

memorandum

DATE: June 17, 2014

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Aaron Evans
Project Manager – TEPO-CSB-2

Proposed Action: Deer Park Substation Connection Modifications

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.11 Electric power substations and interconnection facilities

Location: Spokane County, Washington

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to modify how an existing transmission line connects to Deer Park Substation—a substation jointly owned by Avista Corporation (Avista) and Inland Power & Light Company (IPLC). BPA would rotate two of the three conductor phases (A, B, and C) of the Deer Park Tap to Bell-Addy 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line where the line connects to bus equipment within the substation.

Avista has requested that BPA rotate the phasing of the line connection to match the phasing of Avista's 115/13.8-kV power transformer to minimize risks to safety and system reliability. Avista would pay for the modification to BPA's equipment.

To complete the project, BPA would remove the conductor for BPA's Deer Park Tap to Bell-Addy line between structure 18/8 and the 115-kV bus in Deer Park Substation. Workers would install new conductor and swap the A and C phases from their original positions on the 115-kV bus. BPA would modify attachment points, risers, and bus support pedestals to accommodate the new locations of the rotated phases of the line.

The proposed project would not change the use of BPA's equipment, and would not alter the existing phasing schemes for BPA or IPLC equipment.

The proposed project would temporarily disturb approximately 0.9 acre for equipment installation, equipment storage, and the movement of construction vehicles and heavy equipment. Workers would access the project site through the existing substation entrance on West Gibson Dahl Road.

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/ Zachary R. Gustafson
Zachary R. Gustafson
Environmental Project Manager

Concur:

/s/ Stacy Mason
Stacy Mason
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: June 17, 2014

Attachments:
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions
Provisions

PROVISIONS

This categorical exclusion will meet the following provisions:

Cultural Resources

In the event any archaeological or historical material is encountered during project activities, the following actions should be taken:

- Stop work in the vicinity and immediately notify the BPA environmental lead, a BPA archaeologist, appropriate BPA project staff, interested Tribes, Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, and the appropriate county, state, and federal agencies.
- Implement reasonable measures to protect the discovery site, including any appropriate stabilization or covering.
- Take reasonable steps to ensure the confidentiality of the discovery site, including restricting access.

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Deer Park Substation Connection Modifications

Work Order #: 348980

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 Concurrence May 13, 2014 Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. Tribes consulted: the Kalispel Tribe of Indians and the Spokane Tribe of Indians.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) Not present.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands Not present.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation Not present.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Health & safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Prime or unique farmlands Soil group is classified as Clayton fine sandy loam, considered prime farmland. Soils within the project area are not used as farmland.	<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/ Zachary Gustafson

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