

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Pierce County Jail Commercial HVAC Efficiency Pumping System Retrofit

Project Manager: Wesley Saway

Location: Tacoma, WA

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B5.1 Actions to conserve energy or water

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA is proposing to fund Tacoma Power to replace Pierce County Jail's existing HVAC heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) pumping system with a more efficient system. BPA's Energy Efficiency Emerging Technologies program is funding this project to further its energy conservation efforts in the region, as directed by the Northwest Power Council's Seventh Power Plan, and to research the cost effectiveness of this energy conservation measure. Results from this project will inform BPA's decision whether to issue a region-wide offering of retrofits in 2018 to further energy conservation efforts. Tacoma Power would install a Commercial HVAC Efficiency Pumping System (CHEPS) in the Pierce County Jail, located at Tacoma Avenue, South, Tacoma, Washington; Pierce County, the owner of the jail, is a customer of Tacoma Power. All work would occur within the existing jail structure and no impacts to previously undisturbed areas would be required. Tacoma Power will work in partnership with Pierce County to oversee the HVAC removal and installation.

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/ Jennifer A. Corwin

Jennifer A. Corwin

Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Stacy L. Mason
Stacy L. Mason
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: August 9, 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: Pierce County Jail Commercial HVAC Efficiency Pumping System Retrofit

Project Site Description

All work would occur within the existing Pierce County Jail.

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> No subsurface disturbance is proposed. In addition, The building was constructed over a three year period from 2000-2003, and, therefore, is not considered an historic or cultural resource.		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> All work will occur inside the prison structure and has no potential to affect geology and soils.		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> All work will occur inside the prison structure and has no potential to affect plants.		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> All work will occur inside the prison structure and has no potential to affect wildlife.		
5. Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> All work will occur inside the prison structure and has no potential to affect water bodies, floodplains, and fish.		
6. Wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> All work will occur inside the prison structure and has no potential to affect wetlands.		
7. Groundwater and Aquifers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> All work will occur inside the prison structure and has no potential to affect groundwater and aquifers.		

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

Explanation: All work will occur inside the prison structure and will not alter land use or affect specially-designated areas.

9. **Visual Quality**

Explanation: All work will occur inside the prison structure and has no potential to affect visual quality.

10. **Air Quality**

Explanation: All work will occur inside the prison structure. Pierce County, the landowner overseeing the installation of the CHEPS, will ensure compliance with all safety and health regulations.

11. **Noise**

Explanation: Noise impacts would be temporary and typical of general equipment installation. In addition, Pierce County, will ensure compliance with all noise regulations.

12. **Human Health and Safety**

Explanation: Pierce County, the landowner overseeing the installation of the CHEPS is responsible for ensuring compliance with all safety and health regulations and that all waste is disposed of properly in accordance with Federal, state, and local laws, regulations, zoning ordinances.

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: Tacoma Power has and will continue to coordinate with Pierce County on project development and implementation.

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

Signed: /s/ Jennifer A. Corwin

Jennifer A. Corwin

Environmental Protection Specialist

Date: August 9, 2017