

memorandum

DATE: March 16, 2010

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEP-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Jason Moon
Project Manager – TELF-TPP-3

Proposed Action: Lancaster-Noxon No. 1 Mile 46-50 Access Road Improvement and Bridge Replacement Project

Budget Information: Work Order # 202389

PP&A Project No.: 586

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.3, Routine maintenance activities for structures, rights-of-way (ROW), and infrastructures, such as roads, that are required to maintain infrastructures in a condition suitable for a facility to be used for its designed purpose.

Location: BPA is proposing to conduct road improvements along the Lancaster-Noxon No. 1 Transmission Line. The project is located in Bonner County, Idaho, in BPA's East Region, Spokane District. Township, Range, and Section crossed by the proposed project are shown below.

Township	Range	Section
55N	2E	9, 10, 14, 15, 23, 24

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA has a need to construct and repair approximately 4.1 miles of access road and build tower landings along the Lancaster-Noxon No. 1 Transmission Line. As a result of wet conditions at the site, there is currently no vehicle access between structures 46/3-50/1 during much of the year. Proposed project work includes: vegetation removal, grading and shaping of roads, installation of geo-textile material, placing and compacting of road surfacing, bridge replacement, and culvert installation. This project is necessary for future transmission system reliability. All work will be in accordance with National Electrical Safety Code and BPA standards.

Findings: BPA has determined that the proposed action complies with Section 1021.410 and Appendix B of Subpart D of the Department of Energy (DOE) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations (57 Fed. Reg. 1512.2, April 24, 1992). 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 actions

with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts [40 C.F.R. 1508.25 (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 releases; or (iv) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources.

With the actions identified on the attachment, 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.

/s/ Laura Roberts
Laura Roberts
Biological Scientist

Concur: /s/ Katherine S. Pierce
Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: March 16, 2010

Attachments:
Effects Determination for Threatened and Endangered Species
Environmental Checklist

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Lancaster-Noxon No. 1 Mile 46-50 Access Road Improvement and Bridge Replacement Project

Work Order #: 202389 **PP&A Project No.:** PP&A-586

Prepared by: Laura Roberts **Routing:** KEP-4 **Date:** 1/25/09

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

Environmental Resources	No Adverse Effect	No Adverse Effect with conditions
1. Cultural Resources BPA determined No Effect.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) BPA determined No Effect.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands Individual Corp permit with compensatory mitigation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>