

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Kalispell Maintenance Headquarters Upgrades

Project Manager: Janice Grounds, TEP-CSB-2

Location: Flathead County, Montana

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.3 Routine maintenance

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to upgrade its Kalispell Maintenance Headquarters (MHQ) facility, located in Flathead County, Montana. The project would consist of four components: expanding an existing conference room; replacing exterior lighting; covering an existing wash bay; and moving an existing bay of the storage building.

BPA would expand an existing conference room by extending the exterior walls outward 25 feet by 50 feet. The expansion would transition approximately 1,000 square feet of grass to impervious surface. Excavation for the conference room would extend approximately 6 feet past the perimeter of the expanded area, and approximately 4 feet below ground. The exterior of the expanded conference room would be designed to match existing aesthetics. The conference room expansion is needed because the current conference room is too small to accommodate the large number of staff that attend meetings.

BPA would replace exterior lighting at the Kalispell MHQ facility with LED lighting. The lighting upgrade is needed to increase energy efficiency.

BPA would expand the Kalispell MHQ building outward 30 feet by 50 feet to cover an existing wash bay. Excavation would extend five feet past the perimeter of the expanded area and approximately four feet below ground. The exterior of the covered wash bay would be designed to match existing aesthetics. The wash bay upgrade is needed because the weather is too cold in the winter to permit safe usage of the current outdoor wash bay.

BPA would remove a 20-foot by 30-foot bay of an existing storage building and rebuild the section at the eastern end of the storage building. Excavation would entail digging six 6-foot by 6-foot by 6-foot holes and installing structural support poles. The bay must be moved to provide a pathway for trucks and large vehicles to pass safely around the newly enclosed wash bay.

All work would be within the boundaries of BPA's previously disturbed Kalispell MHQ facility. All equipment would be staged within the Kalispell MHQ facility yard.

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/ Hannah Sharp

Hannah Sharp
Contract Environmental Protection Specialist
CorSource Technology Group

Reviewed by:

/s/ Gene Lynard

Gene Lynard
Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: January 28, 2015

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: Kalispell Maintenance Headquarters Upgrades

Project Site Description

All work would take place within the existing yard of BPA’s fee-owned Kalispell Maintenance Headquarters (MHQ) facility, located in Evergreen, Flathead County, Montana. The site is fully developed with predominantly impervious surface, and consists of the Kalispell MHQ building, covered storage units, a vehicle wash bay, and parking areas. The site is surrounded by urban and suburban development.

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> MT SHPO concurrence on no adverse effect determination 12/16/14. Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes consulted—no response.		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> Minimal ground disturbance in previously disturbed yard.		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> All work in previously disturbed yard; no federally-listed or state special-status species present.		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> All work in previously disturbed yard; no habitat present.		
5. Water bodies, Floodplains, and Fish (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No in-water work proposed. Project would not be in a floodplain.		

6. **Wetlands**

Explanation: None present.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**

Explanation: No new wells or use of groundwater proposed; maximum depth of disturbance would be approximately six feet.

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

Explanation: All work in existing yard.

9. **Visual Quality**

Explanation: Modifications would not be noticeably different from existing conditions.

10. **Air Quality**

Explanation: Small amount of dust and vehicle emissions due to construction.

11. **Noise**

Explanation: Temporary construction noise during daylight hours. Operational noise would not change.

12. **Human Health and Safety**

Explanation: No known soil contamination or hazardous conditions at project location.

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: No notification. All work on BPA fee-owned property and no visual or other effects to adjacent landowners.

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

Signed: /s/ Hannah Sharp

Date: January 28, 2015