

United States Government

Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: August 26, 2011

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEPR-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Joyce Vaughn
Project Manager – TELP-TPP-3

Proposed Action: Snohomish-Murray No.1 structure 9/4 modification

PP&A Project No.: 1990

Budget Information: Work Order 00251084, Task 03

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.6: Additions or modifications to electric power transmission facilities that would not affect the environment beyond the previously developed facility area including, but not limited to, switchyard rock grounding upgrades, secondary containment projects, paving projects, seismic upgrading, tower modifications, changing insulators, replacement of poles, circuit breakers, conductors, transformers, and crossarms.

Location: Marysville, Snohomish County, Washington
Township 29 North, Range 5 East, Section 1

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to relocate a single wood pole on a three pole transmission tower (structure 9/4) on the Snohomish-Murray No. 1 transmission line. The existing pole on the east side of the structure will be permanently removed and a new pole and guy anchors will be installed 23 feet to the west of the existing pole. This will effectively move structure 9/4 23 feet to the west. The relocated pole will be in-kind with the rest of the line structures, and all of the work will occur in previously cleared, existing BPA transmission line right-of-way between Densmore Road and Washington State Route 9 (SR 9).

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.

BPA has determined that there will be no effect on any listed or proposed threatened or endangered species, or critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act. No floodplains or wetlands would be impacted from the relocation of the wood pole.

Based on the provisions 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/ Makary Hutson

Makary Hutson

Biological Scientist (Environmental)

Concur: /s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: August 26, 2011

Attachment:

Environmental Provisions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

ENVIRONMENTAL PROVISIONS

This categorical exclusion will meet the following provisions:

1. In the event any archaeological or historic materials are encountered during project activities, the following actions should be taken:
 - Stop work in the immediate vicinity and immediately notify the BPA environmental project manager and appropriate BPA project staff. A BPA archaeologist, interested Tribes, and the appropriate county, state, federal agencies should also be notified.
 - Implement reasonable measures to protect the discovery site, including any appropriate stabilization or covering.
 - Take reasonable steps to ensure the confidentiality of the discovery site.
 - Take reasonable steps to restrict access to the site of discovery.
2. All standard erosion and sediment control best management practices (BMPs) will be used for any ground disturbances and road improvements to avoid/minimize excessive erosion, soil sloughing, and other surface alterations during the construction phase.
3. Any excess spoils resulting from excavation should be disposed of properly, per BPA's specifications. Also, all waste/trash generated during construction will be collected, removed, and disposed legally off-site.
4. Immediately notify the KEP environmental lead in the event of a spill or release to the environment. Maintain appropriate emergency spill response materials on-site to control unexpected and unanticipated releases of petroleum-based products or other hazardous materials. Have emergency supplies in an easily accessible location and clearly marked. Disposal of any spill material will be in accordance with applicable state and federal requirements.
5. If there are any changes in construction activities that require relocation or change of work parameters, or for sites that have not been previously identified as work sites, construction shall not proceed until the KEP environmental lead can evaluate those changes.

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Snohomish-Murray No.1 structure 9/4 modification

Work Order #: 00251084, Task 03 **PP&A Project No.:** N/A

Prepared by: Makary A. Hutson **Routing:** KEPR-4 **Date:** 8/1/2011

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 In the event that any archaeological material is encountered during construction, the environmental lead will immediately be notified and work halted in the vicinity of the finds until they can be inspected and assessed.	<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 – Visual Impacts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>