

# memorandum

DATE: June 25, 2012

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Robert Trismen  
Project Manager – TEP-CSB-1

**Proposed Action:** Mason Substation Metering Replacement Project

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B1.7 Electronic equipment.

**Location:** Mason County, Washington

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

**Description of the Proposed Action:** BPA is proposing to remove existing equipment and install new revenue metering equipment in the existing Mason Substation. Mason County Public Utility District No. 3 (the District), a customer of BPA, owns and operates Mason Substation and plans to rebuild it as a 115/12.5 kV, 24 MVA facility. Mason Substation is a BPA Point of Delivery and Point of Metering, and the new equipment installed by BPA would allow BPA to continue to monitor and collect revenue for power and transmission services to its customer, the District, upon completion of the rebuild.

In order to complete the rebuild, BPA shall, at its own expense, remove and retire the existing metering rack; design, provide, and install one new 24-inch metering rack with a bi-directional meter and a Revenue Metering System (RMS) unit; provide, install, and terminate shielded multi-conductor instrument transformer cables; provide the District with equipment specifications; and test and energize equipment installed by BPA. The metering rack will be installed in the District's control house. The instrument transformer secondary cables will be connected in the control house, installed underground through existing vaults and PVC conduit to an outdoor rack, and connected overhead to instrument transformers. All equipment installed by BPA will be owned and operated by BPA. All other work would be performed by the District within the substation yard in areas that have 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, Apr. 24, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 36221-36243, July 9, 1996; 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996, 76 FR 63764, Nov. 14, 2011). 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, has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion, 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, (iv) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, or (v) involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements.

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/ Zachary R. Gustafson

Zachary R. Gustafson

Environmental Project Manager - KEC-4

Concur:

/s/ Stacy Mason

Stacy Mason

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: June 25, 2012

Attachment:

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

## Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Mason Substation Metering Replacement Project

Work Order #: 309916

**This project does not have the potential to cause significant impacts on the following environmentally sensitive resources. See 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B for complete descriptions of the resources. This checklist is to be used as a summary – further discussion may be included in the Categorical Exclusion Memorandum.**

<u>Environmental Resources</u>	<u>No Potential for Significance</u>	<u>No Potential, with Conditions (describe)</u>
1. Historic Properties and 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 or unique farmlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (describe)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):

Signed: /s/ Zachary Gustafson

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