

# memorandum

DATE: May 05, 2011

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

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

**Proposed Action:** Peninsula Light Company Line and Load Interconnection Request L0308

**Budget Information:** 00004866, Task 4

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B4.6 – Additions and/or modifications to electric power transmission facilities within previously developed areas.

**Location:** Mason County, WA

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

**Description of the Proposed Action:** Peninsula Light Company (PLC) submitted a request to BPA for an emergency 115-kV connection to BPA's Shelton-Kitsap #2 115-kV line in order to serve its load in the event of a double circuit loss at the Tacoma Narrows Crossing. In response to PLC's request, BPA is proposing to construct a double tap scheme on BPA's Shelton-Kitsap #2 115-kV line at structures 18/1 and 18/2. This proposal would allow PLC an emergency connection to serve its load over Tacoma Power's Cushman-Pearl lines.

Construction of the double tap includes replacing structure 18/2 with a dead-end structure. The conductor between 18/1 and 18/2 would be removed and a new conductor would be routed through the double tap scheme. This double tap scheme would require 6 new 115-kV structures and 3 new 115-kV disconnects with associated switch stands. Additional activities associated with this proposal include the possible need to upgrade existing access roads with rock before and after construction. All proposed work would occur within BPA's existing right-of-way between structures 18/1 and 18/2 and approximately 100 feet beyond structure 18/2. Construction is tentatively scheduled for 2012.

**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.

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/ Brenda Aguirre

Brenda Aguirre

Environmental Protection Specialist – KEC-4

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Date: May 5, 2011

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer – KEC-4

Attachments:

Provisions

Environmental Checklist

## **Provisions**

This categorical exclusion will meet the following provisions:

### **Cultural Resources:**

1. Should archaeological materials be unexpectedly encountered during construction of the project, stop work and notify the COTR. A qualified archaeologist should immediately be notified and an evaluation made and a treatment plan developed should the find be significant.

### **Vegetation Protection and Noxious Weeds:**

2. Restrict construction activities to the area needed to work effectively. Construction crews would be instructed to restrict vehicles to designated areas and existing roads as much as possible.
3. Designated areas would be used to store equipment and supplies. The construction crews would follow applicable state and federal regulations to protect plant communities.
4. After construction, disturbed areas not needed for ongoing access or maintenance should be promptly reseeded with native species where possible.
5. Seed mix for revegetation should contain a mixture of the common species present in the Project area.
6. Do not spread noxious weed seeds:
  - Certify in writing that all vehicles, equipment, and machinery are free of all weeds including seeds before moving the equipment into the construction area. The COTR will inspect vehicles prior to bringing them on site.
  - When an area contaminated by weeds is encountered on, or off of, the construction site, use caution to prevent the spreading of weeds to other areas. This may include cleaning the equipment with high-pressure water prior to moving from one work site to another, or installing wheel washes. Notify the COTR as to the location of the noxious weeds.
7. Use only weed-free materials, or inert materials for mulching and for erosion control.

### **Erosion Control and Land Use:**

8. Require dust abatement on road and construction site, if necessary.
9. Appropriate erosion and sediment control best management practices will be utilized for the protection of water resources.
10. Provide a schedule of construction activities to all landowners/agencies along the corridor that could be affected by construction.
11. Plan and schedule construction activities, when practical, to minimize temporary disturbance, displacement of crops, and interference with farming activities.
12. Keep gates in as found condition (opened or closed). Coordinate construction sequence with landowner so that livestock may be moved if necessary.

**Public Health and Safety:**

13. Limit construction to daytime hours for noise abatement.
14. No equipment with un-muffled exhaust is allowed. Fit all equipment with sound-control devices that are as effective as the original equipment.
15. Should contaminated media be unexpectedly encountered during construction of the project, stop work and notify the COTR. Contaminated media include materials that are potentially harmful to the environment or human health and safety. Work will proceed only after measures approved by the WDOE are put in place to prevent the spread of contaminated materials and protect the health and safety of workers.
16. Equip vehicles with fire suppression equipment, including a shovel, fire extinguisher, and bladder or water supply.
17. Equip construction vehicles with spill containment kits able to respond to construction related spills.

## Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Peninsula Light Company Line and Load Interconnection  
Request L0308

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Work Order #: 00004866, Task 4

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"/>

List of supporting documentation attached: Provisions

Signed: /s/ Brenda Aguirre

Date: May 5, 2011