

United States Government

Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: NOV 17 2009

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEPR-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

to: Stephen Duncan
Project Manager – TERS-3

Proposed Action: Removal of de-stabilized and downed trees resulting from a December 2008 wind storm on the de-energized Lyons Ultra High Voltage Test Line No. 1.

PP&A Project No.: PP&A 1309

Budget Information: Work Order # 184006

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.3 Routine maintenance/custodial services for buildings, structures, infrastructures, equipment.

Location: Fee-owned ROW on the de-energized Lyons UHV Test Line No. 1 to the south of towers 2/1 and 2/2 located in Linn County, Oregon.

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action:

BPA proposes to remove trees that were de-stabilized or felled during a heavy December 2008 wind storm. The unstable and downed trees create a safety and fire hazard and need to be removed.

Unstable trees will be surveyed for merchantable material and marked. Standing and wind-blown trees will be bucked and de-limbed into merchantable lengths ranging from 8 to 42 feet. The logs will then be yarded on the ground to a central landing area using small tracked equipment or a rubber-tired log skidder with a cable wench or caliper. The logs will be decked either by a rubber tired log loader or stationary grapple shove. Road construction will not be required for this project.

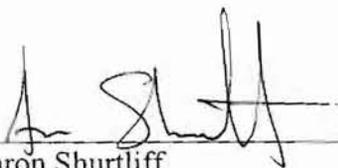
Once all merchantable material is removed from the site, the area will be cleaned of excessive debris and erosion control features will be installed. Slash collected on the landing will be mechanically chipped and scattered so it does not exceed depths of 6 inches.

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, April 24, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 36221-36243, July 9, 1996; 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996). 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 action with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impact [40 C.F.R. 1508(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 release, or (iv) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources. The proposal will not affect any listed threatened or endangered species, or critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act, or Essential Fish Habitat under the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

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.



Aaron Shurtliff
Environmental Engineer

Concur: 
Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: November 17, 2009

Attachments

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions
ESA Effects Determination

cc:

G. Lynard – KEC-4
B. Sherer – KEP-4
P. Smith – KEP-4
C. Leiter – KEP-AMPN-2
J. Sharpe – KEPR-4
H. Adams – LC-7
Official File – KEP (EQ-15-11)

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Lyon's UHV Test Line Tree Stabilization

Work Order #: 184006 PP&A Project No.: PP&A 1309

Prepared by: Aaron Shurtliff Routing: KEPR-4 Date: 11/9/09

This project has been found to **not** adversely affect the following environmentally sensitive resources, laws, and regulations:

Environmental Resources	No Effect	No Effect with conditions
1. Cultural Resources • A cultural resource survey was conducted. A cultural site was found but will be avoided resulting in no effect to cultural resources.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 agricultural lands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Consistency with state and local laws and regulations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Pollution control at Federal facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):

- ESA Effects Determination