

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



Proposed Action: North Bend Maintenance Headquarters Upgrades

Project No.: P01482

Project Manager: Dana Houston-Jackson, TEP-CSB-2

Location: Coos County, Oregon

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.11 Electric Power Substations and Interconnection Facilities

Description of the Proposed Action: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to update and maintain facilities at the North Bend Maintenance Headquarters (MHQ). Project activities include, but are not limited to:

- Retrofit the MHQ and vehicle storage buildings to meet current seismic standards
- Anchor fuel and water tanks to meet seismic standards
- Replace MHQ building windows and siding; install a new roof and a new HVAC system
- Install temporary modular trailer(s) adjacent to the MHQ building for displaced BPA workers to use during MHQ building upgrades
- Trench electrical cables underground to supply utilities to the temporary modular trailer(s)
- Remove temporary storage shed
- Remodel interior of MHQ building and renovate for a new telecommunications room and associated equipment

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/ Sarah T. Biegel

Sarah T. Biegel
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: January 18, 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 on environmentally sensitive resources and would meet other integral elements of the applied categorical exclusion.

Proposed Action: North Bend Maintenance Headquarters Upgrades

Project Site Description

The North Bend Maintenance Headquarters (MHQ) is located approximately 3.5 miles north of the town of Coos Bay, Oregon on the southern Oregon coast. The Pacific Coast Highway 101 is approximately 450 feet to the west of the MHQ facility, and an elementary school is located approximately 430 feet to the east. Rural residences, undeveloped forested lands, and industrial complexes surround the BPA fee-owned parcel where the North Bend MHQ is located. The Pacific Ocean and the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area are located immediately west of Highway 101.

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> The BPA archaeologist determined on January 3, 2017, that the proposed action does not have the potential to impact historic properties. The BPA Historian reviewed the proposed undertaking on December 13, 2016, and also determined that the proposed activities have no potential to cause effects to historic properties; therefore, no Section 106 cultural consultation was required.		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> Soil disturbance during construction activities would be in previously disturbed area.		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> 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.		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> There are no documented occurrences of any wildlife species listed under the ESA, nor is there suitable habitat for any ESA-listed wildlife species or designated critical habitat in the project area. Therefore, the proposed project would not have an effect on ESA-listed wildlife species or designated critical habitat.		
5. Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> There are no water bodies or floodplains present within the project area; however, a freshwater pond is located approximately 1,000 feet southwest of the project area boundary line. Best management practices (BMPs) would be implemented to control any temporary erosion or sediment resulting from project		

activities. Therefore, water bodies, floodplains, and fish would not be impacted.

6. **Wetlands**

Explanation: There are no wetlands present within the project area; however, a freshwater forested/shrub wetland is located approximately 115 feet east of the project area boundary line. BMPs would be implemented to control any temporary erosion or sediment resulting from project activities. Therefore, wetlands would not be impacted.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**

Explanation: No potential to effect groundwater and aquifers. Potential trenching activities would not reach groundwater depths below the ground's surface.

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

Explanation: No change to existing land use.

9. **Visual Quality**

Explanation: No significant impacts to visual quality of the existing substation infrastructure.

10. **Air Quality**

Explanation: Temporary dust and vehicle emissions during construction activities.

11. **Noise**

Explanation: Temporary increase in ambient noise levels during construction activities.

12. **Human Health and Safety**

Explanation: No impact 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: North Bend Substation is BPA fee-owned land. No landowner coordination necessary.

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

Contract Environmental Protection Specialist

Flux Resources, LLC

Date: January 18, 2017