



U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed Action Title: Transmission Line 3005, Liberty to Van Buren, Rebuild

Program or Field Office: Gore Field Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): Liberty/Sequoyah/Oklahoma to Van Buren/Crawford/Arkansas

Proposed Action Description:

Southwestern Power Administration proposes to rebuild 12.1 miles of 161kV transmission line from Liberty Substation near Liberty, Oklahoma to the Van Buren Substation located in Van Buren, Arkansas. The rebuild would consist of replacing wooden structures with new steel structures and installing optical ground wire, structures, conductors, shield wire, new grounding, and all other items associated with this transmission line. All construction would occur within Southwestern's existing rights of way.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B4.13 – Upgrading and rebuilding existing powerlines

B4.7 – Fiber optic cable

B4.11 – Electric power substations and interconnection facilities

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](#) (June 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 and 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.
- 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](#).]

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer, 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.

NEPA Compliance Officer: **CYNTHIA SHORT**
Digitally signed by CYNTHIA SHORT
DN: cn=CYNTHIA SHORT, c=US, o=U.S.
Government, ou=Department of Energy
Date: 2026.04.02 15:26:54 -05'00'

Date Determined: **4.2.2026**