

United States Government

Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: February 8, 2011

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Cherilyn Randall – TPC-TPP-4

Proposed Action: G0313 Coyote Crest Wind Park Interconnection Request

Budget Information: Work Order # 213848, Task 01

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

B1.7 “Acquisition, installation, operation, and removal of communication systems, data processing equipment, and similar electronic equipment.”

B4.6: “Additions or modifications to electric power transmission facilities that would not affect the environment beyond the previously developed facility area...”

Location: Lewis County, Washington

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: In response to EverPower’s interconnection request, BPA is planning to integrate EverPower’s 120-MW Coyote Crest Wind Park project into its balancing authority (BA). The proposed point of interconnect is at Grays Harbor PUD’s South Elma Substation. In order to integrate the proposed generation, BPA transmission services would install, own, and operate metering, telemetry, and RAS (Remedial Action Scheme) equipment within EverPower’s Coyote Crest Substation, Grays Harbor PUD’s South Elma Substation, BPA’s Satsop, Olympia, Chehalis, and Longview Substations as well as in BPA’s Dittmer and Munro Control Centers.

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.

It is assumed that the developer would arrange construction of the necessary 115-kV transmission line and any associated transformation required from the G0313 wind project to South Elma Substation. In addition, it is assumed the developer has acquired all necessary permits and has completed the Washington State Environmental Impact Statement.

Metering and telemetry equipment would be installed within BPA's Satsop, Olympia, Chehalis, and Longview Substations as well as in BPA's Dittmer and Munro Control Centers. The Olympia (1951), Chehalis (1941), Longview (1948) Substations and the Dittmer (1971) Control Center are all eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. The installation process, however, would not be invasive and does not compromise the existing building infrastructure or purpose. A no adverse effects letter was mailed by BPA to the Washington Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation (DAHP) on December 6, 2010 for review. A response dated December 13, 2010 was received from the DAHP concurring with BPA's no adverse effect determination.

The proposed BPA actions are entirely within existing facilities and no ground disturbing activities would occur. It was therefore determined that no adverse biological or ecological effects would occur from installation and operation of the project.

This proposed action meets the requirements for the Categorical Exclusions referenced above. We therefore determine that the proposed action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

/s/ Michael Henjum

Michael Henjum

Environmental Protection Specialist – KEC-4

Concur:

/s/ F. Lorraine Bodi for

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer – KEC-4

Date: February 9, 2011

Attachment:

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Coyote Crest Wind Integration Project

Work Order #: 213848 Task #1

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Note: Supporting documentation is in the Project file.

Signed: /s/ Michael Henjum

Date: February 8, 2011