

# memorandum

DATE: September 14, 2012

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

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

**Proposed Action:** Port Angeles Substation Equipment Additions

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

**Location:** Port Angeles, Clallam County, Washington

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

**Description of the Proposed Action:** BPA proposes to replace relaying equipment and install new metering equipment within its Port Angeles Substation in response to a request (G0419) from Nippon Paper Industries. Nippon Paper Industries is co-locating a 20-megawatt biomass generation project within its existing paper mill site. The site connects to BPA's Port Angeles Substation via an existing 69-kilovolt transmission line that is owned, operated, and maintained by Nippon Paper Industries. At the Nippon Paper Mill site, BPA will install new metering equipment within an existing electrical control building owned by Nippon Paper at the terminus of their 69-kV line. At the Port Angeles Substation, BPA will replace relaying equipment and install new telemetry equipment. This new substation equipment would integrate the biomass project.

**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/ Andrew M. Montañó  
Andrew M. Montañó, PMP  
Environmental Project Manager

Concur:

/s/ Stacy L. Mason  
Stacy L. Mason  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: September 14, 2012

Attachment:  
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

# Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Nippon Paper Industries Interconnection Project

Work Order #: 00257280

**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 <i>All proposed work will occur within previously disturbed areas. No changes will be made to existing buildings.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) <i>All proposed work will occur within existing substation yard. No species present.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands <i>n/a</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation <i>n/a</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Health & safety <i>n/a</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Prime or unique farmlands <i>n/a</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water <i>n/a</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (describe)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed: /s/ Andrew M. Montaña

Date: September 14, 2012