

# Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



**Proposed Action:** Environmental Sampling and Remediation within the Ross-Vancouver Shipyard Transmission Line Corridor

**LURR No.:** 20180169

**Project Manager:** Dawneen Dostert, TERR-ROSS-MHQA

**Location:** Clark County, Washington

**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:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to allow Al Angelo Company, its related entities, and its environmental contractors to perform environmental sampling and remediation actions on BPA fee-owned property near structure 4/4 of the Ross-Vancouver Shipyard No. 1 transmission line. The purpose of this work is to mitigate an underground gasoline storage tank leak. An underground storage tank on the opposite side of Falk Road (Vancouver, Washington), at the site of a former gas station, leaked and migrated underground into BPA property. There are three phases to address the problem.

The environmental contractor proposes to use a direct push drill rig to drill temporary boring holes to sample the quality of soil and groundwater in a shallow aquifer on BPA's property. If the soil is soggy, the drill rig would be situated on mats to prevent rutting in the soil. The borings would be up to 35 feet deep and up to 6 inches in diameter. Once the samples are extracted for study, the holes would be backfilled with bentonite soil. Subsequent soil and water samples, utilizing the same direct drill methods, may be required in future years, and are included in this project description, so long as they occur within the predetermined project area.

If the soil and water samples subsequently reveal that contaminants remain, then an environmental contractor would treat the area by injecting a remediation solution into the soil and groundwater over the course of a week to a month. The injections would be 6 and 25 feet deep up to 6 inches in diameter. Compliance monitoring with additional borings (6 to 25 feet deep and up to 6 inches in diameter) would continue onsite for up to 2 years after the injection of the remediation product.

After completing the compliance monitoring activities and a No Further Action determination is issued to Al Angelo Company and its related entities by the Washington Pollution Liability Insurance Agency, then the monitoring wells' casings would be pulled out and the holes filled with bentonite. Alternatively, the well casings could be left in-place and backfilled with bentonite and/or grouted. No excavation would be required to perform the monitoring well decommissioning activities.

**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/ David K. Kennedy FOR

Gene Lynard  
Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Stacy L. Mason

Stacy L. Mason  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: May 31, 2018

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:** Environmental Sampling and Remediation within the Ross-Vancouver Shipyard Transmission Line Corridor

---

### Project Site Description

This project is located between structure 4/3 of the Ross-Vancouver Shipyard No. 1 transmission line and East Fourth Plain Blvd., in Vancouver, Washington. The site is located within a BPA corridor that is managed for low growing vegetation. The corridor also contains the North Bonneville-Ross No. 2 and No. 1 transmission lines. A paved recreational trail, lined with wood bollards and heavy cable, wind through the corridor. Linda Lane passes under the transmission lines. The project area is surrounded by local businesses, suburban residences and occasional parks and undeveloped areas with mature trees. No wetlands or water bodies are located within the project area.

### Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

Environmental Resource Impacts	No Potential for Significance	No Potential for Significance, with Conditions
1. <b>Historic and Cultural Resources</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> On May 18, 2018, the BPA archaeologist determined that this undertaking would not have the potential to cause effects on historic properties. Therefore, Section 106 consultation was not initiated.</p> <p>Should cultural deposits be encountered during construction activities, work shall halt immediately, and the BPA archaeologist should be notified and suitable action to protect the resources would be taken.</p>		
2. <b>Geology and Soils</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> Soil cores would be placed in steel 55-gallon drums and placed at the gas station property across the street. The drums would be transported to a regulated landfill for disposal. Boring holes would be backfilled with bentonite soil.</p>		
3. <b>Plants</b> (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> There are no documented occurrences of any plant species 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.</p>		
4. <b>Wildlife</b> (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> 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.</p>		
5. <b>Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish</b> (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Explanation: There are no water bodies, floodplains, or fish present within the project area; therefore, no water bodies, floodplains, or fish would be impacted by project activities.

6. **Wetlands**

Explanation: There are no wetlands within the project area; therefore, no wetlands would be impacted by project activities.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**

Explanation: The project area is within the Environmental Protection Agency's Region 10 Troutdale Sole Source Aquifer System area. However, the borings would only be up to 35 feet deep below the ground's surface, which is within a shallow aquifer that is not used for irrigation or drinking water purposes. The boring would not punch through the aquifer's deeper confining layer, thus preventing the migration of contamination to deeper aquifers. BMPs would be implemented.

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

Explanation: No specially designated areas are located within the project area, and no land use changes are proposed.

9. **Visual Quality**

Explanation: There are no visual resource changes proposed with this project; therefore, no changes to the visual quality of the area are anticipated.

10. **Air Quality**

Explanation: Temporary dust and emissions would increase in the local area during project activities.

11. **Noise**

Explanation: Temporary noise would increase in the local area during project activities.

12. **Human Health and Safety**

Explanation: Project activities do not present a risk of danger to human health and safety. A Materials Safety Data Sheet for the remediation product to be injecting into the aquifer was received and reviewed by BPA's environmental staff.

### **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: Al Angelo Company, its related entities, and its environmental contractors are responsible for coordinating and complying with EPA requirements and the work would prevent uncontrolled or unpermitted releases of gasoline.

- 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: Al Angelo Company, its related entities, and its environmental contractors are responsible for coordinating with adjacent landowners, as appropriate.

---

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: May 31, 2018