

United States Government

Department of Energy  
Bonneville Power Administration

# memorandum

DATE: June 28, 2011

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Amy Freel – TEP TPP 1

**Proposed Action:** Ponderosa 500-230 kilovolt (kV) Transformer Addition

**Budget Information:** 00276365 Task 03

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B4.6

“Additions/modifications to electric power transmission facilities within previously developed Facility area...”

**Location:** Prineville, Crook County, Oregon

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

**Description of the Proposed Action:** The proposed project includes modification of existing substation equipment, installation of a new 500-230-kV transformer, and an eight acre expansion northwest of the existing yard. The yard expansion is to facilitate the addition of a new 230-kV 2-bay breaker-and-a-half bus, four bays and the new transformer. A new control house would be built to accommodate controls and protection for the new equipment. The existing road to the south would be modified and graveled. All activities would occur on previously disturbed soils within BPA’s property boundary.

**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.

/s/ Gene Lynard, for:

Stephanie Breeden  
Environmental Project Manager

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Date: June 29, 2011

Katherine S. Pierce  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Attachment:

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

## Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Ponderosa 500-230-kV Transformer Addition

Work Order #: 00276365

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 Section 106 consultation and cultural survey complete	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) None in project area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands None in project area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation None in project area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Health & safety Workers would follow BPA standards for Health and Safety during construction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Prime agricultural lands None in project area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water None in project area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Consistency with state and local laws and regulations .Project is consistent with State and Local Laws	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Pollution control at Federal facilities .BPA employees would follow standard pollution control measures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):

Signed: /s/ Gene Lynard for Stephanie Breeden

Date: June 28, 2011