

Project title:	Red Bluff Pumping Plant 60-kV Interconnection Project		
Requested By:	Ricardo Velarde	Mail Code: N1411	Phone: 916-353-4565
Date Submitted:	4/11/11	Date Required:	5/30/11

Description of the Project:

Western Area Power Administration (Western) proposes to construct approximately 1,500 feet of 60-kilovolt (kV) transmission line (Tap Line) to interconnect Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) new Red Bluff Pumping Plant and Fish Screen Project to the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) local 60-kV system. PG&E would normally construct, own, and maintain the Tap Line; however, Reclamation, Western, and PG&E have recently reached a mutual agreement under which Western will construct the Tap Line to insure the 60-kV service is available for use by Reclamation to begin testing and/or commissioning of the new Fish Screen Project pump units by October 2011. The Tap Line will be installed entirely upon ground disturbed by the current Reclamation construction footprint and other industrial development.

Location of the Project:

Tehama County
USGS Quad: Red Bluff East
Section/Township/Range: 27N 03W Section 33
2.5 miles SE of Red Bluff

Map(s) and Photos

Map - Attachment A
Photos - Attachment B

Action taken

Note: All Documentation is Attached

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|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exclusion (CX) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integral Elements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Assessment (EA) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEPA Attachment Sheet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Requirements/Mitigation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Determinations: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maps |

Determination: Based on my review of information provided to me concerning the proposed action as NEPA Compliance Officer, I have determined that the proposed action meets the requirements for the categorical exclusion listed above. Therefore, I have determined that the proposed action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

Shane Collins

5/24/11

Shane Collins

Date

NEPA Compliance Officer

Approved

cc:	File Code:	Assigned to: Ricardo Velarde	Project #: CX110502	Environmental Specialist- Date: <i>Ricardo Velarde 5/24/11</i>
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Western Area Power Administration Sierra Nevada Region	CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) DETERMINATION	Project Number CX110502
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Integral Elements

Project Title: Red Bluff Pumping Plant 60-kV Interconnection Project

Category of Action: B4.12 Construction of electric powerlines approximately 10 miles in length or less, not integrating major new sources.

Regulatory Requirements for a Categorical Exclusion Determination: The Department of Energy (DOE) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Implementing Procedures, 10 CFR 1021.410(b) require the following determinations be made in order for a proposed action to be categorically excluded (see full text in regulation).

1. The proposed action fits within a class of action listed in Appendixes A and B to Subpart D. For classes of actions listed in Appendix B, the following conditions are integral elements; i.e., to fit within a class, the proposal must not:
 - a. Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, including requirements of DOE and/or Executive Orders;
 - b. Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities, but may include categorically excluded facilities;
 - c. Disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products preexisting in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; or
 - d. Adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources (including but not limited to those listed in paragraph B (4)).
2. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal which may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.
3. The proposal is not connected (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)) to other actions with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other actions with cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(2)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211.

Results of Review: In accordance with DOE environmental regulations (10 CFR 1021), Western has reviewed the proposed action in terms of the level of NEPA review needed. Based on this review, Western has determined that the proposal falls within a class of action listed in Appendix B to Subpart D (10 CFR 1021.410) that does not require preparation of either an environmental impact statement (EIS) or an environmental assessment (EA).

The proposed action meets the above regulatory criteria and there are no adverse environmental effects associated with this action.