

# U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

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Proposed Action Title: Electrical District 2 to Saguaro #2 115 kV Transmission Line, Marker Ball Installation at Structure 26-10

Program or Field Office: Western Area Power Administration, Desert Southwest Regional Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): Picaho, Pinal County, AZ

Proposed Action Description:

Western plans to install up to four "marker balls" on two tension cables (guy-wires) of Structure 26-10 along the ED2 SGR #2 115kV transmission line. The marker balls will provide visibility and safety for routine aerial patrol. The preformed orange marker balls are 20" in diameter and will be bolted on to the tension cables with the use of a bucket truck. Work will be conducted approximately 75 ft. on the north side of the structure requiring use of hand chainsaws to remove decayed mesquite shrubs and provide work space for the bucket truck and crew truck.

Access to the structure is within Central Arizona Project (CAP) right-of way located in Sections 18 and 20, Township 9S, Range 10E. Access road maintenance will be required between Structures 27-3 to Structure 27-7 (approximately 1/8th of a mile) due to erosion.

Attached Continuation Sheet and Special Conditions

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B1.3 - Routine maintenance

For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Subpart D of 10 CFR Part 1021.

Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410(b): (See full text in regulation)

The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D.

To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) 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, such as those listed in paragraph B(5) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B.

There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

✓ The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1B), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review. Kona Mariant

NEPA Compliance Officer:

Date Determined: 1-9-14

# Western Area Power Administration Electrical District 2 to Saguaro #2 115kV Transmission Line Marker(s) Ball Replacement Continuation Sheet

#### **Special Conditions**

#### **Cultural Resources**

1. Along the access to structure 26-10 is a historical berm that will be used for periodic maintenance patrol. No work will be done on the berm.

#### Biological Resources

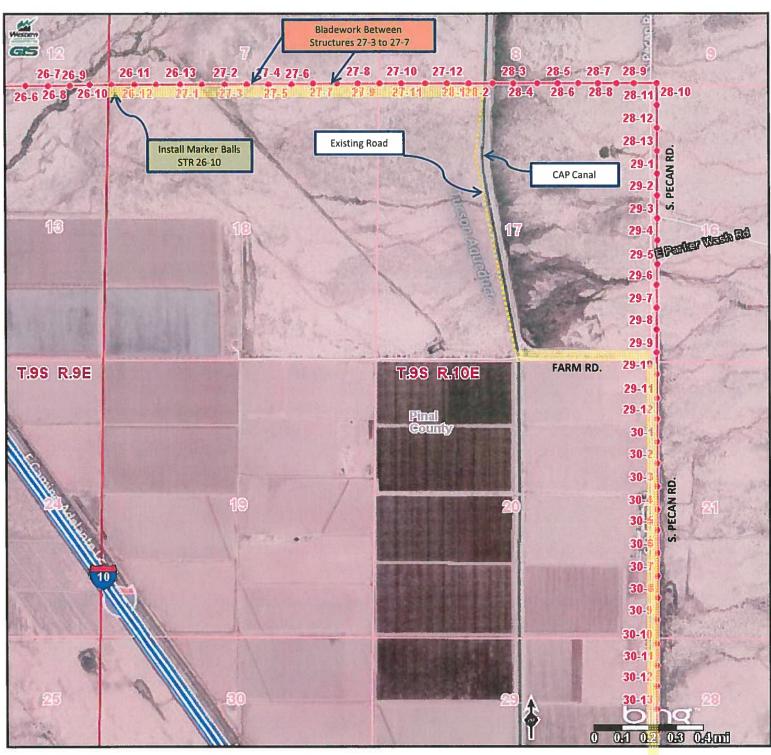
1. Project activities will be scheduled between August 1 and February 15, as feasible. Project activities involving disturbance to soil or vegetation occurring during the breeding bird season (February 16-July 31) will be subject to pre-construction surveys by a qualified biologist. Project activities may not disturb an active bird nest or burrow (e.g., burrowing owls). If an active bird nest is located on or adjacent to the project area, the biologist will designate and flag an appropriate buffer area around the nest where activities will not be permitted.

