

United States Government

Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: August 14, 2013

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEPR-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Richard Heredia
Project Manager – TEP-TPP-1**Proposed Action:** Big Eddy-Redmond No. 1 Wood Pole Replacement Project**PP&A Project No.:** 2500**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B1.3 Routine maintenance**Location:** Big Eddy-Redmond No. 1 transmission line in Deschutes County, Oregon, at the following locations:

Mile	Structure	Township	Range	Section
35	6	5	14	24
36	6	5	14	25
36	7	5	14	25
36	8	5	14	25
37	6	5	14	36
40	9	6	15	18
43	2	6	15	29
48	4	7	1	21
49	1	7	1	21
50	6	7	15	33
51	8	8	15	5
52	8	8	15	8
53	3	8	15	8
54	2	8	15	17
56	1	8	1	30
58	2	9	14	1
58	4	9	14	1
58	5	9	14	1
59	1	9	14	12
60	4	9	14	13
61	1	9	14	24
62	7	9	14	26
63	2	9	14	5
63	4	9	14	35

Mile	Structure	Township	Range	Section
63	6	9	14	35
63	8	10	14	2
64	4	10	14	2
65	3	10	14	10
65	5	10	14	10
65	6	10	14	10
66	3	10	14	15
68	6	10	14	28
71	3	11	14	5
71	8	11	14	7
72	5	11	14	7
73	9	11	14	18
74	1	11	14	19
74	3	11	14	19
75	1	11	14	30
79	3	12	14	18
80	1	12	14	19
80	3	12	14	19
84	4	13	13	12
87	5	13	13	22
97	7	15	13	7

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA is proposing to replace 45 deteriorating wood pole structures along its Big Eddy-Redmond transmission line located in Deschutes County, Oregon. The work will include creating a 50 feet x 50 feet earthen landing around each structure to allow for equipment staging. The new poles will be installed approximately five feet ahead, or back on line, from the existing poles. This will allow for the new pole holes to be drilled before the line outage when the existing poles will be removed and the new poles installed. No new access road improvements will be needed for any of the structure locations. The project is proposed to begin in fall 2013. The project duration will be approximately four weeks.

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.

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/ Aaron Shurtliff

Aaron Shurtliff
Environmental Engineer

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

DATE: August 14, 2013

Attachment:
Provisions

ATTACHMENT
PROVISIONS

This categorical exclusion will meet the following provisions:

- No new access roads will be constructed for this project.
- Existing access roads will not be improved by any means including blading, grading, excavation, or filling.
- No herbicides will be used for this project.
- Applicable fire season restrictions will be followed.
- Only cleaned equipment will be used to prevent the spread of noxious weeds or invasive species.

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Big Eddy-Redmond No. 1 Wood Pole Replacement Project

Work Order #: 319562

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 SHPO concurrence of No Effect received on Dec 12, 2012 Burns tribe concurrence of No Effect received Jan 15, 2013	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) No federally listed T&E species or designated critical habit is known to be within the project area.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands No floodplains or other water resources at any of the project locations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation n/a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Health & safety n/a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Prime or unique farmlands n/a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water n/a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (describe)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):

Big Eddy-Redmond No. 1 Effects Determination

Signed: /s/ Aaron Shurtliff

Date: August 12, 2013

Aaron Shurtliff, KEP-4