

# Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



**Proposed Action:** Aggregated Demand Response Pilot Program Agreement

**Project Manager:** Mark Miller, Account Executive – PTL-5

**Locations:** Throughout the BPA service territory in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B5.1 Actions to conserve energy or water; B4.4 Power marketing services and activities

**Description of the Proposed Action:** BPA proposes to enter into a short-term aggregated demand response pilot program agreement with EnerNOC, an energy-management services corporation. Under the terms of the agreement, EnerNOC would work with BPA to aggregate and dispatch demand response assets from loads served by BPA power customers. The pilot program would primarily focus on load reductions available at existing commercial and industrial facilities. These loads would be used to test a commercial aggregator's ability to respond to BPA's signals during demand response events and deliver capacity for balancing reserves and operational flexibility.

All demand response under the pilot program agreement would be provided from existing grid infrastructure and all generation sources used to serve loads would continue to operate within normal operating limits. Under the proposed agreement, participating facilities are not permitted to use on-site generation to provide load reductions. Communications and metering equipment necessary to participate in the program would be installed in previously disturbed or developed areas.

**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/ Jeffrey J. Maslow

Jeffrey J. Maslow

Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: January 26, 2015

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:** Aggregated Demand Response Pilot Program Agreement

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### Project Site Description

Commercial and industrial facilities throughout the BPA service territory.

### Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

Environmental Resource Impacts	No Potential for Significance	No Potential for Significance, with Conditions
1. <b>Historic and Cultural Resources</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No potential to affect historic and cultural resources.		
2. <b>Geology and Soils</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No potential to affect geology and soils.		
3. <b>Plants</b> (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No potential to affect plants.		
4. <b>Wildlife</b> (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No potential to affect wildlife.		
5. <b>Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish</b> (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No potential to affect water bodies, floodplains, and fish.		
6. <b>Wetlands</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No potential to affect wetlands.		

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**



Explanation: No potential to affect groundwater and aquifers.

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



Explanation: No potential to affect land use and specially designated areas.

9. **Visual Quality**



Explanation: No potential to affect visual quality.

10. **Air Quality**



Explanation: No potential to affect air quality.

11. **Noise**



Explanation: No potential to affect noise levels.

12. **Human Health and Safety**



Explanation: No potential to affect human health and safety.

### **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:

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**Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination**

Description: None required.

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

Signed: /s/ Jeffrey J. Maslow

Date: January 26, 2015