

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Wendson Substation Roof and Siding Replacement

Project No.: P04554

Project Manager: Micaiah Watkins TEPF-CSB-2

Location: Lane, Oregon

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B2.1 Workplace enhancements; B5.1 Actions to conserve energy or water.

Description of the Proposed Action: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is proposing to replace the roof and siding of the pre-engineered metal control house at the Wendson Substation near Florence, Oregon to improve the moisture and thermal performance of the building. Surface mounted mechanical, electrical and security systems would be removed and replaced once the new siding and roof are installed. The work would take place over several weeks and involve the use of freight trucks, work trucks, forklifts, small cranes and power tools. All work would take place within the existing substation fenced area, and would be centered on the control house building.

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, Jul. 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/ Douglas Corkran

Douglas Corkran
Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katey Grange

July 14, 2020

Katey Grange
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date

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.

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Project Site Description

The project site is located within the Wendson Substation gravel yard. The substation is located on the plateau of a ridge north of the Siuslaw River and is surrounded by timber lands, some of which are dense older mature forest, especially directly to the north of the substation. Highway 126 runs along the Siuslaw River at the base of the ridge approximately 800 feet south of the project area.

Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

1. Historic and Cultural Resources

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Oregon SHPO concurred with BPA's determination of no adverse effect to historic properties on April 28, 2020.

2. Geology and Soils

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground disturbing work is proposed for this project.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground disturbing work is proposed for this project, thus no plants would be affected.

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

Potential for Significance: No with Conditions

Explanation: BPA determined that noise and disturbance from the project "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect" marbled murrelets and northern spotted owls. US Fish and Wildlife concurred with this determination on June 30, 2020.

Notes: As a condition of USFWS concurrence, to avoid adverse impacts to marbled murrelets and northern spotted owls BPA would implement timing restriction as follows:

- April 1 to August 5- No Work Allowed

- August 6 to September 15- Dawn-Dusk Timing Restrictions (work may not start until two hours after sunrise and must stop two hours before sunset, sunrise and sunset times for Florence, OR can be found here: <https://www.timeanddate.com/sun/@5727032>)
- September 15 to March 31- No Restrictions

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The site is in an upland area with no water bodies or floodplains nearby.

6. Wetlands

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The site is in a gravel yard located in an upland area with no wetlands.

7. Groundwater and Aquifers

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Replacement of the siding and roof of the metal building is not expected to result in any releases of materials or changes in water movement that could affect groundwater or aquifers.

8. Land Use and Specially-Designated Areas

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Existing land uses would remain, no changes to land use would result from the project.

9. Visual Quality

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The control house roof and siding would be replaced with in-kind materials so no changes to visual quality beyond the control house appearing newer are expected.

10. Air Quality

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Some minor fugitive dust and emissions from vehicles and equipment would occur during construction.

11. Noise

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Some minor noise from vehicles and equipment would occur during construction, but long term noise impacts are not expected.

12. Human Health and Safety

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The project would not create conditions that would impact 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: N/A

Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators) that are not otherwise categorically excluded.

Explanation: N/A

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: N/A

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: N/A

Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination

Description: None needed, all work would take place within BPA's fee-owned substation property.

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

Signed: */s/ Douglas Corkran* 07/14/2020
Douglas Corkran, ECT-4 Date
Environmental Protection Specialist