

memorandum

DATE: July 14, 2014

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Scott Lissit-TEP-TPP-1
Project Manager

Proposed Action: Equipment Installations at Multiple Substations and Radio Facilities

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

B1.7 Electronic Equipment

Location: Multiple locations- see table.

<u>County</u>	<u>Site</u>
Benton, WA	Moxee Substation, Wautoma Substation
Clark, WA	Sifton Substation
Cowlitz, WA	Lexington Substation
Grant, WA	Vantage Substation
King, WA	Covington Substation, Raver Substation
Kittitas, WA	Easton Radio Control House, Schultz Substation
Pierce, WA	South Tacoma Substation
Skamania, WA	Augspurger Substation

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to install equipment in existing substations and radio control houses to improve communications that support network operations. New telecommunication equipment (including routers, switches, and Ethernet) and alternative current (AC) circuit breakers would be installed and fiber would be tested and spliced at all locations (Table 1). Racks and chargers would be installed, upgraded, or replaced in various locations, depending upon the condition of existing equipment (Table 1). Existing 48-volt lead acid batteries would be removed and replaced at all sites. Replaced lead acid batteries would be removed by a qualified contractor and the batteries would be transported to the hazardous and toxic material handling facility at BPA's Ross Complex for appropriate disposal and/or recycling. No structure alterations or ground disturbance would be required for the project.

Table 1: Activities Proposed for Each Site

Installation Site	Install Tele-communication Equipment and Fiber Splicing/Testing ¹	Install AC Circuit Breaker	Replace 48-volt Battery	Install Racks	Replace Charger
Augspurger Substation	X	X	X		X
Covington Substation	X	X	X	X	X
Easton Radio	X	X	X		
Lexington Substation	X	X	X	X	
Moxee Substation	X	X	X		X
Raver Substation	X	X	X	X	
Schultz Substation	X	X	X	X	X
Sifton Substation	X	X	X	X	
South Tacoma Substation	X	X	X	X	
Vantage Substation	X	X	X	X	X
Wautoma Substation	X	X	X		

¹ Includes routers, switches, and Ethernet

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/ Katey Grange
Katey Grange
Environmental Project Manager

Concur:

/s/ Stacy Mason
Stacy Mason
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: *July 14, 2014*

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Equipment Installations at Multiple Substations and Radio Facilities

Work Order #: 00351692

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. Threatened and endangered species or their habitats	<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 and safety Lead acid batteries would be removed by a qualified contractor and disposed of at BPA's Ross hazardous materials facility.	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed: /s/ Katey Grange

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