RECORD OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

Tenaska Power Services Co.
Docket EA-431-A

PROPOSED ACTION: Tenaska Power Services Co. (TPS or Applicant) applied to the United States Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Electricity for an electricity export authorization to export electricity to Mexico pursuant to Section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act.[1] TPS is a is a Nebraska corporation and an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Tenaska Energy, Inc. The Applicant represents it "does not currently own or control electric generation or transmission facilities, and does not have a power supply of its own in the United States that would cause its electricity exports to have a reliability, fuel use, or system stability impact."[2] TPS proposes to use existing authorized international electric transmission facilities that are appropriate for open access by third parties.[3]

TPS is a power marketer seeking renewal of an export authorization to sell electric energy into Mexico for a term of five years. The existing international transmission facilities to be utilized by the Applicant have previously been authorized by Presidential permits issued pursuant to Executive Order 10485, as amended, and are appropriate for open access transmission by third parties. The Presidential permit for these facilities was issued by DOE after an appropriate level of NEPA review.

CX TO BE APPLIED: The elements identified above fit within the class listed in Appendix B to Subpart D, of Part 1021-Categorical exclusions applicable to specific agency actions.
Specifically:

B4.2 Export of electric energy as provided by Section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act over existing transmission systems or using transmission systems that are themselves categorically excluded.

10 C.F.R. Part 1021, App. B to Subpart D, § B4.2.

REGULATORY REQUIREMENT: The proposed action has previously been determined by DOE to not have a significant effect on the human environment either individually or cumulatively. Authorizing the proposed action will not (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, including DOE and/or Executive orders; (2) require siting of new facilities or expansion of existing facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants; or (4) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources.

DETERMINATION: Based on my review of the above information concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Policy 451.1), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class of actions, other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Signature: Steven P. Blazek Digitally signed by Steven P. Blazek Date: 2022.02.25 13:39:43 -07'00' Date: February 25, 2022

Steven P. Blazek
NEPA Compliance Officer
Electricity Delivery Division
Office of Electricity

[1] 16 U.S.C. § 824a(e).
[2] Application of Tenaska Power Services Co. for Renewal of Authorization to Transmit Electric Energy to Mexico (Nov. 3, 2021) at 3.
[3] *See id.* at 3.