

United States Government

Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: June 14, 2013

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Mike Gilchrist
Project Manager – TEP-TPP-1

Proposed Action: Alvey Substation 115-kV and 230-kV Breaker Replacement Project

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

Location: Lane County, Oregon

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA is proposing to remove six power circuit breakers (PCBs) and install new PCBs within BPA's Alvey Substation near the City of Springfield in Lane County, Oregon. The existing PCBs can no longer be adequately maintained to provide reliable service due to age and deterioration, and replacement parts are no longer available. In addition, the voltage ratings of the six existing PCBs are in violation of National Energy Safety Code (NESC) standards and current BPA voltage class specifications. The proposed project would allow necessary maintenance for safe and reliable power transmission, and ensure compliance with NESC and BPA standards and specifications.

In order to complete the replacement, BPA would remove two 230-kilovolt (kV) PCBs from Bays 8 and 10, and four existing 115-kV PCBs from Bays 1, 2, 5, and 10. The two 230-kV PCBs would be disposed of, and the four 115-kV PCBs would be retained as a source of mechanical parts for 115-kV PCBs remaining on BPA's transmission system. Two new 230-kV PCBs would be installed in Bays 8 and 10, and four new 115-kV PCBs would be installed in Bays 1, 2, 5, and 10. New cable boots would be installed at each Bay, existing control cables would be removed and replaced, and new metering and relaying equipment would be installed in the control house. All work would be performed within the substation yard in areas that have been previously disturbed. The proposed project would have no effect on cultural resources, historic properties, or federally listed wildlife species or their critical habitat located in Lane County.

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

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce
Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: June 14, 2013

Attachment:
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Alvey Substation 115-kV and 230-kV Breaker Replacement Project

Work Order #: 267993 and 267996

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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