

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Pearl-Keeler No. 1 Transmission Line Property Sale and Construction Easement

Project Manager: James Clark – TERR-3

Location: Washington County, Oregon

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

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to sell about 415 square feet of its Pearl-Keeler No. 1 Transmission Line property to the City of Hillsboro to allow for expansion of the north side of SW Tualatin Valley Highway (TV Highway) in Washington County, Oregon. BPA would also grant the City a temporary construction easement and a permanent slope easement to allow for construction and expansion to take place. All property transfers and easement acquisitions would occur in mile 16 of the Pearl-Keeler No. 1 500-kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line right-of-way. Construction work for the highway expansion project would take place within an area that has been previously disturbed by commercial/industrial development and transmission line construction and operation.

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

Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: July 23, 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

The Pearl-Keeler No. 1 transmission line is located in Washington County, Oregon along existing BPA right-of-way. The sale and easement areas are within a completely paved area used for transportation and commercial/industrial business.

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"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> The sale has no potential to effect historic properties or cultural resources because the sale and easement areas are paved. No consultation is required.</p>		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> Minimal soil disturbance in area previously disturbed by development and construction.</p>		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> None present.</p>		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> None present.</p>		
5. Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> None present.</p>		
6. Wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u></p>		

None present.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**



Explanation:

None present.

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



Explanation:

BPA would sell property and easement rights in a developed area. Land use would remain unchanged.

9. **Visual Quality**



Explanation:

No change proposed.

10. **Air Quality**



Explanation:

Small amount of dust and vehicle emissions due to construction.

11. **Noise**



Explanation:

Temporary construction noise during daylight hours.

12. **Human Health and Safety**



Explanation:

None present.

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. All property transfers would occur on BPA fee-property.

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
Claire McClory

Date: July 23, 2015