

The proposed action will allow safe and timely access to the transmission line, which will help reduce outage times and maintain reliable power in the region. All work will be in accordance with the National Electrical 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 un-permitted releases; or (iv) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources.

With the actions identified on the attachment, 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:
Benjamin J. Tilley
Natural Resource Specialist

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

Date: May 20, 2011

Attachment:
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: FY11 Alvey TLM District Wood Pole Replacement projects

PP&A Project No.: 1957 (Eugene-Lane #1, Eugene-Alvey #2, Hawkins-Alvey #1)

Prepared by: Ben Tilley Routing: KEP-Alvey Date: 05/16/2011

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"> ▪ Landing construction is not planned or anticipated at any of the locations listed for the project. If landing construction becomes necessary for wood pole removal at sites not previously surveyed, an on-site cultural monitor will have to be present during construction activities. ▪ Crews and equipment are to use existing access roads to and from each work site. Any access road maintenance performed will be limited to the existing road prism. 		
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Willamette daisy may potentially occur near structure 4/9 on the Hawkins-Alvey #1. Surveys for rare plants will be completed prior to work commencing at this site. If any are found, mitigation measures will be implemented to avoid effects to the listed species. Work will take place during mid-September to coincide with the dormant period for the daisy. No access road or landing work is planned for this location. Poles will be placed in existing holes. <p>No other listed species or critical habitat, identified in the county species lists, occur within ½ mile of the project area.</p>		
3. Floodplains or wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
City of Eugene's Ridgeline Trail System. At 11\2 on the Eugene-Alvey #2, trails will be blocked and altered during pole installation to maintain safe access. The trails will need to be restored to original conditions following completion of the project in this area to maintain safe access for trail users.		
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

9. Pollution control at Federal facilities

10. Other

Supporting documentation is in the official project file: Environmental Requirements Memorandum.