire protection program procedure upgrade project; incorporated deleted workflow PPS 63249.

**Equivalencies, Exemptions, and Interpretation/  
Clarification Requests (ICRs)****Published Date: 12/13/23****Effective Date: 12/13/23****1.0 INTRODUCTION****1.1 Purpose**

The purpose of this procedure is to describe the process for preparation and submittal of equivalencies, exemptions, and interpretation/clarification requests (ICR) when required by the Central Plateau Cleanup Company (CPCCo) Fire Protection Program.

**NOTE:** See Appendix A, "Glossary," for definitions.

**1.2 Scope**

This procedure includes the steps for the preparation and submittal of equivalencies, exemptions, and obtaining routine interpretation/clarifications of fire protection-related requirements. See CPCC-00759, *Approved CPCCo Equivalencies and Exemptions List*, for the current set of approved equivalencies and exemptions.

**1.3 Applicability**

This procedure applies to the preparation and submittal of fire protection-related equivalencies, exemptions, and ICRs that may be necessary to resolve U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Fire Protection compliance issues associated with discovery of existing conditions and/or with new project and construction activities.

**1.4 Implementation**

This procedure is effective upon publication.

**2.0 RESPONSIBILITIES**

All responsibilities associated with this procedure are identified in the process steps.

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### 3.0 PROCESS

<i>Actionee</i>	<i>Step</i>	<i>Action</i>
All	1.	IDENTIFY <u>AND</u> REPORT suspected non-compliances with DOE Fire Protection Program requirements to the CPCCo Fire Protection Program Manager (FPPM).
Fire Protection Engineer (FPE)	2.	EVALUATE the reported suspect non-compliance for validity.
	a.	<u>IF</u> valid, <u>THEN</u> RECOMMEND <u>AND</u> DETERMINE the appropriate means of resolution.
	3.	<u>IF</u> the non-compliance can be resolved by interpretation or clarification of DOE Fire Protection Program requirements, <u>THEN</u> ASSIST the facility or project with the preparation of an ICR.
	4.	<u>IF</u> the non-compliance can be corrected, <u>THEN</u> DIRECT the affected facility or project to correct the non-compliance through design change or facility modification.
	5.	<u>IF</u> the non-compliance cannot be corrected, or other circumstances inhibit compliance with the requirements of the DOE Fire Protection Program, <u>THEN</u> ASSIST the facility or project in the preparation of an equivalency or exemption request, as appropriate.
	6.	IDENTIFY any compensatory measures needed while equivalency or exemption is being evaluated.
FPPM/ Responsible Building Manager (RBM)	7.	ASSIGN resources for preparation of modifications, equivalency requests, exemption requests, ICRs, or design activities to correct non-compliances with the DOE Fire Protection Program.
	8.	IMPLEMENT any compensatory measures identified by the FPE.

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### 3.1 Equivalencies and Exemptions

#### 3.1.1 Preparation of Equivalencies and Exemptions

If compliance cannot be achieved with the required DOE Orders or mandatory fire protection codes and standards, or a requirement is subject to approval of the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ), an equivalency request or exemption request is submitted to DOE. The project or facility prepares and submits their request to the Hanford Fire Marshal's Office (HFMO) for review and concurrence prior to submitting the completed request to DOE.

