

United States Government

Department of Energy  
Bonneville Power Administration

# memorandum

DATE: October 8, 2013

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Melanie M. Jackson  
Transmission Account Executive – TSE-TPP-2

**Proposed Action:** Balancing Authority Area Services Agreement with Port Townsend Paper Corporation

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B4.1 – Contracts, policies, and marketing and allocation plans for electric power

**Location:** Portland, Oregon and Port Townsend, Washington

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

**Description of the Proposed Action:** BPA proposes to enter into a Balancing Authority Area Services Agreement (BAASA) with Port Townsend Paper Corporation (PTPC). PTPC owns and operates legacy generation—three existing co-generation steam turbines capable of generating up to 14.5 MW total generation—within BPA’s balancing area authority (BAA) to serve on-site load at PTPC’s facilities. PTPC’s legacy generation integrates with the BAA through an existing 2.4-kilovolt (kV) distribution system at PTPC’s facilities and over a 115-kV transmission line owned by the Public Utility District No. 1 of Clallam County, which directly interconnects at BPA’s Fairmount Substation.

The BAASA establishes operating and reliability requirements that would apply to PTPC’s existing generation resources because they operate within the BAA. These generation resources would continue to operate within normal operating limits. Because meter upgrades were recently performed, no equipment installations to the existing transmission system would be required to support the terms of the BAASA.

**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) 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.

We therefore determine that the proposed action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

*/s/ Jeffrey J. Maslow*  
Jeffrey J. Maslow  
Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

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

Date: *October 10, 2013*

Attachments:  
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

# Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Balancing Area Authority Services Agreement with Port Townsend Paper Corporation

Work Order #: 00003863

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"/>

Signed: /s/ Jeffrey J. Maslow

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