

memorandum

DATE: May 17, 2012

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Amanda Williams
Project Manager – TEP-TPP-1

Proposed Action: Relocation of Wood Poles on Centralia B Street No. 1 for proposed Centralia City Light May Street Substation

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.6 Additions and modifications to transmission facilities

Location: City of Centralia, Lewis County, Washington; Township 14 North, Range 2 West, Section 41

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action:

BPA proposes to relocate or replace three wood transmission poles on its Centralia B - Street No. 1, 69-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in the city of Centralia, in Lewis County, Washington. This action is proposed to allow Centralia City Light (CCL) to connect a new substation on May Street to BPA's system.

Centralia City Light (CCL) plans to build a new 69-kV substation in Centralia to replace its existing B Street Substation, an aging facility suffering from insulation failures. The proposed CCL substation would be located on May Street, one block to the east of the existing substation. To interconnect the existing BPA Centralia – B Street 69-kV transmission line to the new CCL substation, BPA proposes to relocate a portion of the transmission line from the north side of the street right of way to the south side. The portion of the transmission line that would be relocated is within an easement on land owned by the City of Centralia.

On the north side of May Street, the conductor wire would be removed from three existing BPA wood poles (structures 1/5 and 1/4 and 1/3). Structure 1/4 would be topped and ownership of the pole transferred to CCL to serve their existing residential lines. Structure 1/3 and its guy wires and guy anchors would be replaced in the same location. The ground on the north side of the street is predominately gravel fill, with patches of grass or non-native vegetation, including Himalayan blackberry, dandelion and white clover.

On the south side of the street, one guy stub (for pole 1/3) would be replaced in the same location and two additional new wood poles would be installed within 5 feet of the substation fenceline on CCL property in order to provide the connection to the new substation. The ground in this area is graveled, without vegetative cover. Holes would be augered for the new wood poles to a depth of 10 feet. The new poles would be Douglas fir, 2 feet in diameter and 75 feet

long (65 feet above the ground once installed). New conductor wire would be strung from rebuilt structure 1/3 to new structure 1/4 and into the new May Street substation. Additional new conductor would then be strung from the substation to new structure 1/1 on the newly created May Street-B Street No. 1 line, located on the south side of May Street and then to existing structure 1/5, which would be renamed structure 1/2.

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/ Carolyn Sharp

Carolyn Sharp

Environmental Project Manager – KEC-4

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer

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Attachment:

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Relocation of Wood Poles on Centralia B Street No. 1 for
proposed Centralia City Light May Street Substation

Work Order #: 00298984

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.

Environmental Resources	No Potential for Significance	No Potential, with Conditions (describe)
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):

Signed: /s/ Carolyn Sharp

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