

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

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Proposed Action Title: Grant of Access to Bureau of Reclamation for Fiber Optic Cable Installation at Western's Phoenix Service Center

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

Location(s) (City/County/State): 615 South 43rd Avenue, Phoenix, Maricopa County, Arizona

Proposed Action Description:

Western Area Power Administration (Western) proposes to grant access to Cox Communications for a communications cable into Western's Phoenix Service Center property. The purpose of the grant of communication cable access is to allow the Bureau of Reclamation or its agents to use said communication cable for communication purposes. The project is on Western fee-owned lands in Township 1 North, Range 2 East, Section 10 (Gila & Salt River Baseline and Meridian). Western's action is to grant communication cable access to Cox Communication for the proposed work.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

A1 - Routine DOE business actions

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.

NEPA Compliance Officer:

Date Determined: 1.16-15

Application of Categorical Exclusions (1021.410)	Disagree	Agree	Unknown
(b)(1) The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in		Х	
appendix A or B to subpart D.			
(b)(2) There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the		Х	
proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects			
of the proposal, including, but not limited to, scientific controversy			
about the environmental effects of the proposal; uncertain effects or			
effects involving unique or unknown risks; and unresolved conflicts			
concerting alternate uses of available resources			
(b)(3) The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of		Х	
a categorical exclusion. Segmentation can occur when a proposal is			
broken down into small parts in order to avoid the appearance of			
significance of the total action. The scope of a proposal must include			
the consideration of connected and cumulative actions, that is, the			
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 § 1021.211			
of this part concerning limitations on actions during EIS preparation.			
B. Conditions that are Integral Elements of the Classes of Actions in	NO	YES	UNKNOWN
Appendix B. :			
(1) Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit	Х		
requirements for environment, safety and health, or similar			
requirements of DOE or Executive Orders.			
(2) Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste	Х		
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	Х		
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	Х		
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 resources include, but are			
not limited to:		j	

(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);	Х	
(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	
(vii)	Tundra, coral reefs, or rain forests.; or	Χ	
(5) In	volve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology,	Х	
_	overnmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species,		
	nless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in		
	manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized		
	lease into the environment and conducted in accordance		
	th applicable requirements, such as those of the Department Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the		
	ational Institutes of Health.		
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