<i>Actionee</i>	<i>Step</i>	<i>Action</i>
Preparer	1.	PREPARE the equivalency or exemption request with input and support from the FPE. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. INCLUDE all relevant information in the request as described in Appendix B - "Equivalencies and Exemptions."</li> </ol>
FPE	2.	REVIEW the equivalency or exemption request. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. PROVIDE any comments to the Preparer.</li> <li>b. COORDINATE <u>AND</u> ASSIST with the resolution of comments.</li> </ol>
	3.	OBTAIN FPPM approval.
<b>NOTE:</b>		<i>The FPE will coordinate the submittal of equivalency and exemption requests to the HFMO.</i>
RBM	4.	SUBMIT the equivalency or exemption request to the HFMO for review and written concurrence.
FPE	5.	COORDINATE the resolution of any HFMO's comments with the Preparer, <u>AND</u> OBTAIN the written concurrence of the Hanford Fire Marshal (HFMO).
RBM	6.	PREPARE a letter from the President's Office to DOE requesting approval of the equivalency or exemption request. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. ATTACH the equivalency or exemption request and the written concurrence of the HFMO to the letter <u>AND</u> TRANSMIT the letter to DOE for approval in accordance with DOE-STD-1066-2016, <i>Fire Protection</i>, Table 5.1.</li> </ol>
	7.	<u>WHEN</u> DOE approval of the equivalency or exemption is received, <u>THEN</u> INITIATE any compensatory measures/conditions of approval required by the approved equivalency or exemption.

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### 3.1.2 Periodic Review of Equivalencies and Exemptions

- NOTE:**
- *Current DOE-approved equivalencies and exemptions can be found in CPCC-00759, Approved CPCCo Equivalencies and Exemptions List.*
  - *The FPPM can be contacted for further information.*

<i>Actionee</i>	<i>Step</i>	<i>Action</i>
FPPM	1.	<p>CONDUCT an annual review of all programmatic and facility-specific equivalencies, variations, and alternatives (see DOE-STD-1066-2016, Table 5.1 for further information). The review shall consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Validation that the conditions for approval of these respective documents are being maintained and that the documents need to remain active.</li> <li>• Changing conditions that warrant a revision of the respective document.</li> <li>• If conditions that prompted the generation and approval of the respective document no longer exist, that document should be cancelled.</li> <li>• A change in use or occupancy or significant modification shall require the re-evaluation and approval of all previously approved equivalencies and/or exemptions to assure that these are valid under the new use or occupancy.</li> <li>• All approved equivalencies/exemptions should be provided or referenced within the fire hazards analysis (FHA) or Facility Fire Protection Analysis (FFPA) along with all supporting information.</li> </ul>

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### 3.2 Interpretation/Clarification Requests

**NOTE:** *Per CPCC-PRO-FP-40420, Fire Protection Analyses, Section 3.5, "Routine Interpretations shall not be used as a mechanism for granting a departure from a mandated code, DOE requirement, or standard. Furthermore, an interpretation shall not be used when the approval of a fire safety exemption or equivalency is mandated by DOE requirements or the DOE AHJ."*

Actionee	Step	Action
Preparer	1.	PREPARE, REVISE, <u>OR</u> CANCEL the ICR using the <i>Hanford Fire Marshal's Office (HFMO) Interpretation/ Clarification Request (ICR)</i> (Site Form <a href="#">A-6007-873</a> ), with input and support from the FPE.
FPE	2.	REVIEW the ICR. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. PROVIDE any comments to the Preparer.</li> <li>b. coordinate <u>AND</u> ASSIST with the resolution of comments.</li> </ol>
FPE	3.	OBTAIN approval from the FPPM.
<b>NOTE:</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The FPE will coordinate the submittal of the ICR to the HFMO.</i></li> <li>• <i>Depending on the nature of the ICR, DOE review and concurrence may be obtained by the HFMO.</i></li> </ul>
RBM	4.	SUBMIT the ICR to the HFMO for review and approval.
FPE	5.	COORDINATE the resolution of any HFMO's comments with the Preparer <u>AND</u> OBTAIN HFM approval of the ICR.
RBM	6.	<u>WHEN</u> HFM approval of the ICR is received, <u>THEN</u> INITIATE any compensatory measures required by the approved ICR.

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### 4.0 FORMS

[A-6007-873](#), *Hanford Fire Marshal's Office (HFM) Interpretation/Clarification Request (ICR)*

### 5.0 RECORD IDENTIFICATION

All records are generated, processed, and maintained in accordance with CPCC-PRO-IRM-10588, *Records Management Processes*.

