DOE F 1325.8e Electronic Form Approved by CILR – 10/08/2002
(08-89)

United States Government **Department of Energy**

Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: February 6, 2014

REPLY TO ATTN OF: KEP-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Heidi Meyer
Project Manager - TELF-TPP-3

Proposed Action: Malin Substation storm drain and switchyard rock improvements

Budget Information: Work Order #00342131

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

Location: Malin Substation, located approximately 6.0 miles east of Malin, Klamath County, Oregon

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to improve the drainage system and replace the crushed rock in the Malin Substation switchyard. Existing yard rock and drainage systems are not performing their functions which have resulted in unsafe working conditions. Within the substation yard, excessive pooling occurs throughout the year and the yard rock is less than 3 inches in most areas and is contaminated with clay. The sub-standard yard rock conditions have the potential to expose employees to a significant step and touch shock hazard during certain operational procedures and or unexpected abnormal system conditions. Upgrading the grounding system will meet standards based on IEEE Standard 80, Guide for Safety in Substation Grounding, BPA Standards require a minimum of 3 inches of yard rock (crushed rock) with a volume resistance of 3000 ohm-meters or greater.

The proposed project would include: restoring the switchyard finish grade by excavation, replacement, and shaping of subgrade material; blading and shaping of existing yard surface; repairing or replacement of the existing ground mat; removal, replacement, and installation of new subsurface drainage for designated sections of the existing sub-surface drainage system; and removal of selected retired or unused concrete footings and curbs.

Existing yard rock is expected to be salvaged. Unsuitable soil would be disposed of on site outside the fenced substation in designated areas. The contractor would be responsible for installing appropriate sediment and erosion control Best Management Practices and re-vegetation with native seed mix.

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.

/s/ John Howington
John Howington
Environmental Scientist

Concur: */s/ Stacy Mason* Date: *February 6, 2014*
Stacy Mason
NEPA Compliance Officer

Attachments:
Effects Determination for T&E Species

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Rebuild the Malin substation storm drain system and resurface the switchyard with new switchyard rock

Work Order #: 00342131 **PP&A Project No.:**

Prepared by: John Howington **Routing:** KEP-4 **Date:** 1/29/14

This project has been found to not adversely affect the following environmentally sensitive resources, laws, and regulations:

Environmental Resources	No Effect	No Effect with conditions
1. Cultural Resources	X	
Disturbance will occur within the substation footprint of previous disturbance and no substation facilities will be disturbed.		
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s)	X	
No T&E species within the project area		
3. Floodplains or wetlands	x	
None		
4. Areas of special designation	x	
none		
5. Health & safety	x	
6. Prime agricultural lands	x	
None		
7. Special sources of water	x	
Malin substation drainage converges approximately 700 feet south of the facility at an outlet ditch. This ditch directs drainage south approximately 1,650' to a seasonal settling pond. If the settling pond overflows the resulting drainage flows to another series of settling ponds to the south. From the substation the nearest perennial water source is Bull Spring located approximately 1.5 miles south. Improved drainage within the substation would have only a slight change to the current volume of water reaching the seasonal settling pond.		
8. Consistency with state and local laws and regulations	x	
9. Pollution control at Federal facilities	x	
10. Other	x	
Soil/rock onsite disposal is coordinated with Pacific Corps. All soil disposal areas will be re-vegetated and stabilized. Erosion control BMPs will be installed prior to disposal begins. Concrete and contaminated soil will be disposed of offsite.		

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):

- ESA Effects Determination