

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Snohomish-Murray structure 7/6 guywire relocation

PP&A No.: 3144

Project Manager: Jay Largo- TPCV-TPP-4

Location: Lake Stevens, Snohomish County, Washington

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.6 – Additions and modifications

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to relocate 2 guywires on structure 7/6 of the Snohomish-Murray 230-kV transmission line. The project is needed to accommodate new street access to a housing development proposed next to BPA's easement ROW. The only viable location for the access road requires relocation of two of the four guy wires attached to the wood H-frame pole structure. Relocation of the guys is needed to provide adequate clearance between the guy wires and the proposed access road. The two north side guywires would be shortened so they extend only 30-feet from the base of each respective pole.

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/ Phil Smith

Philip W. Smith

Manager-Technical & Regional Services, KEPR-4

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: March 25, 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.

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Project Site Description

Snohomish-Murray 230-kV transmission line structure 7/6 is located in Lake Stevens, Snohomish County, Washington.

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 known historical or cultural resources were identified in the SEPA checklist and Determination of Non-significance completed for development of the lot.		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> Work requires excavation for placement of guy anchors. BPA will employ necessary BMPs to prevent erosion and off-site transport of sediments.		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No federal or state special status species or habitats are present at the project site. Guy relocation would only impact area adjacent to structure. Character of site and adjacent area would be would be altered by construction of proposed residential development.		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No federal or state special status species or habitats are present at or near the project site.		
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 impacts to streams or their buffers would occur from moving the guywires. Appropriate BMPs to control run-off and respond to spills would be implemented.		

6. **Wetlands**

Explanation: None present near structure site and no conveyances to wetlands would be affected.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**

Explanation: No new wells or withdrawal of ground water proposed; maximum depth of disturbance would be less than 10-ft; spill prevention measures would be present on site.

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

Explanation: Adjacent area is to be developed for residential use. Movement of guys will not affect use of the ROW.

9. **Visual Quality**

Explanation: Project does not add any new elements to the visual appearance of the structure.

10. **Air Quality**

Explanation: No impact, except temporary localized increase in dust and exhaust due to equipment and vehicle use during relocation of guys.

11. **Noise**

Explanation: Temporary short term increase in noise from construction equipment at job site.

12. **Human Health and Safety**

Explanation: Relocation of the guys would not disturb or introduce any hazardous materials or create any health or safety concerns.

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: Control house batteries would be removed using BMPs to prevent accidental spills; equipment will be managed and disposed of in accordance with all applicable state and federal regulations.

- 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: Guys are being moved at request of the land developer.

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

Signed: /s/ Phil Smith
Manager, Technical and
Regional Services

Date: March 25, 2015