

memorandum

DATE: August 14, 2014

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEPR-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Steve Bailor
Civil Design – TELF-TPP-3

Proposed Action: Chehalis-Covington No. 1 Access Road Maintenance

PP&A Project Number: 3015

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.13 Routine Maintenance

Location: Thurston County, Washington; Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) Longview District

Proposed by: BPA

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to conduct routine road maintenance on a 500-foot section of an existing BPA access road within the cleared Chehalis-Covington No. 1 230-kilovolt right-of-way. The access road is located on privately owned lands managed for timber production approximately 3.5 miles south of Rainier, Washington. The road provides access to transmission structure 21/2. Routine maintenance is necessary to preserve existing infrastructure, maintain roadway safety, and manage storm water run-off. Proposed activities include light grading and placement of road rock within the existing established road prism. To safely operate and maintain the transmission line, rock may also be added to the existing structure landing to maintain a safe, level work surface. All proposed work would occur in Thurston County and all work will be in accordance with the 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'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) 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.

With the actions identified on the attachment, this proposed action meets the requirements for the Categorical Exclusion referenced above. Therefore, BPA has determined that the proposed action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

/s/ Philip W. Smith

Philip W. Smith
Manager-Technical & Regional Services

Concur: /s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: August 14, 2014

Attachments:

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

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Chehalis-Covington No. 1 Road Maintenance

Work Order #: 316752

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.

Environmental Resources	No Potential for Significance	No Potential, with Conditions (describe)
1. Historic Properties and Cultural Resources According to the scope of the proposed work, the activity is not a type that would result in changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such historic properties are located in the area of potential effects. The proposed action is considered to be routine access road maintenance necessary to preserve existing infrastructure, maintain roadway safety, and manage stormwater run-off and will be limited to maintenance on an existing access road cut and prism and structure footprints in the cleared transmission line ROW.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) No T&E or Critical Habitat present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands No waters would be impacted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Health & safety N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Prime or unique farmlands N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (describe) .	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):

Signed: /s/Philip W. Smith

Date: August 13, 2014

Philip W. Smith, KEPR-4