**Records Capture Table**

Name of Record	Submittal Responsibility	Retention Responsibility
Equivalency/exemption	Generating Organization	DOE-RL
<i>Hanford Fire Marshal's Office (HFM) Interpretation/Clarification Request (ICR), A-6007-873</i>	Generating Organization	Hanford Fire Marshal's Office

### 6.0 SOURCES

#### 6.1 Requirements

CPCC-STD-FP-40404, *Fire Protection Program*

#### 6.2 References

CPCC-00759, *Approved CPCCo Equivalencies and Exemptions List*

CPCC-PRO-FP-40420, *Fire Protection Analyses*

CPCC-PRO-IRM-10588, *Records Management Processes*

DOE O 420.1C, Chg. 3, *Facility Safety*

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### Appendix A - Glossary

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
<b>Equivalency</b>	<p>Equivalencies are alternative methods for meeting a requirement in a directive when that directive specifies how to do something. An equivalency proposes an alternate approach that achieves a level of protection equivalent to the method specified in the directive. The request for an equivalency must demonstrate that the alternate method will provide an equivalent level of protection, with no increased risk to public health and safety, the environment, workers, or security.</p> <p>In the DOE Fire Protection Program, an alternate means of providing an equal or greater degree of fire safety than that afforded by strict conformance to prescribed codes and standards, or an applicable DOE directive requirement, may be reviewed and approved by DOE Richland Operations Office (RL).</p>
<b>Exemption</b>	<p>The release from one or more requirements in a DOE directive. Unless specified otherwise in the directive, exemptions are granted, in consultation with the DOE Headquarters Office of Primary Interest (OPI), by the Program Secretarial Officer, or their designee, or in the case of the National Nuclear Security Administration, by the Administrator or designee, and documented for the OPI in a memorandum.</p>
<b>Interpretation/Clarification Request</b>	<p>A formal request covering a determination of the meaning, intention, or implementation of fire protection criteria, delineated in the codes and standards specified in DOE O 420.1C, Chg. 3, Facility Safety. Such reviews and determinations may be made by the Hanford Fire Marshal.</p>

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**Appendix B - Equivalencies and Exemptions**

Equivalencies and exemptions shall be performed in accordance with Section 3.1.1, "Preparation of Equivalencies and Exemptions."

Request for equivalencies/exemptions shall include the following information:

- Hanford Site or facility for which an equivalency/exemption is being requested
- Reference to the requirements for which equivalency/exemption is sought
- Identification and justification of the acceptance of any additional risks that will be incurred if the equivalency/exemption is granted
- Benefits to be realized by providing the equivalency/exemption
- Whether the equivalency/exemption being requested is temporary or permanent; and if temporary, indication of when compliance will be achieved
- Identification of other pertinent data or information used as a basis for obtaining an equivalency/exemption
- Description of any special circumstances that warrant the granting of an equivalency/exemption, including whether:
  1. Application of the requirement in the particular circumstances would conflict with another requirement
  2. Application of the requirement in the particular circumstances would not achieve, or is not necessary to achieve its underlying purpose
  3. Application of the requirement in the particular circumstances would not be justified by any fire protection and life safety benefit
- Equivalency/exemption would result in a fire protection and life safety benefit that compensates for any detriment that would result from granting the exemption
- Other material circumstances that exist were not considered when the requirement was adopted for which it is in the public interest to grant an equivalency/exemption
- Steps to be taken to provide adequate protection of fire protection and life safety
- Description of any alternative or mitigating actions that have or will be taken to ensure adequate fire protection and life safety
- Justify the conclusion that the alternate configuration is acceptable from a safety, environmental, property damage, or program continuity perspective to what is stipulated in the code or standard

When preparing the request, note the following:

- All functions should also be addressed. For example, an automatic sprinkler system provides detection, local alarms, fire department notification, and fire suppression.
- Relief from a requirement in one directive or standard does not constitute relief from a similar requirement in another directive or standard.

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**Appendix B - (Cont.)**

- A change in use or occupancy usually requires bringing a facility up to current codes and standards, voiding all exemptions, equivalencies and variances.