

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Columbia Sportswear Parking Lot

LURR No.: 20100511

Project Manager: Jill Nystrom, TERR-3

Location: Washington County, Oregon

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: BPA proposes to allow Columbia Sportswear Company to construct a new gravel parking lot on BPA property under two BPA transmission lines in Beaverton, Oregon. The parking lot would be located between structures 9/1 and 9/2 of the Oregon City-Stub C transmission line and structures 8/1 and 8/2 of the Keeler-Oregon City No. 2 transmission line. The gravel parking lot would be approximately 100 feet wide by 288 feet long and accommodate up to 77 vehicles. The lot would have a vegetative buffer along three sides and a bioswale along two sides of the lot for stormwater mitigation purposes according to the local stormwater jurisdictional authority, Clean Water Services (CWS).

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/ Becky Hill

Becky Hill

Contract Environmental Protection Specialist

Flux Resources, LLC

Reviewed by:

/s/ Gene Lynard

Gene Lynard

Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Stacy L. Mason

Stacy L. Mason

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: February 24, 2017

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 to environmentally sensitive resources and would meet other integral elements of the applied categorical exclusion.

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Project Site Description

The proposed project area is in a BPA transmission line corridor that is currently maintained for low-growing vegetation, comprised of native and non-native grasses, tansy ragwort, thistle, false Queen Anne's lace, dandelion, and low growing blackberry shrubs that have been regularly mowed. An unnamed paved access road is located to the south and a gravel parking lot is located to the north. The general area has several Columbia Sportswear Company buildings, parking lots corporate offices, industrial buildings, and apartment buildings to the east and west. Highway 26 is located approximately 500 feet south of the project area.

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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> The BPA archaeologist initiated Section 106 consultation with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde on October 23, 2015.</p> <p>BPA determined that No Historic Properties would be affected as a result of the proposed undertaking. SHPO concurred with this determination on January 4, 2016. No response was received from the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians or the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.</p> <p>Should any cultural resources be discovered during project activities, then all project work must stop, and the EC lead should be notified immediately.</p>		
2. Geology and Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> Columbia Sportswear Company shall be responsible for assessing and appropriately disposing, according to State and Federal Law, of any strippings, spoils or other waste materials produced by the installation of the parking lot.</p> <p>Should the parking lot no longer be needed by Columbia Sportswear Company, then the site would be restored to pre-project baseline conditions or better. During restoration, portions of the parking area surface and infiltration catchments may need to be landfilled due to fluid drips from vehicles.</p> <p>Contaminated fill must not be imported onto the site. Upon restoration completion, the soil would be tested again by an independent consultant in coordination with BPA Environmental Protection to ensure the lot was returned to pre-existing conditions. At minimum, screening samples on a 20 ft. by 20 ft. grid for petroleum products (oil contamination tests) methodologies shall be used unless additional contamination due to the parking lot is suspected. Apex Laboratories and Test America are two local analytical services that can perform these tests on appropriately collected and iced samples. These results would be furnished to BPA's Environmental Protection contact.</p>		

3. **Plants** (including federal/state special-status species)

Explanation: There are no documented occurrences of any plants listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in the project area; therefore, the proposed project would not have an effect on ESA-listed plant species.

Existing vegetation that would be removed for the parking lot would include native and non-native grasses, tansy ragwort, thistle, false Queen Anne's lace, dandelion, and low growing blackberry shrubs

Columbia Sportswear Company consulted BPA on their proposed planting list and BPA offered suggestions on plants and shrubs that should be included in the landscaping plan to accommodate the Department of Energy pollinator initiative, yet abide by BPA's vegetation height restrictions to prevent conductor interference concerns.

4. **Wildlife** (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)

Explanation: Disruption of normal wildlife behavior may occur from temporary elevated noise and human presence.

The project area is characterized as low quality wildlife habitat consisting of low growing native and non-native grasses and blackberry shrubs, situated between industrial buildings, busy streets and parking lots.

There are no documented occurrences of any wildlife species listed under the ESA in the project area; therefore, the proposed project would not have an effect on ESA-listed wildlife species.

Upon termination of the agreement, by either property, Columbia Sportswear Company would be responsible for restoring the site to pre-existing habitat conditions.

5. **Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish** (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)

Explanation: There are no water bodies or fish present on or near the project site.

Columbia Sportswear Company will obtain necessary permits relating to water quality from Clean Water Services prior to construction activities, including a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for construction activities, as well as any other permits from other jurisdictional entities related to stormwater management. During and after construction activities, Columbia Sportswear Company and its delegates shall follow erosion and sediment control measures to prevent transport of sediment offsite. A Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Specialist or Certified Professional In Sediment and Erosion Control should be part of the erosion and sediment control planning. Columbia Sportswear Company will be responsible for paying annual stormwater management fees.

6. **Wetlands**

Explanation: No wetlands are present in the project area and best management practices (BMPs) would be implemented for temporary erosion and sediment control; therefore, no wetlands would be impacted by the project.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**

Explanation: No new wells or use of groundwater are proposed.

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

Explanation: There are no specially-designated areas in the project vicinity and Columbia Sportswear Company must obtain necessary permits relating to land use prior to construction activities from Washington County's

Land Use and Transportation departments, and any other jurisdictional entities related to land use.

9. **Visual Quality**



Explanation: The BPA right-of-way to the north of structures 9/1 and 8/1 is already being used as a gravel parking lot for the nearby apartment complex. The conversion of this project site to a gravel parking lot would not significantly change the visual quality of the area.

10. **Air Quality**



Explanation: Temporary dust and vehicle emissions would increase in the local area during construction activities. The applicant would implement BMPs to reduce emissions and dust levels.

11. **Noise**



Explanation: Temporary noise increase in the local area during construction activities. The applicant would implement BMPs to reduce noise.

12. **Human Health and Safety**



Explanation: No impacts to human health or 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: Columbia Sportswear Company and its contractors have been working with Clean Water Services and the Washington County Land Use and Transportation departments to secure necessary planning and construction permits.

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

Signed: /s/ Becky Hill

Becky Hill, ECT-4
Contract Environmental Protection Specialist
Flux Resources, LLC

Date: February 24, 2017