

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Anaconda Containment Installation

PP&A No.: 4146

Project Manager: Justin Johnson – EPI-4

Location: Deer Lodge County, Montana

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.6 – Tanks and equipment to control runoff and spills

Description of the Proposed Action: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to install a secondary containment system for Clean Water Act (CWA) compliance on BPA-owned land adjacent to Anaconda Substation in Deer Lodge County, Montana. The secondary containment system would include two oil water separator vaults, a new catch basin, piping, and an outfall.

Equipment used to perform this work may include a combination of the following: cranes, dump trucks, bulldozers, backhoes, excavators, and work trucks. All disturbed areas would be restored at the end of the project.

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/ Emma Reinemann

Emma Reinemann

Physical Scientist (Environmental)

Concur:

/s/ Katey Grange

Katey Grange

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: July 22, 2019

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: Anaconda Containment Installation

Project Site Description

The proposed project would be conducted adjacent to Anaconda Substation on BPA-owned property, in the town of Anaconda, Montana in the BPA Kalispell District. The area surrounding the substation is mostly flat with mostly grassy vegetation and some shrubs. The land use in the surrounding area is rural/agricultural. Anaconda Substation is located approximately 650 feet southeast of Mill Creek and approximately 50 feet south of an unnamed tributary to Mill Creek. A forested/shrub riparian wetland connected to Mill Creek is located approximately 200 feet north of Anaconda Substation. Anaconda Substation is located in the south opportunity Remedial Design Unit (RDU 6) of the Anaconda Regional Waste, Water, and Soils Operable Unit (OU 4) of Anaconda Co. Smelter Superfund Site.

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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> A cultural survey was performed in the proposed work location. Report findings indicated there would be no adverse effect to historic properties by the undertaking. Montana DAHP concurred with BPA's No Adverse Effect determination for all proposed activities on July 19, 2019.</p>		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> All ground-disturbing activities proposed as part of this project would take place within previously-disturbed areas. The proposed work would not substantially impact geology and soils. The project is located within the Anaconda Co. Smelter Superfund Site and soil would be managed and disposed of in accordance with CERCLA regulations. Excess soil would be disposed of at a landfill approved by the Anaconda Co. Smelter Superfund Site coordinator.</p>		
3. Plants (including Federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> There are no Federal/state special status species in the project area. The project footprint would be limited and any disturbed vegetation would be restored after construction is complete.</p>		
4. Wildlife (including Federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> The project area does not include habitat for any special-status species. There would be no effect to ESA-listed species in the area. The project would be located in an industrial area and any wildlife within the vicinity of the project would be accustomed to the operation of a transmission line; therefore, wildlife would not be affected by the project.</p>		

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

Explanation: No in-water work is proposed for this project and there are no floodplains present within the proposed work area. Best management practices would be used during construction to prevent sediment from migrating offsite into adjacent waterbodies during ground-disturbing activities.

After completion, the proposed containment system would protect nearby water bodies, floodplains, and fish by preventing the offsite migration of oil from any potential future spills.

6. **Wetlands**

Explanation: Best management practices would be used during construction to prevent sediment from migrating offsite into the nearby wetland during ground-disturbing activities.

After completion, the proposed containment system would protect nearby wetlands by preventing the offsite migration of oil from any potential future spills.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**

Explanation: The proposed activities have no potential to effect groundwater and aquifers. After completion, the proposed containment system would protect groundwater by preventing the vertical migration of oil from any potential future spills.

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

Explanation: No change in land use would occur and project activities would not impact land use. No specially-designated areas were identified within the project limits.

9. **Visual Quality**

Explanation: There would be no change to the visual quality of the area as a result of the proposed activities.

10. **Air Quality**

Explanation: The project would have small, temporary impacts on air quality from vehicle emissions and dust that may occur during construction.

11. **Noise**

Explanation: Some temporary construction noise would occur during daylight hours.

12. **Human Health and Safety**

Explanation: During project activity, all standard safety protocols would be followed. A site-specific health and safety plan would be prepared and implemented to address any hazards during the proposed work. Project activities would not impact human health or safety.

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: NA

- 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: NA

- 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: Anaconda Substation is located in the south opportunity Remedial Design Unit (RDU 6) of the Anaconda Regional Waste, Water, and Soils Operable Unit (OU 4) of Anaconda Co. Smelter Superfund Site. Soil excavated during construction of this project would be regulated under CERCLA.

Soil excavated during project activities would be disposed of in accordance with guidance given by the Anaconda Co. Smelter Superfund Site coordinator. Stormwater BMPs would be implemented to ensure sediment would not migrate off site.

- 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: NA

Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination

Description: All activities would take place on BPA-owned land.

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

Signed: /s/ Emma Reinemann
Emma Reinemann
Physical Scientist (Environmental)

Date: July 22, 2019