

memorandum

DATE: April 10, 2014

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Joan Kendall
Project Manager – TERR-3

Proposed Action: Hat Rock Tap Switching Station Equipment Transfer

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021: B 1.24 Property transfers

Location: Umatilla County, Oregon

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to transfer ownership of equipment within the Hat Rock Tap switching station to PacifiCorp. The switching station taps PacifiCorp's McNary-Wallula 230-kilovolt (kV) line to serve BPA's Hat Rock Substation. PacifiCorp is in the process of rebuilding the switching station, including the replacement of BPA-owned sectionalizing switches with PacifiCorp-owned switches. The sectionalizing switches are functionally part of PacifiCorp's transmission system. Completion of the sale would support BPA's policy of simplifying mixed ownership arrangements at BPA facilities. PacifiCorp would own all assets within the Hat Rock Tap switching station.

BPA would transfer ownership of all assets within the switching station, including the footings, support structures, bus work, jumpers, grounding equipment, fencing, and surface rock. BPA would retain ownership of the tap line, including the wave trap and wood pole structures.

The transfer in ownership to PacifiCorp would not change the use of the equipment and would not have the potential to release substances at a level, or in a form, that could pose a threat to public health or the environment.

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/ Carolyn A. Sharp
Carolyn A. Sharp
Environmental Project Manager

Concur:

/s/ Stacy L. Mason
Stacy L. Mason
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: April 10, 2014

Attachment:
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Hat Rock Tap Switching Station Equipment Transfer

Work Order #: 00351708

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.

Environmental Resources	No Potential for Significance	No Potential, with Conditions (describe)
1. Historic Properties and Cultural Resources Equipment does not have historic or cultural significance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) No ground disturbing project activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands No ground disturbing project activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation No ground disturbing project activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Health & safety No potential for release of hazardous substances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Prime or unique farmlands No ground disturbing project activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water No ground disturbing project activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (describe)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed: /s/ Carolyn Sharp

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