

memorandum

DATE: September 1, 2010

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEP-Alvey

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Harold Grappe
Project Manager – TELP-TTP-3

Proposed Action: Replacement of overhead ground wire in the last and most southerly mile of the Fairview-Rogue #1 230-kV transmission line leading into the Rogue Substation

PP&A Project No.: 1736

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 project is located in Curry County, Oregon, in the Alvey District. The project activities will be conducted on the access roads leading to and at towers: 66/1-66/4 on the Fairview-Rogue #1 230-kV transmission line.

Township	Range	Section
36S	14W	5, 6

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to replace the overhead ground wire because routine inspections revealed that it has failed due to corrosion. Project activities will include the removal and replacement of the two existing overhead ground wires and their supporting hardware in the last mile of the transmission line. This will also require replacement of the small steel attachment brackets on five Fairview-Rogue lattice steel structures (structures 66/1, 66/2, 66/3, and 66/4). In addition, up to five temporary guard structures may be placed within the right-of-way (ROW) to protect adjacent facilities and the public from potential hazards above. Finally, a temporary access road will be built to tower 66/3 to provide access for the project.

The proposed action will prevent damage to electrical equipment in the Rogue Substation. The ground wire functions to capture lightning strikes and bring them to ground. Without functional ground wire, lightning would have a greater chance of striking the conductor. The resulting power surge within the conductors in such close proximity to the substation would surely damage power circuit breakers, transformers, and other essential and very costly equipment in

the Rogue Substation. All work will be done in accordance with the National Electric 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 unpermitted releases; or (iv) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources.

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/ Greg P. Tippetts, for:
Benjamin Tilley
Natural Resource Specialist – KEP-Alvey

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

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Attachment:
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Fairview-Rogue #1 Ground Wire Replacement Project FY10

Work Order #: 256954 **PP&A Project No.:** 1732

Prepared by: Ben Tilley **Routing:** KEP-Alvey **Date:** 08/25/10

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 • Review completed 08/06/10. No cultural resources found. No additional restrictions pending concurrence by affected tribes and Oregon SHPO.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 • No areas of special designation occur within the project locations.	<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"/>