

# Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration  
Department of Energy



**Proposed Action:** Fruit Valley Land Acquisition

**Project Manager:** Wendy Jansen—TERR-OLYMPIA

**Location:** Clark County, Vancouver, Washington

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B1.24 Property Transfers

**Description of the Proposed Action:** Bonneville Power Administration proposes to acquire a 0.30 acre parcel from Clark County. The property is adjacent to BPA's Ross-Carbondale-1 transmission line and is currently developed with a monopole tower.

**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/ Beth Belanger

Beth Belanger  
Contract Environmental Protection Specialist  
Motus Staffing & Recruiting

Reviewed by:

/s/ Chad Hamel FOR

Nancy Wittpenn  
Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Stacy L. Mason  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: August 9, 2018

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: Fruit Valley Land Acquisition

---

### Project Site Description

The project location is in Clark County, Washington, adjacent to Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) Ross-Carbondale-1 transmission line. The site is near the intersection of the Erwin O. Rieger Memorial Hwy and W. 26<sup>th</sup> Ave in the Port of Vancouver.

### Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

Environmental Resource Impacts	No Potential for Significance	No Potential for Significance, with Conditions
1. <b>Historic and Cultural Resources</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> BPA Cultural staff reviewed the land acquisition location and determined that it has been previously surveyed for archaeological resources and the results of that survey were negative. The land acquisition does not involve any construction; therefore, it has been determined that the undertaking has no potential to impact historic or cultural resources.		
2. <b>Geology and Soils</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> The project would not involve any ground disturbance.		
3. <b>Plants</b> (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> The property does not have any special-status plants on it.		
4. <b>Wildlife</b> (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> The property is in an industrial zone, with low-quality habitat; therefore, there would be no impacts to any special-status wildlife or habitats.		
5. <b>Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish</b> (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> There are no water bodies or fish habitat on the parcel. Part of the parcel is within a flood zone, but the land acquisition does not involve any construction; therefore, there would be no impacts to floodplains.		
6. <b>Wetlands</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> There are no wetlands on the parcel.		

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**



Explanation: The land acquisition would not involve ground disturbance; therefore, there would be no impacts to groundwater or aquifers.

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



Explanation: The parcel is not within a specially designated area. Land use would remain unchanged after the land acquisition.

9. **Visual Quality**



Explanation: The visual quality would not change.

10. **Air Quality**



Explanation: There would be no impacts to air quality.

11. **Noise**



Explanation: There would be no noise impacts.

12. **Human Health and Safety**



Explanation: The land acquisition would not affect human health and 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:

- 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: BPA would be working directly with the owner of the property, Clark County, to purchase the parcel.

---

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

Signed: /s/ Beth Belanger  
Beth Belanger—ECT-4

Date: August 9, 2018