

# Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



**Proposed Action:** South Fork Walla Walla House demolition

**Project No.:** 1983-435-00

**Project Manager:** T. Yerxa, EWP-4

**Location:** Umatilla County, Oregon

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B.2.5 Facility safety and environmental improvements

**Description of the Proposed Action:** BPA proposes to provide funds to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) to demolish a vacant modular house at the South Fork Walla Walla Adult Holding & Spawning Facility in Umatilla County, Oregon.

The modular house, including the concrete slab underlying the house, would be removed and the existing septic tank and drain field would be decommissioned and left in place. All materials would be removed from the site and disposed of at a local landfill. Ground disturbance areas associated with the house removal would be leveled and seeded.

**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/ Katey Grange

Katey Grange

Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Stacy L. Mason

Stacy L. Mason

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: December 27, 2016

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 house is located between the South Fork Walla Walla River (about 350 feet away) and South Fork Walla Walla Road (about 80 feet away). The house site is separated from the river by the paved South Fork Walla Walla Adult Holding & Spawning facility and the structure is surrounded by residential lawn and ornamental trees.

### Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

Environmental Resource Impacts	No Potential for Significance	No Potential for Significance, with Conditions
<p>1. <b>Historic and Cultural Resources</b></p> <p><u>Explanation:</u> The proposed activities do not have the potential to affect historic or cultural resources. No historic properties or cultural resources are known to occur on the proposed site.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>2. <b>Geology and Soils</b></p> <p><u>Explanation:</u> Concrete excavation would occur within a previously-disturbed house footprint. Minimal soil disturbance outside of the house footprint would occur. Disturbance areas would be leveled and seeded upon house removal.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>3. <b>Plants</b> (including federal/state special-status species)</p> <p><u>Explanation:</u> No special-status species are present. No vegetation removal is proposed.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>4. <b>Wildlife</b> (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)</p> <p><u>Explanation:</u> No special-status wildlife species are present.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>5. <b>Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish</b> (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)</p> <p><u>Explanation:</u> House removal would occur about 350 feet from the South Fork Walla Walla River. Erosion control devices would be used as needed and the house would be separated from the river by asphalt driveways and other buildings. Therefore, it is not anticipated that any contaminants (such as sediment) would reach the river from the house demo.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. **Wetlands**

Explanation: None present.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**

Explanation: No groundwater would be used. The septic tank and drain field would be decommissioned by a licensed septic professional in accordance with county and state requirements.

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

Explanation: The house removal would result in the site being more consistent with adjacent hatchery land uses. The facility is not in a specially designated area.

9. **Visual Quality**

Explanation: The landscape would be visually consistent with the surrounding area and would not be located in a visually sensitive area.

10. **Air Quality**

Explanation: A small amount of temporary dust and vehicle emissions would be generated during construction. Dust control measures would be implemented during removal if needed.

11. **Noise**

Explanation: Temporary construction noise would be generated during daylight hours.

12. **Human Health and Safety**

Explanation: No oil tanks are present at the house. All removal materials would be disposed of at a local, landfill. No asbestos is present in the house.

### 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: No oil tanks are present at the house. All removal materials would be disposed of at a local, landfill. No asbestos is present.

- 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: The CTUIR operates and manages the facility, which includes the house.

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

Signed: /s/ Katey Grange

Date: December 27, 2016

Katey Grange

Environmental Protection Specialist