

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Vantage Substation-Control House, Fire Detection and Alarm Installs

Project No.: P01210

Project Manager: Jody Solmonsson

Location: Vantage, Grant County WA

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B2.2 Building and equipment instrumentation

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA plans to install new fire detection and alarm system in the control house and maintenance building at the Vantage Substation. The substation buildings contain flammable materials and currently do not have fire detection or alarm systems.

The work would include installation of fire alarm panels, manual pull stations, duct smoke detectors, and horn/strobe lights. The new fire detection system would be linked between the buildings and the fire alarm panels would be tied to BPA's supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA)/Alarm Distribution Frame (ADF) panels.

The electrical work required to connect BPA's power panel to the fire alarm panels would include wiring, conduit, breaker, electrical fittings, junction boxes, and supports in accordance with National Electrical Safety Code (NESC). Damaged surfaces resulting from work would be patched and painted, and painting of repaired surfaces would match surrounding paint in color and grade.

Exterior work for the control house and maintenance would be limited to the mounting of horn strobes on the front and rear upper walls of the structures to notify personnel of a building fire. These units are red in color and are approximately 6X6 inches in size.

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/ Michael J. O'Connell

Michael J. O'Connell

Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Stacy L. Mason

Date: October 22, 2015

Stacy L. Mason

NEPA Compliance Officer

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 project site is located in BPA fee-owned property of Vantage substation in Grant County, Washington, approximately 2/3 mile east of the Columbia River. The hosting site consists of the rocked substation yard, transmission lines and associated structures, and graveled and paved areas for vehicle access and equipment storage. The fire detection and alarm system would be installed in the control house and maintenance building.

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> Because the work will be contained to interior of the buildings, result in no permanent exterior modification to the buildings, and result in no ground disturbing activities, BPA cultural resources staff determined that that this is a type of activity that would not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, per 36 CFR 800.3(a). The Section 106 review determination is <i>no potential to affect</i> .		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No ground-disturbing work is planned.		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> All work is contained in structures or small portions of the denuded substation yard.		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No potential disturbance from mainly interior work.		
5. Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> The work would not produce runoff of compromised quality.		
6. Wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> All work is contained in structures or small portions of the denuded substation yard.		

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**

Explanation: No potential disturbance from mainly interior work.

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

Explanation: All work is limited to the substation.

9. **Visual Quality**

Explanation: No potential disturbance from mainly interior work or the small exterior strobe/horns that will be rather inconspicuous other than during times of fire emergency and periodic emergency procedures testing.

10. **Air Quality**

Explanation: No potential degradation from mainly interior, and minor dust- or other pollutant-producing work. Interior air quality could be impacted due to the likely presence of asbestos in the maintenance building.

11. **Noise**

Explanation: No potential disturbance from mainly interior work or the small exterior strobe/horns that will be silent other than during times of fire emergency and periodic emergency procedures testing.

12. **Human Health and Safety**

Explanation: There is a likelihood of asbestos presence in the maintenance building and the possibility for the same in the control house.

Mitigation:

- ✓ Trained and experience workers in asbestos and lead paint abatement would perform duties with the potential disturb these materials during installation of fire detection system. Abatement would be conducted in accordance to State of Washington asbestos and lead regulations and OSHA regulations.
- ✓ Install barriers, enclosures, negative air machines, and other abatement structures needed for work.

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: The potential disturbance of asbestos in the facilities is very limited in scope and will be controlled by the mitigations set in place per the final contract and as described above in the Health and Human Safety environmental resource narrative. Off-site drift or trailing of particles is highly unlikely with the precautions described in place.

- 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: As the work is limited to existing structures that are fully located on BPA fee-owned property and there are no houses or business in the vicinity, no notification or coordination was initiated.

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

Signed: /s/ Michael J. O'Connell
Michael J. O'Connell

Date: October 22, 2015