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**CE Determination:**

Based upon the above analysis, NOAA has determined that the action proposed falls within the category of actions subject to CE identified in Appendix E of NOAA's Companion Manual for NAO 216-6A, B12, for the issuance of EFPs that are limited in size, magnitude, or duration. This category of actions does not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment, is not connected to a larger action (40 CFR 1508.25(a)),<sup>a</sup> and does not involve extraordinary circumstances precluding use of the CE. As such, NOAA has determined that it is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

The original signed memorandum will be maintained in the record for the proposed action.

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James W. Balsiger, Ph.D.  
Administrator, Alaska Region

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<sup>a</sup> This CE was prepared using the 1978 CEQ NEPA Regulations. NEPA reviews initiated prior to the effective date of the 2020 CEQ regulations may be conducted using the 1978 version of the regulations. The effective date of the 2020 CEQ NEPA Regulations was September 14, 2020. This review began in June 2020 and the agency has decided to proceed under the 1978 regulations.

