

memorandum

DATE: August 13, 2013

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEPR-Bell-1

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Aaron Evans
Project Manager – TEP-TPP-1

Proposed Action: Dayton Tap Line Retirement

PP&A Project No: 2735

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.10 Deactivation, dismantling, and removal of electric powerlines, substations, switching stations, and other transmission facilities, and right-of-way abandonment

Location: The project is located in Columbia County, Washington, in Township 10 North, Range 39 East, Section 20.

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to retire and remove the Dayton Tap Line (and associated components) and fund PacifiCorp's removal of associated equipment. The Dayton Tap facility was constructed within PacificCorp's transmission line right-of-way to establish a transmission line tap from PacificCorp's transmission line to a BPA customer. Since the customer will no longer be served via this tap, the Dayton Tap facility is no longer needed. As a result, BPA and PacificCorp have come to an agreement to retire the Dayton Tap facility and associated equipment. At BPA's expense, PacifiCorp would disconnect, remove, and dispose of the line sectionalizing switch, communications building, and communication equipment. PacificCorp would rearrange the existing transmission and distribution facilities as required after the removal of the disconnect switch and perform any necessary site restoration to the satisfaction of the landowner. BPA would remove the tap line and associated components from structure 8/35 to Columbia REA's Dayton Substation once the new circuit into the Columbia REA Dayton Substation has been energized. All BPA owned equipment located in the switchyard would be transferred to PacificCorp for removal and disposal.

Findings: BPA has determined that the proposed action complies with Section 1021.410 and Appendix B of Subpart D 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). The proposed action does not present any extraordinary circumstances that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal. The proposal is not connected [40 C.F.R. 1508.25(a)(1)] to other actions with potentially significant impacts, has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts [40 C.F.R. 1508.25(a)(2)], and is not precluded by 40 C.F.R. 1506.1 or 10 C.F.R. 1021.211. Moreover, the proposed action would not (i) threaten a violation of

applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, (ii) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities, (iii) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases, (iv) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, or (v) 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.

This proposed action meets the requirements for the Categorical Exclusion referenced above. We therefore determine that the proposed action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

/s/ Philip W. Smith, for:

Michael A. Rosales

Physical Scientist - Environment

Concur: /s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: August 13, 2013

Attachments:

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Effects Determination for T&E Species

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Dayton Tap Retirement

Work Order #: 339868

This project does not have the potential to cause significant impacts on the following environmentally sensitive resources. See 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B for complete descriptions of the resources. This checklist is to be used as a summary – further discussion may be included in the Categorical Exclusion Memorandum.

| Environmental Resources | No Potential for Significance | No Potential, with Conditions (describe) |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Historic Properties and Cultural Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All work to be above ground or in previously disturb soils within the facility footprint. • In the event that archaeological or historic materials are discovered during project activities, work in the immediate vicinity must stop, the area will be secured and the SHPO and the environmental project lead must be notified. | | |
| 2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| An Effects Determination for the proposed project was prepared and a determination of "No Effect" was made for all ESA listed species, designated critical habitat and Essential Fish Habitat. | | |
| 3. Floodplains or wetlands | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Areas of special designation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Health & safety | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Prime or unique farmlands | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Special sources of water | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Other (describe) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):

Signed: /s/ Michael A. Rosales

Date: August 8, 2013

Michael A. Rosales, KEPR-Bell-1