

memorandum

DATE: April 20, 2011

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEP-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Chad Hamel
Project Manager – TEP-TPP-1

Proposed Action: The project consists of upgrades to the Olympia-South Elma No. 1, 115-kV transmission line from structure 21/10 to Elma Substation.

Budget Information: Work Order #251089

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.6 Additions or modifications to electric power transmission facilities that would not effect the environment beyond the previously developed facility area including but not limited to...tower modifications, changing insulators, and replacement of poles ...conductors...and crossarms.

Location: The project is located in Grays Harbor County, Washington along Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA's) Olympia-South Elma 115-kV transmission line. The proposed work will occur within and directly adjacent to Elma Substation and within the first span of the transmission line.

Proposed by: BPA

Description of the Proposed Action: The scope of work includes; Replace the Type D structure at 21/11 with a type KF structure, install new hardware and guys on structure 21/10, provide new ACRS Ibis conductor, overhead ground wire, and jumpers into the South Elma Substation.

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 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.

The project consists of upgrades to existing transmission infrastructure located within the right-of-way easement directly adjacent to Elma Substation and within the first span of the transmission line. No threatened or endangered species, critical habitat, or other sensitive areas are known to exist within the project area. Based on this, the proposal will not affect any listed threatened or endangered species, or critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act, or Essential Fish Habitat under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

Based on the project scope of work, all upgrades will occur in previously disturbed areas from the original transmission structures construction. All replacement parts will be installed in the same location. All other work is above ground and will not require any disturbance. Based on this, BPA has determined the project will have “No Effect” on cultural resources or historic properties as protected under the National Historic Preservation Act.

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.

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/ Philip W. Smith, for:

Greg Tippetts
Physical Scientist Environmental

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

Date: April 20, 2011

Attachment:
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Olympia-South Elma upgrade (21/10 & 21/11) 2011

Work Order #: 00251089 PP&A Project No.: 1900

Prepared by: Greg Tippetts Routing: KEPR-4 Date: 4/13/11

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

Environmental Resources	No Effect	No 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"/>

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):

- N/A