

United States Government

Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: June 13, 2013

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEPR-Covington

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Frank Weintraub
Mechanical Engineer – TEP-TPP-1

Proposed Action: Replacement of expanded conductor from Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) Monroe Substation to structure 2/1 on the Monroe-Snohomish transmission line

PP&A Project No.: 2682

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.6 Additions/modifications to transmission facilities

Location: Snohomish County, Washington, in BPA's Snohomish District

Proposed by: BPA

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to replace 2.5 inch expanded conductor from Monroe Substation to structure 2/1 on the Monroe-Snohomish 230-kilovolt transmission line. Ground disturbance will be limited to the improvements of existing landings around affected structures.

This section of the transmission line right-of-way corridor is located on BPA fee-owned land. The surrounding area is mostly forested with rural residential property. The terrain consists mostly of rolling hills. There is existing access to the subject structures, however minor road maintenance to improve existing access roads is proposed to be coordinated under the scope of this project. No new areas will be bladed, excavated, or otherwise transformed.

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 FR 15144, April 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.

Based on the provisions 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/ Philip W. Smith, for: _____

Chad Browning
Environmental Project Manager

Concur: */s/ Katherine S. Pierce* _____

Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: *June 13, 2013* _____

Attachments:

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions
Effects Determination for T&E Species

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Monroe-Snohomish #1 Reconductor Project

Work Order #: 00333315

PP&A Project No.: 2682

Prepared by: Chad Browning

Routing: KEPR-Covington

Date: 6/10/2013

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands Floodplains or wetlands – Work and traffic around wetlands is to come no closer than 5 feet. No rock, sediment, debris or other fill, or vehicular equipment is to enter the wetlands at any time during this project.	<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"/>

Signed: Chad Browning

Date: June 10, 2013

Chad Browning, KEPR/Covington