

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: James Hall  
Project Manager - TPC-TPP-4

**Proposed Action:** Esquatzel Project

**Budget Information:** WO# 257267, Task 01

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B1.7 "Acquisition, installation, operation, and removal of communication systems, data processing equipment, and similar electronic equipment."

**Location:** Franklin County, Washington

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

**Description of the Proposed Action:**

In response to Green Energy Today's small generator interconnection request, BPA is planning to integrate their 1.1-MW Esquatzel Hydro Generation Project into its balancing authority (BA). The proposed point of interconnection is at Pole 66 G 1229 on the Bureau of Reclamation's 13.8-kV line out of BPA's Glade Substation. In order to integrate the proposed generation, Green Energy Today would install, at their own expense, BPA-approved metering and communications service equipment at the Esquatzel Project site. BPA would then test, energize, commission, calibrate, and assume ownership of the metering equipment.

**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/ Gene Lynard, for:

Kara Hempy-Mayer

Environmental Protection Specialist – KEC-4

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Date: June 30, 2011

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer – KEC-4

Attachment:

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

## Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Esquatzel Project

Work Order #: 257267, Task 01

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):

Signed: /s/ Gene Lynard for Kara Hempy-Mayer

Date: June 30, 2011