

United States Government

Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: September 8, 2010

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Jim Mammarella
Project Manager – TECT-CSB-1

Proposed Action: Driscoll Substation Radio Tower and Antenna Installation

Budget Information: Work Order 00253276; Task 3

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.19 Siting, construction, and operation of microwave and radio communication towers and associated facilities...

Location: Clatsop County, Oregon

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA is proposing to install a new radio tower and antenna at its existing Driscoll Substation in Clatsop County, Oregon. The project is required as BPA is upgrading its internal communication technology from analog to digital. The project entails moving the existing antenna temporarily to a 25-ft wood pole and mounting a new antenna on a 25-ft steel pole. The temporary wood pole would be buried up to 8 feet in the ground, and removed after the new antenna and pole are in place. The new steel pole would sit on a 3 ft- deep, 11-ft square concrete pad. All construction activity would be performed adjacent to the existing substation within the fenced substation yard. Equipment for the project includes a pick-up truck with a drill and a back hoe.

Findings: BPA has determined that the proposed action complies with Section 1021.410 and Appendix B of Subpart D of the Department of Energy's (DOE) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations (57 FR 15144, Apr. 24, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 36221-36243, July 9, 1996; 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996). 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 unpermitted releases, or (iv) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources.

BPA consulted with SHPO and the Siletz and Grande Ronde Tribes on July 13, 2010 asking for concurrence on a no effect determination. The Grande Ronde tribe concurred with this determination by email on July 19, 2010 and SHPO concurred with this determination by email on September 8, 2010. It is BPA's opinion that the project would have no effect on historic properties within the area of potential effect.

BPA has determined that there will be no effect on any listed or proposed threatened or endangered species, or critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act. No floodplains or wetlands would be impacted from the installation of the radio tower and antenna at the Driscoll Substation.

Based on the conditions identified in 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/ Jennifer Stolz

Jennifer Stolz

Environmental Project Manager

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce Date:

September 8, 2010

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer

Attachment:

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Driscoll Substation radio tower and antenna installation

Work Order #: 00253276; Task 3

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Health & safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Prime agricultural lands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Consistency with state and local laws and regulations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Pollution control at Federal facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed: /s/ Jennifer Stolz

Date: September 8, 2010