

# memorandum

DATE: June 12, 2014

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEPR-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Mark Kjelland  
Project Manager – TELM-TPP-3

**Proposed Action:** Longview-Chehalis No. 3 Transmission Structure Footing Repair

**PP&A Project No.:** 2968

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

**Location:** Lewis County, Washington; Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Olympia District

**Proposed by:** BPA

**Description of the Proposed Action:** BPA proposes to identify and repair deteriorating steel support structures where corrosion may be affecting the footings and structural integrity of the towers. Proposed work may occur on any or all of the structures of the Longview-Chehalis No. 3 from structure 20/3 to structure 33/5, just outside Chehalis Substation.

Minimal soil will be removed from around each of the tower legs for the necessary observations and repairs if required. Soil removed will be confined to the area of existing backfill around the tower legs and footings. Work on individual tower legs may include inspecting and quantifying the extent of corrosion at and below the ground line, cleaning of corroded sections, application of protective coatings, installation of repairs where needed, installation of cathodic protective systems, and replacement of footing if required.

All structures are located in the open, cleared right-of-way corridor on flat to moderate slopes. No road improvements are proposed for this project.

The proposed work is necessary to ensure ongoing safe and reliable operation of the transmission line to minimize risk of outages and maintain power delivery in the region. The proposed work is scheduled for the summer of 2014. All work will be in accordance with the NESC and BPA standards.

**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.

The proposed project will not affect any listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act, or historic properties under the National Historic Preservation Act. The project will not impact areas of great visual value and no project sites are within a governmentally designated scenic area.

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/ Philip W. Smith, for:

Greg P. Tippetts  
Olympia District Environmental Scientist

Concur: /s/ Stacy Mason  
Stacy Mason  
NEPA Compliance Officer

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## Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

**Name of Proposed Project:** Longview-Chehalis No. 3 Transmission Structure Footing Repair

**Work Order #:** 00351327

**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 Proposed action will occur within existing structure footprints in the cleared transmission line right-of-way. Project to only use existing access roads and landings, as-is. Confine disturbance to existing backfill around tower legs and footings.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 – Visual Impacts - existing facilities, in-kind	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):

Signed: /s/ Greg Tippetts

Date: 6/6/14

Greg P. Tippetts, KEPR/Olympia