



U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

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Proposed Action Title:

Senator Wash Pumping-Generating Plant Transformer Replacement Project and Structural Foundation Repair

Program or Field Office: Western Area Power Administration, Desert Southwest Regional Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): Imperial County, CA

Proposed Action Description:

Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) Desert Southwest Region (DSW) proposes to replace an existing electrical transformer with a new updated transformer and repair and replace cracked structural foundations located within the Senator Wash Pumping-Generating Plant adjacent to the Colorado River in Imperial County, CA.

Senator Wash Pumping-Generating Plant is owned by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Specific components for this transformer replacement include: 1) Remove existing transformer and associated electrical equipment, 2) Install new transformer and accompanying electrical equipment, 3) Add communications equipment, 4) Remove a portion of a concrete slab and widen the existing concrete oil containment system to accommodate new transformer placement, and 5) Remove and replace the existing concrete foundations of associated structures within the pumping-generating plant. Minor trenching to place a new electrical conduit from the new transformer to the existing control building will occur. Excavation will take place to widen the the oil containment system. The existing foundations of the associated structures will also be excavated and new concrete foundations will be poured in place.

Please see attachment sheet:

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:

Date Determined:

4.4.18

Senator Wash Pumping-Generating Plant Transformer Replacement Project and Structural Foundation Repair Categorical Exclusion Continuation Sheet

The old transformer and associated equipment will be drained of oil prior to moving the equipment off site. All work will be confined within the pumping-generating plant fenced yard.

Both oil and equipment will be properly disposed of at recycle centers.

The work is anticipated to start in fall 2018 by WAPA DSW contractors.

Biological Concerns

Ground disturbing activities would be minimal and confined to previously disturbed areas within the pumping-generating plant.

Cultural Resource Concerns

No potential to cause effects (36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)) Covered under SNR 2010 PA Stipulation II and Appendix B.I.A.1. Minor excavation down to 2-foot depth will occur to replace a portion of the concrete slab and expand and widen the existing oil containment system. Excavation down to 4-foot depth will occur to remove structural foundations and replace them with newer ones.

Environmental Compliance and Hazardous Materials Concerns

This pumping-generating plant is adjacent to a water source (Colorado River) therefore, WAPA DSW Environmental will take necessary actions to properly dispose of the oil, oil-filled bushings, and mechanical relays associated with the old transformer. WAPA DSW Operations & Maintenance will construct a secondary containment area, remove and place the transformer bushings and any other associated oil-filled equipment into the secondary containment area prior to draining the oil.

All oil will be drained before removing any equipment off site. All DSW contractors shall adhere and comply with Project Specifications Division 13 Environmental Quality Protection.

No in-water work will take place.

bcc.

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