



U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

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Proposed Action Title: Revisions to Service Agreements for Network Integration Transmission Service for 2017

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

Location(s) (City/County/State): Arizona, southeastern California, southern Nevada

Proposed Action Description:

Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), Desert Southwest Region (DSW) has identified the occasional need for revisions to Service Agreements for Network Integration Transmission Service (NITS Service Agreements). The proposed revisions to NITS Service Agreements require little or no environmental review or resource agency coordination. Revisions to NITS Service Agreements typically occur when the Transmission Customer requests an increase in network load from WAPA (Transmission Provider). There will be no new generation associated with the requested increase in network load and there will be no physical changes in the transmission system beyond the previously disturbed or developed facility area.

New generation and any physical changes that would be beyond the previously disturbed or developed area are not covered by this Categorical Exclusion (CX). WAPA's DSW Environmental Manager must be contacted to review the proposed action prior to any new generation or any physical changes outside of the previously disturbed or developed area being conducted. Ground-disturbing activities outside of a fenced substation are not covered by this CX.

Managers implementing actions under this CX will contact WAPA's DSW Environmental Sections to ensure that the action is covered by this CX. This CX is valid for one year after the signature date or until an updated version is executed by WAPA's DSW Environmental Manager, whichever comes first.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B4.8 - Electricity transmission agreements

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: March 13, 2017