

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



Proposed Action: LURR 20150197 Vancouver Parking Area

Project Manager: Kara Campbell- TERR-3

Location: Clark County, WA

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.9 Multiple use of powerline rights-of-way

Description of the Proposed Action: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is proposing to approve land use review request 20150197, which would allow Section Pit 30, LLC and its owner Tapani Underground to develop approximately 12 acres on BPA fee-owned right-of-way (ROW). The parking area would be located parallel to NE 18th Street within BPA's N. Bonneville-Ross No. 1 and N. Bonneville-Ross No. 2 transmission line ROW, just east of structure 28/4 and NE 172nd Avenue in Vancouver, Washington. Section Pit 30, LLC would remove all vegetation, regrade, and pave the site. They would also to install security lighting, fence the perimeter, and install jersey barriers around BPA tower 28/3.

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/ Elizabeth Siping

Elizabeth Siping

Contract Environmental Protection Specialist

Adecco Engineering & Technical

Reviewed by:

/s/ Gene Lynard

Gene Lynard

Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: April 29, 2015

Attachments: 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.

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Project Site Description

The parking area would be located parallel to NE 18th Street under BPA's N. Bonneville-Ross No. 1 and N. Bonneville-Ross No. 2 lines, just east of structure 28/4 and NE 172nd Avenue in Vancouver, Washington. The proposed project area is approximately 12 acres of low lying grasses and forbs, without shrubs or trees, and has been cleared recently. Currently a portion of the site is used as access to the adjacent gravel pit. A portion of the proposed project area has gravel fill. There is a large berm that separates the project area from NE 18th Ave.

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> The proposed activities do not have the potential to affect historic or cultural resources. No historic properties are known to occur on or near the proposed site.		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> The project would impact approximately 12 acres in an area that has previously been disturbed.		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> Vegetation in the project area is maintained and currently consists of low lying grasses and forbs without shrubs or trees.		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> The project area is not suitable for wildlife habitat.		
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 water bodies, floodplains, or fish are present.		

6. **Wetlands**



Explanation: No wetlands are present.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**



Explanation: No new wells or use of groundwater proposed.

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



Explanation: The project area is currently mostly unused. The portion of the area in use is an access road to the adjacent gravel pit. There are no specially designated areas.

Mitigation: No hazardous materials will be stored in proposed area (e.g. herbicides, solvents, paints, etc.).

9. **Visual Quality**



Explanation: The parking area would be consistent with existing uses in the area.

10. **Air Quality**



Explanation: A small amount of dust and vehicle emissions during construction activities.

11. **Noise**



Explanation: Temporary increase in noise would occur during construction and minor long term increase in noise due to increased vehicles in the area.

12. **Human Health and Safety**



Explanation: Proposed activities will have no effect on 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:

Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination

Description: Not applicable.

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

Signed: /s/ Elizabeth Siping

Date: April 29, 2015