



Categorical Exclusion Determination

Western Area Power Administration

U.S. Department of Energy



<u>Proposed Action Title:</u>	Winner Substation Expansion
<u>WAPA Region:</u>	Upper Great Plains
<u>Location (County/State):</u>	Trip County, South Dakota
<u>CX Determination Number:</u>	2026-UGP-015
<u>CX Determination Expiration Date*:</u>	07/07/2031

**CX is valid until the date above (no longer than five years from when document was signed) or completion of work started prior to the expiration of the CX Determination, unless there are substantial changes to the scope of work, location, or applicable regulations. If such changes occur prior to the expiration of the CX, the Region Environmental Program will review the analysis to ensure the CX is still applicable.*

Proposed Action Description:

WAPA will expand the Winner Substation yard to the north, within the existing property boundary to upgrade the 12.47kV facilities at WAPA's Winner Substation for the City of Winner. To expand the yard, the fence will be moved toward the property boundary and stormwater drainage outside the fence. The yard expansion will include grading, gravel surfacing, and conduit. The City of Winner will install the concrete foundation and a new 15kV indoor metal clad switchgear enclosure. The City will provide the new cable connection to WAPA's 12.47kV bus via WAPA installed conduit, new 12.47kV CTs and PTs, and complete commissioning on the City's equipment. The City will demolish and dispose of their existing 15-kV box structure after completion of the new switchgear enclosure. Relay setting modifications inside the control building will be performed by WAPA. Construction is anticipated to begin August 2026. The City anticipates to conduct their portion of this work April 2027.

The City of Winner will replace their failed KY2A transformer. The existing concrete pad will be demolished and a new concrete foundation will be installed. New conduits will be trenched in from the new transformer to a new switchgear enclosure, associated grounding grid connections will be made, and miscellaneous sitework to match existing gravel surfacing. The City anticipates a transformer delivery by March/April 2028. Assembly, installation, testing & commissioning will take place following delivery. A secondary oil containment may be included. WAPA will complete any relay setting modifications inside the control building, and procurement and installation of a new 12.47kV disconnect switch on the existing box structure that will serve as a 'visual open'. Ahead of transformer delivery, design and construction of the new foundation pad will occur. This construction work is anticipated to occur Fall 2027 or Spring 2028.

Environmental Requirements during Project Implementation:

- No requirements.
- Biological conservation measures for best management practices attached.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied (Number and Title):



B4.11 Electric power substations and interconnection facilities

B1.33 Stormwater runoff control

B1.11 Fencing

B1.7 Electronic equipment

B2.2 Building and equipment instrumentation

Findings:

For the DOE procedures regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see 10 CFR 1021.102 and Appendix B to [10 CFR Part 1021](#), and also Section 5.4 (Applying one or more categorical exclusions to a proposal) and Appendices B and C of [DOE's National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures](#) (Jun. 30, 2025).

Requirements and guidance in 10 CFR 1021.102 and DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures: (See full text in regulation and in Implementing Procedures)



The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 1021 or Appendix B or C of DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures (June 30, 2025).

To fit within the classes of actions listed in Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 1021, or Appendix B of DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures, a proposal must satisfy the conditions that are integral elements of the classes of actions in Appendix B of both 10 CFR Part 1021 and DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures. Additionally, for CXs adopted pursuant to NEPA Section 109 (see DNIP, Appendix C), the originating Federal agency's integral elements or extraordinary circumstances must be in accordance with the applicable requirements.



There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal. DOE or an applicant may modify the proposal to avoid reasonably foreseeable adverse significant effects such that the categorical exclusion would apply.



The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion.

[Note: For proposals that fit within the categorical exclusions listed in Appendix C of DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures, see DOE's notice of adoption for the subject Appendix C categorical exclusion for additional considerations. DOE notices of adoption for other agency categorical exclusions may be found on [DOE's Section 109 webpage](#).]



Determination:

Based on my review of the proposed action, I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other requirements and guidance set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

WAPA Authorized Official Signature:

Senior Vice President and Upper Great Plains Regional Manager