

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Grizzly Captain Jack Transmission Line Access Road Acquisition

Project Manager: Cathy Albrecht

Location: Klamath County, Oregon

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.24 Property Transfers

Description of the Proposed Action: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to acquire access road rights to an existing road (BPA access road number 156-010) in order to ensure permanent legal access to BPA's Grizzly-Captain Jack transmission line for operation and maintenance purposes.

BPA would acquire easements from four different land owners to reflect current BPA use of existing road. The easements would generally be 20 feet wide and there would be no road work or improvements associated with the property transfers.

Owner	Length of Road Section
Private	0.23 miles
Private	0.52 miles
State of Oregon	3.15 miles
Private	0.01 miles
Total	3.91 miles

Findings: In accordance with Section 1021.410(b) 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), BPA has determined that the proposed action:

- (1) fits within a class of actions listed in Appendix B of 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D (see attached Environmental Checklist);
- (2) does not present any extraordinary circumstances that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; and
- (3) has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion.

Based on these determinations, BPA finds that the proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

/s/ Claire McClory
Claire McClory

Concur:

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

Date: October 23, 2014

Attachment(s): Environmental Checklist

Categorical Exclusion Environmental Checklist

This checklist documents environmental considerations for the proposed project and explains why the project would not have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources and would meet other integral elements of the applied categorical exclusion.

Proposed Action: Grizzly-Captain Jack Transmission Line Access Road Acquisition

Project Site Description

The road is an existing graveled road across private and State of Oregon land.

Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

Environmental Resource Impacts	No Potential for Significance	No Potential for Significance, with Conditions
1. Historic and Cultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No ground disturbance proposed; acquisition of easement rights only.		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No ground disturbance proposed; acquisition of easement rights only.		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No ground disturbance proposed; acquisition of easement rights only.		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No ground disturbance proposed; acquisition of easement rights only.		
5. Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No ground disturbance proposed; acquisition of easement rights only.		
6. Wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u>		

No ground disturbance proposed; acquisition of easement rights only.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**



Explanation:

No ground disturbance proposed; acquisition of easement rights only.

8. **Land Use and Specially Designated Areas**



Explanation:

Acquisition of easement rights would not substantially change existing land use or ownership.

9. **Visual Quality**



Explanation:

No ground disturbance proposed; acquisition of easement rights only.

10. **Air Quality**



Explanation:

No ground disturbance proposed; acquisition of easement rights only.

11. **Noise**



Explanation:

No ground disturbance proposed; acquisition of easement rights only.

12. **Human Health and Safety**



Explanation:

No ground disturbance proposed; acquisition of easement rights only.

Evaluation of Other Integral Elements

The proposed project would also meet conditions that are integral elements of the categorical exclusion. The project would not:

- Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders.

Explanation, if necessary:

- Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators) that are not otherwise categorically excluded.

Explanation, if necessary:

- Disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases.

Explanation, if necessary:

- 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, such as those of the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Institutes of Health.

Explanation, if necessary:

Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination

Coordination and negotiations are occurring with landowners for easement rights. Landowners would be compensated for BPAs proposed use of their easement.

Based on the foregoing, this proposed project does not have the potential to cause significant impacts on any environmentally sensitive resources.

Signed: /s/ Claire McClory

Date: October 23, 2014