



# U.S. Department of Energy

## Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Submit by E-mail

Proposed Action Title: Mead Substation Urgent Waterline Replacement

Program or Field Office: Western Area Power Administration - Desert Southwest Region

Location(s) (City/County/State): Boulder City, Clark County, Nevada

Proposed Action Description:

Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) proposes to install a new 3100-foot-long, three-inch-diameter water line and abandon the old one in place at Mead Substation at 2051 Buchanan Boulevard, Boulder City, Clark County, Nevada. WAPA administers the land. This urgent work is needed to restore water service to this staffed substation and to maintain the safety and reliability of the bulk electric system.

Workers would dig a narrow, 18-inch-deep trench to install the new pipes between the control valve at the northwest corner of the property and the Service Building. Workers would excavate a three-foot by three-foot area to make connections at the valve box and at the Service Building. The new waterline route would parallel within 20 feet existing fences or roads as well as existing buried utilities. Workers would backfill excavations upon completion. WAPA plans to conduct this work as soon as possible. The work is expected to take four to five weeks to complete.

See attached continuation sheet for special conditions.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B1.3 - Routine maintenance

For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Subpart D of [10 CFR Part 1021](#).

Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410(b): (See full text in regulation)

The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D.

To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities; (3) 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; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) 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 listed in paragraph B(5) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B.

There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1B), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA Compliance Officer: *Sean Berry (Acting)*

Date Determined: *5/26/17*

## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CONTINUATION SHEET

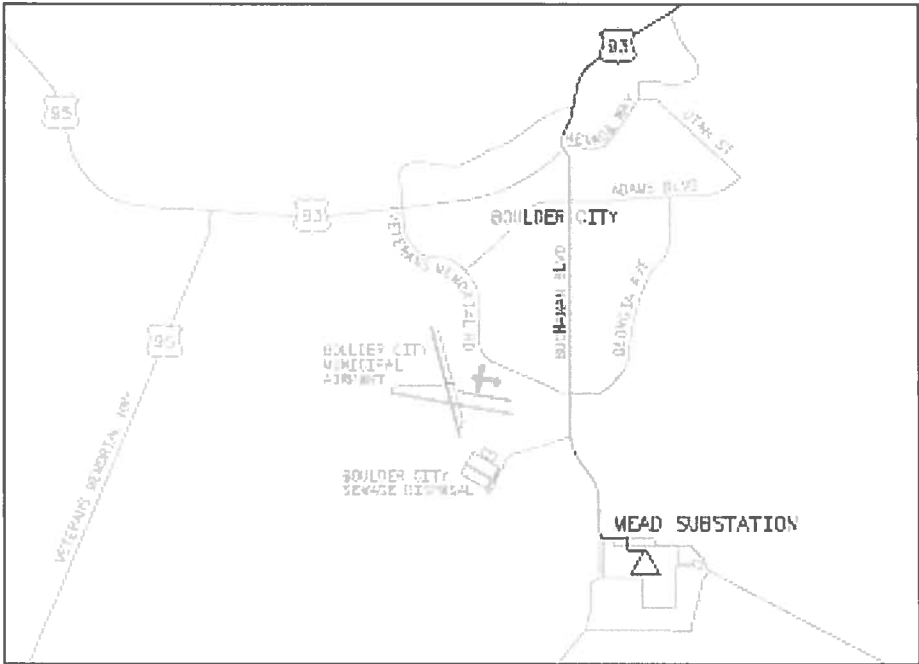
### Mead Substation: Urgent Waterline Replacement

