

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Ross Complex Barn Removal

Project Manager: Kevin Briggs – NWM-1

Location: Clark County, WA

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.23 Demolition and disposal of buildings

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to remove an abandoned horse pull barn that is located at BPA's Ross Complex. The horse pull barn structure is a remnant of when the land functioned as a mule farm prior to BPA ownership. The structure is approximately 1,000 sq. ft in area, contains no interior walls, is supported by a partial concrete partial dirt foundation, is overgrown with vegetation, is structurally unsound and does not have historical significance according to BPA's historian. The footprint of the building will be restored with hydroseed after the building has been removed.

All demolition and site restoration activities will be done using existing roads and ground disturbing activities will remain within the footprint of the existing structure.

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/ Michael Henjum

Michael Henjum
Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Stacy L. Mason

Stacy L. Mason
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: October 30, 2018

Attachment: 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: Ross Complex Barn Removal

Project Site Description

The project area is a former mule farm located adjacent to Minnehaha Ave on the North side of BPA's Ross Complex in Vancouver, WA. The land is flat, contains low growing vegetation and an abandoned horse pull barn that is approximately 1,000 sq. ft in size. The structure is not sound and needs to be removed. Adjacent to the barn structure is a BPA steel lattice tower, structure 1/3 of the Ross-Lexington-1 230-kV transmission line.

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"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> BPA's archaeologist and historian determined that the proposed action would have no potential to impact to historical properties or cultural resources. A field visit was performed on 10/23/2018 to confirm this determination.</p> <p><u>Note:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Treat potential discoveries of archeological materials with the 'inadvertent discovery' guidelines: Stop work, contact BPA ECT lead and BPA ECC archeologist for further notifications, and ensure integrity of site and materials until further instructions. 		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> The project area is flat and all exposed soils will be immediately stabilized with hydroseed after the horse pull barn has been removed. Other construction BMPs will be required, as necessary, to mitigate against onsite erosion and offsite sediment transport.</p>		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> This project will not impact existing vegetation as only the building demolition will occur. Also, no T&E species are documented to exist near the project area.</p>		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> The project area is adjacent to mostly developed land on the North side of BPA's Ross Complex. Impacts to wildlife is not anticipated as a result of the demolition of this horse pull barn structure.</p>		
5. Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> No waterbodies exist within the project area. The closest waterbody is Cold Creek, located several hundred feet to the south of the project area; the land between the creek and the project area is flat and well vegetated and will not be impacted by this project.</p>		

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| 6. Wetlands | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <u>Explanation:</u> No wetlands are present or in close proximity to the project area. | | |
| 7. Groundwater and Aquifers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <u>Explanation:</u> Construction BMPs will be required, as necessary, to mitigate against onsite erosion and offsite sediment transport. No impacts to groundwater or aquifers is anticipated. | | |
| 8. Land Use and Specially Designated Areas | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <u>Explanation:</u> The project area is located within BPA's Ross Complex and removal of the structurally unstable building would be consistent with existing land use. There are no specially designated areas. | | |
| 9. Visual Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <u>Explanation:</u> The project area is adjacent to Minnehaha Ave, BPA's Ross MHQ and a 230-kV steel lattice transmission tower. Removal of the abandoned, run-down building will not negatively impact the visual quality of the area. | | |
| 10. Air Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <u>Explanation:</u> A small amount of dust and vehicle emissions may occur during demolition. | | |
| 11. Noise | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <u>Explanation:</u> A temporary increase in noise would occur during daylight hours during demolition. | | |
| 12. Human Health and Safety | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <u>Explanation:</u> This project will require the review and approval of a site specific safety plan which will keep construction personnel and potential public bystanders safe during the short term project demolition phase. Also, an asbestos mitigation plan has already been provided to the project team and must be strictly followed. No long term impacts to human health and safety is anticipated. | | |

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: All work would be conducted on BPA property and adjacent landowners would not be affected.

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

Signed: /s/ Michael Henjum
Michael Henjum – ECT-4

Date: October 30, 2018