

# Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration  
Department of Energy



**Proposed Action:** King Lake Radio Station Sale

**Project No.:** P05430

**Project Manager:** Jay Largo

**Location:** Snohomish County, WA

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B.1.24 Property Transfers

**Description of the Proposed Action:** BPA proposes to sell the BPA King Lake Radio Station to the private owner of the surrounding land parcel. The proposed activity would be to sell the BPA radio station and the associated 0.15 acre BPA fee-owned radio station property in as-is condition. The sale would include the 100 foot radio tower, fencing, pad-mounted distribution level transformer and two meter pedestals, small concrete pad, and remaining underground cables and grounding along with the underlying land. The buyer has no plans to develop the property or remove the radio tower or equipment at this time. The pad-mounted distribution level transformer is the only piece of equipment that potentially has any pollution potential as it is oil filled. The transformer is not known to have any leaks at this time and there is no ground disturbance or physical work planned to occur during the sale and the buyer has not identified any future actions that would alter the equipment. Therefore, there is no potential for releases of substances at a level, or in a form, that could pose a threat to public health or the environment in the action of BPA selling the facilities.

**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, Jul. 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/ Christopher H. Furey  
Christopher H. Furey  
Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

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Katey C. Grange  
NEPA Compliance Officer

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:** King Lake Radio Station Sale

## **Project Site Description**

The radio station property includes the fenced station with a 100 foot radio tower and remaining infrastructure, equipment, and material at the site. The legal parcel description is Township 27 North, Range 7 East, and Section 21. The property is largely gravel and dirt within the radio station fence line with the remaining tower and equipment and outside the radio fence line. Some limited grass and herbaceous and small evergreen vegetation is on the property outside the fence that appears to be limited by the use of herbicides and vehicle traffic over the years at the radio station. . The surrounding land primarily consists of privately-owned evergreen forest with a nearby utility tower, access roads, and some limited residential development. No wetlands within 1,000 feet of the radio station. King Lake is located over 1,200 feet to the south and Margaret Creek is over 2,100 feet to the south.

## **Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources**

### **1. Historic and Cultural Resources**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: BPA Historian has determined, per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1), that this undertaking is a type of activity that does not have the potential to cause effects on historic properties, assuming such historic properties were present.

### **2. Geology and Soils**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground disturbance is proposed as a condition of the sale; therefore, there would be no impacts to geology or soils.

### **3. Plants (including Federal/state special-status species and habitats)**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground disturbance is proposed; therefore, there would be no impacts to plants. There are no federally-listed plants at this location and there would be no effect on Endangered Species Act – listed plant species.

### **4. Wildlife (including Federal/state special-status species and habitats)**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground disturbance is proposed; therefore, there would be no impacts to wildlife.

**5. Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish (including Federal/state special-status species, ESUs, and habitats)**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground disturbance is proposed; therefore, there would be no impacts to water bodies, floodplains, or fish.

**6. Wetlands**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground disturbance is proposed; therefore, there would be no impacts to wetlands.

**7. Groundwater and Aquifers**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground disturbance is proposed; therefore, there would be no impacts to groundwater or aquifers.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground disturbance is proposed; therefore, there would be no impacts to land use or specially-designated areas.

**9. Visual Quality**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground disturbance is proposed; therefore, there would be no impacts to visual quality.

**10. Air Quality**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground disturbance is proposed; therefore, there would be no impacts to air quality.

**11. Noise**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground disturbance is proposed; therefore, there would be no noise impacts.

**12. Human Health and Safety**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: There would be no impacts to human health and safety.

**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: N/A.

**Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators) that are not otherwise categorically excluded.**

Explanation: N/A.

**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: The pad mounted distribution level transformer is the only equipment that potentially has any pollution potential as it would be oil filled. It is not known to have any leaks at this time and the landowner is anticipated to maintain the equipment in place.

**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: N/A.

### **Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination**

Description: BPA Realty is in coordination with BPA Transmission and the surrounding landowner for this project.

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

Signed: /s/ Christopher H. Furey June 15, 2023  
Christopher H. Furey Date  
Environmental Protection Specialist