



Categorical Exclusion Determination

Western Area Power Administration

U.S. Department of Energy



Proposed Action Title:	Beresford Substation Stage 11
WAPA Region:	Upper Great Plains
Location (County/State):	Lincoln County, South Dakota
CX Determination Number:	2026-UGP-004
CX Determination Expiration Date*:	04/13/2031

**CX is valid until the date above (no longer than five years from when document was signed) or completion of work started prior to the expiration of the CX Determination, unless there are substantial changes to the scope of work, location, or applicable regulations. If such changes occur prior to the expiration of the CX, the Region Environmental Program will review the analysis to ensure the CX is still applicable.*

Proposed Action Description:

East River requested a new bay addition at WAPA's Beresford Substation in South Dakota. The northeastern portion of WAPA's property has room to accommodate the addition. WAPA owns 78 feet of land north of the existing fence line. The project will move the east half of the north fence line 50 feet north to accommodate building the new bus and bay on the northeast portion of the existing substation. The existing northern section of the stormwater system will be rerouted to the north of the fence, in the remaining 28 feet of the property, connecting to the existing system. The substation modification will consist of installing one 115kV line position, structures and associated electrical equipment, installation of new cable entrance to building, and terminating cables from outdoor equipment in the control building termination cabinet. Work will be completed by standard installation via existing access road, utilizing equipment such as diggers, haulers, excavators, trailers, forklift, crane, and other tools. Work is anticipated to begin in the fall of 2026.

Environmental Requirements during Project Implementation:

None.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied (Number and Title):

- B4.11 Electric power substations and interconnection facilities
- B1.33 Stormwater runoff control
- B1.11 Fencing
- B1.7 Electronic equipment
- B2.2 Building and equipment instrumentation



Findings:

For the DOE procedures regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see 10 CFR 1021.102 and Appendix B to [10 CFR Part 1021](#), and also Section 5.4 (Applying one or more categorical exclusions to a proposal) and Appendices B and C of [DOE's National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures](#) (Jun. 30, 2025).

Requirements and guidance in 10 CFR 1021.102 and DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures: (See full text in regulation and in Implementing Procedures)



The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 1021 or Appendix B or C of DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures (June 30, 2025).

To fit within the classes of actions listed in Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 1021, or Appendix B of DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures, a proposal must satisfy the conditions that are integral elements of the classes of actions in Appendix B of both 10 CFR Part 1021 and DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures. Additionally, for CXs adopted pursuant to NEPA Section 109 (see DNIP, Appendix C), the originating Federal agency's integral elements or extraordinary circumstances must be in accordance with the applicable requirements.



There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal. DOE or an applicant may modify the proposal to avoid reasonably foreseeable adverse significant effects such that the categorical exclusion would apply.



The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion.

[Note: For proposals that fit within the categorical exclusions listed in Appendix C of DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures, see DOE's notice of adoption for the subject Appendix C categorical exclusion for additional considerations. DOE notices of adoption for other agency categorical exclusions may be found on [DOE's Section 109 webpage](#).]



Determination:

Based on my review of the proposed action, I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other requirements and guidance set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

WAPA Authorized Official Signature:

Title: Senior VP and Upper Great Plains Regional Manager