

memorandum

DATE: August 9, 2010

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEP-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Alan Kjosness
Civil Engineering Technician – TELP-TPP-3

Proposed Action: Swapping substation bay terminals of Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) White Bluffs-Richland #1 and DOE B3-S4-White Bluffs #1 transmission lines

Budget Information: Work Order # 242562 and 242567

PP&A Project No.: PP&A 1331

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):

B1.3, Routine maintenance activities...for structures, rights-of-way, infrastructures such as roads, equipment...routine maintenance activities, corrective....are required to maintain... infrastructures... in a condition suitable for a facility to be used for its designed purpose.

Location: The proposed wood pole structures to be modified are located adjacent to the White Bluffs Substation in Section 7 of Township 10 North, Range 28 East, Benton County, Washington, in BPA's Tri Cities District.

Proposed by: BPA

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA has a need to replace/modify wood pole structures in order to swap the substation bay terminations of BPA's White Bluffs-Richland #1 and DOE B3 S4-White Bluffs #1 transmission lines. Proposed work will be as follows:

Transmission Line	Structure	Proposed Modification
White Bluffs-Richland #1	1/1	New 2 pole structure with 4 guy anchors
	1/2	New single pole structure with 2 guy anchors
	1/3	Replace 60 foot pole with 65 foot pole
DOE B3 S4-White Bluffs #1	5/15	Replace 60 foot pole with 65 foot pole
	5/16	New 3 pole structure with 6 guy anchors
	5/17	New 3 pole structure with 6 guy anchors

The affected area of disturbance for the wood pole work would be a 50-foot radius around each wood pole location. Vehicles would be required to stay within a 50-foot radius at each pole replacement site. Auguring or digging would be planned at each location to place the new poles. In some cases a backhoe would be necessary in order to excavate an area to replace the pole. In this instance the hole excavated by the backhoe would be confined to a 15 feet by 15 feet area. All vehicles would remain on existing access roads. The work would provide system reliability. All work would be in accordance with the National Electrical Safety Code and BPA standards.

Findings: BPA has determined that the proposed action complies with Section 1021.410 and Appendix B of Subpart D of the Department of Energy (DOE) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations (57 Fed. Reg. 1512.2, April 24, 1992). The proposed action does not present any extraordinary circumstances that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal. The proposal is not connected [40 C.F.R. 1508.25 (a)(1)] to other actions with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts [40 C.F.R. 1508.25 (a)(2)], and is not precluded by 40 C.F.R. 1506.1 or 10 C.F.R. 1021.211. Moreover, the proposed action would not (i) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health; (ii) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities; (iii) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or un-permitted releases; or (iv) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources.

With the actions identified on the attachment, this proposed action meets the requirements for the Categorical Exclusion referenced above. We therefore determine that the proposed action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

/s/ Joseph C. Sharpe, for:

Shawn Barndt
Environmental Scientist – KEPR-Pasco

Concur: /s/ Katherine S. Pierce
Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: August 9, 2010

Attachment:
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Swapping Substation Bay Terminals of Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) White Bluffs-Richland #1 and DOE B3-S4-White Bluffs #1 Transmission Lines

Work Order #: 242562 and 242567 **PP&A Project No.:** PP&A 1331

Prepared by: Shawn Barndt **Routing:** KEPR/Pasco **Date:** 8-9-10

This project has been found to not adversely affect the following environmentally sensitive resources, laws, and regulations:

Environmental Resources	No Adverse Effect	No Adverse Effect with conditions
1. Cultural Resources Background and survey by PNNL – no findings. Concurrence from SHPO. No response from tribes.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) Biological Review by PNNL – no ESAs found in vicinity of project. Effect determination completed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Health & safety Work per APM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Prime agricultural lands None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Consistency with state and local laws and regulations DOE Dig Permit acquired.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Pollution control at Federal facilities No issues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>