#### Special Conditions:

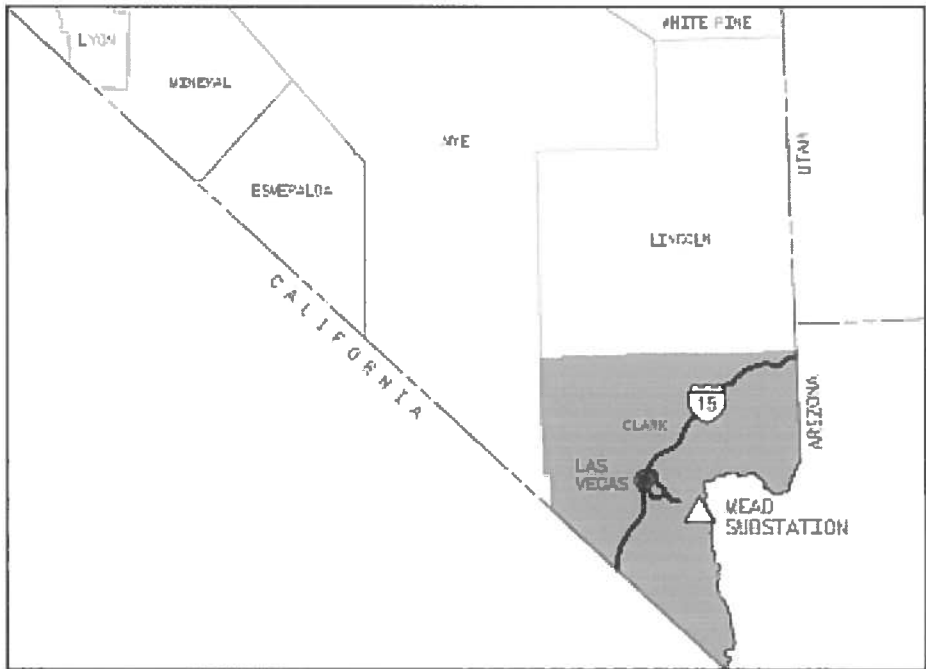
1. Coordination
  - a. WAPA's Project Engineer will provide the Environmental Manger with a schedule for the proposed work so that the Environmental Manager can arrange for any needed environmental treatments.
  - b. WAPA and Construction Contractor field personal shall attend a WAPA-supplied pre-work environmental awareness training to ensure that workers are familiar with sensitive resources and treatment measures.
2. Compliance
  - a. **GENERAL:** Ensure that work activities and the operation of equipment are undertaken to reduce the emission of air pollutants. Contractor shall complete and submit a Dust Control Operating Permit (DCOP) Application plus pay any permit fees to Clark County Department of Air Quality (DAQ) before construction activities begin within Clark County. Submit the appropriate fee (depending on total surface area disturbed) with your DCOP Application. A copy of the application and Dust Control permit will need to be submitted to the COR 14 days prior to the start of work. For application form or need additional information check Clark County DAQ online website at [http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/airquality/compliance/Pages/Compliance\\_DustForms.aspx](http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/airquality/compliance/Pages/Compliance_DustForms.aspx)
  - b. **MACHINERY AIR EMISSIONS:** The Contractor's machinery shall have, and shall use air emissions control devices required by Federal, State or Local Regulation or ordinance.
  - c. **PERMITS:** The Contractor shall submit copies of permits, Dust Mitigation plan, and forms, approved by the appropriate regulating agencies, to the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) 14 days prior to the start of work.
  - d. **DUST ABATEMENT:** Dust shall be controlled as listed in the Clark County's Air Quality Regulations Section 94. The Contractor shall be familiar with Section 94. Oil shall not be used as a dust suppressant. Dust suppressants shall be approved by the COR prior to use.
3. Biology
  - a. At the end of each work day, the Contractor shall fence, cover, or fill excavations greater than one-foot-deep. Alternately, the Contractor must provide escape ramps (1:1 slope) in open excavations to prevent the entrapment of wildlife. The Contractor shall inspect open excavations for entrapped wildlife before excavations are filled. Any entrapped animals will be allowed to escape voluntarily before activities resume, or they may be removed by qualified personnel, under the direction of the Contracting Officers Representative (COR), by a qualified Biologist possessing the appropriate handling permit(s), if necessary.
  - b. At the end of each work day, workers will remove food-related trash from the worksite in closed containers for disposal. Workers will not feed wildlife.
  - c. Work activities located outside of fenced facilities will be scheduled between November 1 and February 28, as feasible to avoid conflicts with Mojave desert tortoise.
  - d. A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)-approved Authorized desert tortoise biologist will be onsite during all ground-disturbing project activities during the active desert tortoise season (March 1- October 31). At other times, a qualified biological monitor may be present.
  - e. The biologist(s) shall conduct pre-construction surveys for Mojave desert tortoise in suitable habitat. The biologist(s) shall survey all work areas, including staging/laydown areas and access routes.
  - f. Tortoise burrows and other sensitive features identified during the pre-construction survey shall be flagged and monitored by the biologist for avoidance.
  - g. Tortoises discovered to be in imminent danger during work activities may only be moved out of harm's way by an Authorized tortoise biologist and following the terms of WAPA's

*Programmatic Biological Opinion for O&M Activities (2015)*. Desert tortoises shall be handled only by qualified individuals following recognized protocol (USFWS 2009, or current revisions).

- h. Prior to starting operations each day in project areas which are not totally enclosed by tortoise-proof fencing and cattle guards, WAPA and any contract personnel shall be responsible for conducting a desert tortoise inspection in coordination with the AB or biological monitor using techniques approved by the USFWS. The inspection will determine if any desert tortoises are present in the following locations:
    - (1) Around and under all equipment;
    - (2) In and around all routes of ingress and egress; and
    - (3) In and around all other areas where the operation might expand to during that day.
    - (4) If a tortoise is discovered during this inspection or later in the day, the operator will immediately cease all operations in the immediate vicinity of the tortoise and will immediately notify the biologist.
  - i. Overnight parking and storage of equipment and materials, including stockpiling, will occur in previously-disturbed areas or areas to be disturbed that have been cleared by the on-site biologist. If not possible, areas for overnight parking and storage of equipment will be designated by Western based on recommendations of a qualified desert tortoise biologist.
  - j. Work-related vehicles shall be restricted to designated access routes and approved worksites. Vehicle speeds will not exceed 25 mph on access and maintenance roads, and 20 mph on unimproved access routes. Work vehicles and equipment will be parked on pavement, existing roads, and previously disturbed areas, to the maximum extent feasible
4. Cultural
- a. Upon discovery of suspected archaeological materials or human remains, workers shall halt work within 50 feet of the discovery, protect the discovery location, and contact WAPA's Environmental Manager or other designated point of contact. WAPA will investigate the discovery and consult with consulting parties as appropriate.



VICINITY MAP



COUNTY MAP