

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Acquisition of Multiple Access Road Easements for the Holcomb-Naselle No. 1 Transmission Line

Project Manager: Brian Mai – TERP-TPP-4

Location: Pacific County, Washington

C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.42 Property Transfers

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to acquire several road easements to provide dedicated access to its Holcomb-Naselle No. 1 Transmission Line in Pacific County, Washington. The acquisitions would ensure permanent legal access to the line for operation and maintenance purposes. These acquisitions would perfect access rights and reflect current use of existing facilities.

New access road easements would generally be 20 feet wide. There are no planned improvements associated with these acquisitions.

Tracts/Roads	Owner	Size of Acquisition
H-N-3-AR-1	Department of Natural Resources (DNR)	764 feet of access road
H-N-3-AR-1	Pacific County	Approach
H-N-3-AR-2	Private	977 feet of access road
H-N-3-AR-12	DNR	100 feet of access road

Findings: In accordance with Section 1021.410(b) 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), BPA has determined that the proposed action:

- (1) fits within a class of actions listed in Appendix B of 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D (see attached Environmental Checklist);
- (2) does not present any extraordinary circumstances that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; and
- (3) has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion.

Based on these determinations, BPA finds that the proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

/s/ Claire McClory

Claire McClory
Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce
Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: July 9, 2015

Attachment(s): Environmental Checklist

Categorical Exclusion Environmental Checklist

This checklist documents environmental considerations for the proposed project and explains why the project would not have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources and would meet other integral elements of the applied categorical exclusion.

Proposed Action: Acquisition of Multiple Access Road Easements for the Holcomb-Naselle No. 1 Transmission Line

Project Site Description

Project is located in Pacific County, Washington around mile 3 of BPA's Holcomb-Naselle No. 1 Transmission line.

Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

Environmental Resource Impacts	No Potential for Significance	No Potential for Significance, with Conditions
1. Historic and Cultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No disturbance proposed – easement acquisitions only.		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No disturbance proposed – easement acquisitions only.		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No disturbance proposed – easement acquisitions only.		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No disturbance proposed – easement acquisitions only.		
5. Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No disturbance proposed – easement acquisitions only.		

6. **Wetlands**

Explanation:

No disturbance proposed – easement acquisitions only.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**

Explanation:

No disturbance proposed – easement acquisitions only.

8. **Land Use and Specially Designated Areas**

Explanation:

BPA would acquire easement rights on private and public land. Land use would remain unchanged.

9. **Visual Quality**

Explanation:

No disturbance proposed – easement acquisitions only.

10. **Air Quality**

Explanation:

No disturbance proposed – easement acquisitions only.

11. **Noise**

Explanation:

No disturbance proposed – easement acquisitions only.

12. **Human Health and Safety**

Explanation:

No disturbance proposed – easement acquisitions only.

Evaluation of Other Integral Elements

The proposed project would also meet conditions that are integral elements of the categorical exclusion. The project would not:

- Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders.

Explanation, if necessary:

- Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators) that are not otherwise categorically excluded.

Explanation, if necessary:

- 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.

Explanation, if necessary:

- 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 of the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Institutes of Health.

Explanation, if necessary:

Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination

Description: Not applicable.

Based on the foregoing, this proposed project does not have the potential to cause significant impacts on any environmentally sensitive resources.

Signed: /s/ Claire McClory
Claire McClory KEC-4

Date: July 9, 2015