



U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form



Program or Field Office: TRIBAL ENERGY PROGRAM

AK

Project Title AK-TEP-HAIDA POWER, INC

Location: Tribal HAIDA POWER, INC

Proposed Action or Project Description

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act:

The Reynolds Creek Hydroelectric Project is a 5 MW hydroelectric resource to be constructed on Prince of Wales Island, Alaska, located approximately 10 miles east of Hydaburg. This proposed project is a joint venture between Haida Corporation, Inc., and the Alaska Power Company. Specific activities proposed include: completing the power sales agreement; completing operation, maintenance, land lease agreements, and plan of finance; completing the file application for certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity; completing geotechnical investigations; completing final design; beginning marine access preparation; installing USGS gages; ordering equipment/materials; submitting remaining plans and drawings to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC); beginning transmission line construction; coordinating detailed construction planning; coordinating activities with Alaska Power & Telephone/Alaska Power Company; initiating major remaining construction activities; completing major construction work; beginning start-up testing; beginning commercial operation; and demobilization. An Environmental Assessment (EA), issued July 7, 2000, to support licensing of this project was prepared by FERC, and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was reached. On October 24, 2000, FERC issued a 50-year license in which the EA is made a part thereof, for construction and operation of the project. More recent detailed field investigations were conducted in support of the project and in preparation for start of construction. The only change that has occurred since the EA was issued in 2000 is that portions of the general project area have been logged, and the potential of logging was acknowledged in the EA. The scope of the activities for which funding is proposed has been reviewed for NEPA, and the 2000 FERC EA appears to adequately bound the activities for which funding has been requested.

Conditions: None

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied: A9, A11, B3.1, FERC
EA No. 11480-001

*-For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, see Subpart D of 10 CFR 10.21

This action would not: threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, including DOE and/or Executive Orders; require siting, construction, or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities, but may include such categorically excluded facilities; disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; or adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources (including but not limited to those listed in paragraph B.(4)) of Appendix B to Subpart D of 10 CFR 1021). Furthermore, there are no extraordinary circumstances related to this action that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the action; this action is not "connected" to other actions with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts, and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211.

Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession (or attached) concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1B), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

ORO NEPA Compliance Officer

Gary S. Hartman

Date Determined:

7/20/2010

Comments:

Webmaster: