

memorandum

DATE: September 18, 2013

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEPR-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Ken Adamson
Engineering Technician (Civil) – TELF-TPP-3

Proposed Action: Brasada-Harney No. 1 Access Road Maintenance Project

PP&A Project No.: 2187

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.3 Routine maintenance

Location: Harney County, Oregon, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Redmond District.

Proposed by: BPA

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA is proposing to maintain existing access roads along the Brasada-Harney No. 1, 115-kilovolt transmission line. The work would involve leveling and applying crushed gravel to the existing access roads between structure 105/1 and 106/8. The access road crosses two drainage draws. These areas will be reinforced with larger pit run gravel to prevent the road from washing away during heavy rains. The project is proposed to begin in fall 2013 and will last approximately one week.

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/ Stacy Mason

Stacy Mason
NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: September 18, 2013

Attachment:
Provisions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Brasada-Harney No. 1 Access Road Maintenance Project

Work Order #: 329875

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 Work is limited to existing access road along the ROW	<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 wetlands at any of the project locations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation Bureau of Land Management	<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) This project has been coordinated with and approved by the Burns District BLM office	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):

Brasada-Harney No. 1 Access Road Improvement Project Effects Determination

Signed: /s/ Aaron Shurtliff

Date: September 12, 2013

Aaron Shurtliff, KEPR-4