

memorandum

DATE: August 8, 2012

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEPR-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Joan Kendall
Realty Specialist – TERR-3

Proposed Action: Disposition of Mountain Avenue Tap Line Sectionalizing Switches

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): Appendix B1.24
Property transfers

Location: Jackson County, Oregon

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA is proposing to transfer ownership of two line sectionalizing switches to PacifiCorp. The switches, 2R247 and 2R248, are located on PacifiCorp's Oak Knoll-Ashland 115-kV transmission line at the tap point for the Mountain Avenue Tap. Ownership of these switches will provide PacifiCorp more control over future construction along their Oak Knoll-Ashland transmission line, as well as more control in developing long term plans for other future system improvements/expansions. Both switches are located within the city of Ashland, Oregon, in an urban environment. This transfer in ownership would not change the use of the property, would not have the potential to release substances at a level or in a form that could pose a threat to public health or the environment, and would not have the potential to cause a significant change in impacts from before the disposition.

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, Apr. 24, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 36221-36243, July 9, 1996; 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996, 76 FR 63764, Nov. 14, 2011). 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, has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion, 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, (iv) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, or (v) involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology,

governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements.

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/ Lisa MacLellan

Lisa MacLellan

Physical Scientist (Environmental)

Concur: /s/ Stacy Mason

Stacy Mason

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: August 8, 2012

Attachment:

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Disposition of Mountain Avenue Tap Line Sectionalizing Switches

Work Order #: 00305148

This project does not have the potential to cause significant impacts on the following environmentally sensitive resources. See 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B for complete descriptions of the resources. This checklist is to be used as a summary – further discussion may be included in the Categorical Exclusion Memorandum.

<u>Environmental Resources</u>	<u>No Potential for Significance</u>	<u>No Potential, with Conditions (describe)</u>
1. Historic Properties and Cultural Resources No historic properties affected. Change in ownership only, no construction or operational changes.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) No T & E species impacted. Change in ownership only, no construction or operational changes.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands No floodplains or wetlands impacted. Change in ownership only, no construction or operational changes.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation No areas of special designation present.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Health & safety None. Change in ownership only, no construction or operational changes.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Prime or unique farmlands No prime or unique farmland present.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water No special sources of water present.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (describe) None.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):

Signed: /s/ Lisa MacLellan

Date: August 1, 2012