## Checklist for Categorical Exclusion Determination, revised Nov. 2011

| Application of Categorical Exclusions (1021.410) |   | Disagree | Agree | Unknown |
|--|---|----------|-------|---------|
|  | ) The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in     |          | Х     |         |
| appe   | endix A or B to subpart D.  |          |       |         |
| (b)(2  | ) There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the           |          | Х     |         |
|  | oosal that may affect the significance of the environmental         |          |       |         |
| effe   | cts of the proposal, including, but not limited to, scientific      |          |       |         |
|  | roversy about the environmental effects of the proposal;            |          |       |         |
|  | ertain effects or effects involving unique or unknown risks; and    |          |       |         |
| 1  | solved conflicts concerting alternate uses of available resources   |          |       |         |
|  | 3) The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition       |          | Х     |         |
| of a   | categorical exclusion. Segmentation can occur when a proposal       |          |       |         |
| is br  | oken down into small parts in order to avoid the appearance of      |          |       |         |
| l  | ificance of the total action. The scope of a proposal must include  |          |       |         |
| _  | consideration of connected and cumulative actions, that is, the     |          |       |         |
| prop   | posal is not connected to other actions with potentially            |          |       |         |
|  | ificant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1), is not related to other      |          |       |         |
| actio  | ons with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant    |          |       |         |
| impa   | acts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR         | 3.0      |       |         |
| 150  | 6.1 or § 1021.211 of this part concerning limitations on actions    |          |       |         |
| duri   | ng EIS preparation.   |          |       |         |
| B. C   | onditions that are Integral Elements of the Classes of Actions in   | NO       | YES   | UNKNOWN |
| Арр  | endix B. :  |          |       |         |
| (1)  | Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or        | Χ        |       |         |
|  | permit requirements for environment, safety and health, or          |          |       |         |
|  | similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders.                    | i        |       |         |
| (2)  | Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste         | Χ        |       |         |
|  | storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including     |          | ļ     |         |
|  | incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically           |          |       |         |
|  | excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions    |          |       |         |
|  | or facilities;  |          |       |         |
| (3)  | Disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or          | X        |       |         |
|  | CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that             |          |       | fi      |
|  | preexist in the environment such that there would be                |          |       |         |
|  | uncontrolled or unpermitted releases;                               |          |       |         |
| (4)  | Have the potential to cause significant impacts on                  | X        |       |         |
|  | environmentally sensitive resources. An environmentally             |          |       |         |
|  | sensitive resource is typically a resource that has been identified |          |       |         |
|  | as needing protection through Executive Order, statue, or           |          |       |         |
|  | regulation by Federal, state, or local government, or a federally   |          |       |         |
|  | recognized Indian tribe. An action may be categorically excluded    |          |       |         |
|  | if, although sensitive resources are present, the action would not  |          |       |         |
|  | have the potential to cause significant impacts on those            |          |       |         |
|  | resources (such as construction of a building with its foundation   |          |       |         |
|  | well above a sole-source aquifer or upland surface soil removal     |          |       |         |
|  | on a site that has wetlands). Environmentally sensitive             |          |       |         |

| res                              | ources include, but are not limited to:   |   |   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| (i)                              | Property (such as sites, buildings, structures, and objects) of historic, archaeological, or architectural significance designated by a Federal, state, or local government, or property determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places;   | X |   |
| (ii)                             | Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or their habitat (including critical habitat) or Federally- proposed or candidate species or their habitat (Endangered Species Act); state-listed or state-proposed endangered or threatened species or their habitat; Federally-protected marine mammals and Essential Fish Habitat (Marine Mammal Protection Act; Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act); and otherwise Federally-protected species (such as under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act or the Migratory Bird Treaty Act); | X |   |
| (iii)                            | Floodplains and wetlands (as defined in 10 CFR 1022.4, —Compliance with Floodplain and Wetland Environmental Review Requirements: "Definitions," or its successor);   | X |   |
| (iv)                             | Areas having a special designation such as Federally- and state-designated wilderness areas, national parks, national monuments, national natural landmarks, wild and scenic rivers, state and Federal wildlife refuges, scenic areas (such as National Scenic and Historic Trails or National Scenic Areas), and marine sanctuaries;   | X |   |
| (v)                              | Prime or unique farmland, or other farmland of statewide or local importance, as defined at 7 CFR 658.2(a),  —Farmland Protection Policy Act: Definitions,    or its successor;   | X |   |
| (vi)                             | Special sources of water (such as sole-source aquifers, wellhead protection areas, and other water sources that are vital in a region); and   | X | 1 |
| (vii)                            | Tundra, coral reefs, or rain forests.; or   | X |   |
| go<br>sp<br>co<br>un<br>ac<br>th | volve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, overnmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive ecies, unless the proposed activity would be contained or infined in a manner designed and operated to prevent eauthorized release into the environment and conducted in cordance with applicable requirements, such as those of the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection gency, and the National Institutes of Health.   | X |   |

### **ED2 SGR #2 115kV Transmission Line**





# Map Parameters

UTM ZONE 12, NAD83 Scale 1:24,001

*minx:* 464555 *maxx:* 470740 *miny:* 3607843 *maxy:* 3613083

## Western Area Power Administration An agency of the U.S. Department of Energy

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