

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Western Area Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Elverta Building 10 Demolition and Disposal

Project No.: 2025_04

Project Manager: Ryan Martin

Location: Elverta Substation, Sacramento County, CA

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.23 Demolition/
disposal of buildings

Description of the Proposed Action:

Western Area Power Administration, Sierra Nevada Region (WAPA) is responsible for the operation and maintenance of several federally owned and operated transmission lines throughout California. Part of this responsibility includes ensuring WAPA maintains reliable access to transmission towers and other facilities to comply with the National Electric Safety Code, Western States Coordinating Council, and WAPA directives for protecting human safety and maintaining the reliable operation of the transmission system.

WAPA is proposing to demolish and dispose of an existing unused storage building, located at the Elverta Substation. This building is known as Building 10 and is approximately 300 square feet in area. The demolition and removal will take place within the Elverta Substation, fee-owned and operated by WAPA. This work will be done using in-house labor and government-owned equipment such as a forklift and mini-excavator. No ground disturbance is expected for this project, as the concrete foundation/platform will remain in place. All debris associated with this demolition project will be removed and transported to local certified landfills that are required to accept these type of building materials.

Findings:

WAPA follows the regulations at 40 C.F.R. Parts 1500-1508, in addition to the Department of Energy's (DOE) regulations implementing National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) at 10 C.F.R. Part 1021 to meet the agency's obligations under NEPA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 et seq. In accordance with Section 1021.410(b) DOE's NEPA Regulations (57 FR 15144, Apr. 24, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 36221-36243, Jul. 9, 1996; 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996, 76 FR 63764, Nov. 14, 2011), WAPA 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, WAPA finds that the proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Signed:

Name: Kristen Dalldorf

Title: Environmental Manager

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.

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Project Site Description

This Project lies within a rural area of Sacramento County (Township 10N, Range 05E, Section 19) on the southwest corner of Elverta Road and El Rio Avenue in Elverta, California at the WAPA Elverta Substation. The area surrounding the project site is relatively flat, open, and comprises lands zoned as agricultural, agricultural reserve, and agricultural residential.

Work will occur within the WAPA Elverta Substation, Elverta Maintenance Facility, and the access road connecting them. All debris associated with this demolition project will be removed and transported to local certified landfills that are permitted to accept these type of building materials. WAPA has verified that no asbestos or lead paint is present and has not discovered any other hazardous materials associated with the building materials.

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

Explanation:

Through past and current adequate surveys, no known archaeological resources are within the proposed area of potential effect (APE). This project would have no adverse effect to historic properties.

2. Geology and Soils

Explanation:

There will be no effects to geology and soils, as this project does not include ground disturbance.

3. Plants

(including Federal/state special-status species and habitats)

Explanation:

This project will not affect plants, as the substation and building site are maintained in a vegetation-free condition.

4. Wildlife

(including Federal/state special-status species and habitats)

Explanation:

This project will not affect wildlife, as the building and substation do not provide habitat for wildlife.

5. Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish

(including Federal/state special-status species, ESUs, and habitats)

Explanation:

No waterbodies are present in the project area.

6. Wetlands

Explanation:

No wetlands are present in the project area.

7. Groundwater and Aquifers

Explanation:

The substation does not have connectivity to groundwater or aquifers.

8. Land Use and Specially-Designated Areas

Explanation:

The project does not include any change in land use, nor are any specially-designated areas found in the project area.

9. Visual Quality

Explanation:

Removal of this small building provides negligible changes to views within the substation.

10. Air Quality

Explanation:

This project will be of a short duration using construction equipment within WAPA's Elverta-based fleet. WAPA's Elverta-based fleet is regularly maintained in a CARB-compliant status and in a manner consistent with permitting requirements of the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District.

11. Noise

Explanation:

No residences are found within or near the project area. Noise from this project is typical of routine equipment operation at the Elverta substation and maintenance facility, will be limited in duration, and will occur during daytime hours.

12. Human Health and Safety

Explanation:

During project activities, all standard safety protocols would be followed. Project activities would not impact human health or safety. WAPA shall comply with the latest effective standards promulgated by Cal/OSHA and the Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Safety and Health Standards, 29 CFR 1910 and 29 CFR 1925, and shall comply with all applicable safety and health regulations and requirements, including all applicable consensus standards incorporated by reference. WAPA shall take all reasonable precautions to protect the safety and health of employees and members of the public, and shall comply with all applicable safety and health regulations and requirements.

WAPA shall dispose of or recycle hazardous, universal, and non-hazardous waste material in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and local laws, regulations and ordinances, and current WAPA policies and procedures. Wastes shall be reduced by recycling, reusing, or reprocessing to the maximum extent practicable.

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:

None provided

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:

None provided

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:

None provided

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:

None provided

Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination

Description:

WAPA will work closely with the landowners to provide adequate notification of project activities.

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

Signed:

Name: Kristen Dalldorf

Title: Environmental Manager