

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Grandview Substation Upgrades

Project Manager: Deborah Staats, TEP-TPP-1

Location: Yakima County, Washington

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.1 Electric Power substations and interconnection facilities

Description of the Proposed Action: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to upgrade and install equipment at its Grandview Substation, located in Yakima County, Washington. The equipment is outdated and inadequate for providing reliable power to BPA's service area.

Equipment upgrades in the substation yard would include adding/replacing bus differential relays, line relays, disconnect switches, surge arrestors, a bus tie bay (including breakers, switches, potential transformer (PT), and the bus), sump pumps, voltage transformers, current transformers and panels. Rigid bus risers would be replaced with seismic risers where necessary. An existing 34.5-kV recloser and its existing foundation would be replaced with a power circuit breaker (PCB) and a new foundation.

Inside the existing control house, BPA would install new racks, meters, and relays. Station Equipment Records/Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SER/SCADA) would be updated to conform to new BPA standards. All indoor and outdoor cables and wiring associated with this project would be replaced. All existing footings and foundations would be reused, to the extent possible. If footings or foundations must be replaced or added, excavation of approximately 500 cubic yards of soil and concrete may be required; however, no new excavation will extend beyond depths previously reached by existing footings.

The project would not require any new ground disturbance beyond the existing substation footprint.

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/ Elizabeth Siping

Elizabeth Siping

Contract Environmental Protection Specialist

Flux Resources, LLC

Reviewed by:

/s/ Gene Lynard

Gene Lynard

Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Sarah T. Biegel

Sarah T. Biegel

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: May 2, 2016

Attachment: 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: Grandview Substation Upgrades

Project Site Description

The project site is located inside the fenced yard of BPA's Grandview Substation in Yakima County, Washington. The site consists of the graveled yard, substation equipment, transmission lines, and a control house. The terrain is generally flat. The surrounding area is partially undeveloped and partially in agricultural use with scattered residences.

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"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> The area of potential effects (APE) was surveyed for cultural resources by Applied Archaeological Research in 2015 and no cultural resources were identified. Consultation with tribal parties both directly through this project and through the ongoing consultation in relation to BPA's proposed Midway-Grandview Upgrade Project has resulted in the identification of no traditional cultural properties at this location. No cultural resources would be affected as a result of this proposed undertaking.</p>		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> All soil disturbance would occur within the substation yard.</p> <p><u>Mitigation:</u> Erosion and sediment controls would be employed as described in the Disposal Plan and Erosion and Sediment Control Plan to control run-off and prevent off-site transport of sediment. Soil and concrete would be disposed of in an approved waste management facility.</p>		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> All work in previously disturbed substation yard; no plants present.</p>		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> All work in previously disturbed substation yard; no habitat present.</p>		

5. **Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish**
(including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)



Explanation: No floodplains or water bodies at or adjacent to the project site.

6. **Wetlands**



Explanation: No wetlands present.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**



Explanation: No new wells or use of groundwater proposed. No new excavation will extend beyond depths previously reached by existing footings.

Mitigation: Spill prevention kits would be present on site.

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



Explanation: All work in existing substation yard.

9. **Visual Quality**



Explanation: Modifications would not be noticeably different from existing conditions.

10. **Air Quality**



Explanation: Small amount of dust and vehicle emissions anticipated during construction.

11. **Noise**



Explanation: Temporary construction noise during daylight hours. Operational noise would not change.

12. **Human Health and Safety**



Explanation: No known soil contamination or hazardous conditions.

Mitigation: Contractor would adhere to Best Management Practices in the Pollution Abatement Clearance. Spill prevention kits would be present on site.

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: No notification. All work on BPA fee-owned property and no visual or other effects to adjacent landowners.

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

Signed: /s/ Elizabeth Siping

Elizabeth Siping

Environmental Protection Specialist

Date: May 2, 2016