

memorandum

DATE: September 19, 2011

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Christine Kimball
Realty Specialist – TERR-3

Proposed Action: Grant New Cingular Wireless' request for use of right-of-way at the Salem Substation.

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.9 Grant or denial of requests for multiple-use of a transmission facility rights-of-way, such as grazing permits and crossing agreements, including electric lines, water lines and drainage culverts.

Location: Polk County Salem Substation, 2815 Salem Dallas Highway NW, Salem, Oregon; Township 7S, Range 3W, Section 29.

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to grant a request submitted by New Cingular Wireless. New Cingular Wireless proposes to place a 140 foot long, 4 inch underground conduit from its existing wireless communications facility to an existing BPA utility pole located in a BPA right-of-way. A proposed vault for fiber, 3 feet 1 inch by 6 feet 7 inches, would be placed just outside the fenced area of the substation. The area has been previously disturbed.

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, April 24, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 36221-36243, July 9, 1996; 61 FR 64608, December 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.

The Oregon State Archaeologist agreed with BPA's determination that due to previous ground disturbing activities in the area and the results of a 2002 survey in the near vicinity of the project, the project would likely have no effect on any known cultural resources or historic properties as protected under the National Historic Preservation Act. No further archaeological research is needed with the project.

No threatened or endangered species, critical habitat, or other sensitive areas are known to exist within the project area. Based on this, the proposal would not affect any listed threatened or endangered species, or critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act, or Essential Fish Habitat under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

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/ Susan F. Offerdal

Susan F. Offerdal

Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: September 19, 2011

Attachment:

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: New Cingular Wireless Right of Way Request at the BPA Salem Substation Site

Work Order #: 00184006, 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 In the event that any archaeological material is encountered during construction, the BPA 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed: /s/ Susan Offerdal

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