

# memorandum

DATE: March 15, 2011

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEP-Celilo

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Darrell Aaby  
Line Foreman III – TFDF-Redmond

**Proposed Action:** Wood pole replacement at selected locations along the La Pine – Chiloquin and Brasada – Harney No. 1 transmission line right-of-ways.

**PP&A Project No.:** 1930

**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 project is located in Klamath, Deschutes, and Harney counties, Oregon, in Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) Redmond Region.

**Proposed by:** BPA

**Description of the Proposed Action:** BPA proposes to replace deteriorating wood poles and associated structural/electrical components (e.g. crossarms, insulators, guy anchors) along the subject transmission lines. Pole replacement will be in-kind and will utilize the existing holes to minimize ground disturbance. If necessary, an auger will be used to remove any loose soil from the existing hole prior to new wood pole replacement. Landing construction is not planned or anticipated at these locations. Specific locations include BPA structure numbers:

Lapine – Chiloquin: Klamath County - 2/6, 12/4, 16/8, 17/2, 19/7, 34/5, and 39/2.

Brasada – Harney No. 1: Deschutes and Harney counties - 54/5, 63/1, 63/6, 70/6, 72/8, 74/4, 74/5, 79/5, 86/6, 93/2, 103/9, 104/3 and 112/9.

The proposed action will allow safe and timely access to the transmission lines, which will help reduce outage times and maintain reliable power in the region. 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/ Frederick J. Walasavage  
Frederick J. Walasavage  
Environmental Protection Specialist

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

Date: March 15, 2011

Attachment:  
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

## Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

**Name of Proposed Project:** Lapine – Chiloquin and Brasada – Harney No. 1 transmission line right-of-ways

**Work Order #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **PP&A Project No.:** 1930

**Prepared by:** Fred Walasavage **Routing:** KEP-Celilo **Date:** 3/11/2011

**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"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landing construction is not planned. Crews will utilize existing holes for pole replacement. Crews and equipment are to use existing access roads to and from each work site</li> <li>• In the event that archaeological or historic materials are discovered during project activities, work in the immediate vicinity must stop, the area will be secured and the SHPO and the environmental project lead must be notified.</li> </ul>		
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"/>
• No areas of special designation occur within the project locations.		
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.**