

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Mobile Food Truck Operation on Ross-Carborundum No. 1 Right-of-Way

Project No.: LURR-20200221

Project Manager: Charlene R. Belt, TERR-ROSS MHQA

Location: Clark County, Washington

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.9 Multiple use of powerline rights-of-way

Description of the Proposed Action: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to allow an applicant to park and operate a mobile food truck on BPA fee-owned right-of-way (ROW) near structure 5/9 on the Ross-Carborundum No. 1 transmission line in Vancouver, Clark County, Washington (Township 2 N, Range 1 E, Donation Land Claim 52). The food truck, as well as any customers, would park exclusively on a previously-disturbed paved and graveled portion of the ROW. No outdoor seating or other temporary or permanent structures are proposed. Operation of a mobile food truck would not require any ground disturbance and would not result in any modifications to existing facilities.

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/ W. Walker Stinnette

W. Walker Stinnette
Contract Environmental Protection Specialist
Salient CRGT

Reviewed by:

/s/ Carol P. Leiter
Carol P. Leiter
Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katey C. Grange January 5, 2021
Katey C. Grange Date
NEPA Compliance Officer

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 on BPA fee-owned right-of-way (ROW) near structure 5/9 on the Ross-Carborundum No. 1 transmission line in Vancouver, Clark County, Washington (Township 2 N, Range 1 E, Donation Land Claim 52). The ROW is flat and almost entirely covered in gravel or asphalt, with the exception of a small patch of grass at the base of structure 5/9. Outside of the ROW, the surrounding area is intensively developed with mix of urban industrial and commercial properties, including the Port of Vancouver. No wetlands have been mapped within the project site. The Columbia River is located approximately 0.4 mile south-southwest of the ROW, and the project site is located approximately 100 feet from the River's floodplain.

Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

1. Historic and Cultural Resources

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed project would not require any ground disturbance and would not result in any modifications to existing facilities. Therefore, the proposed undertaking would have no potential to cause effects on historic properties.

2. Geology and Soils

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The project site is covered in either gravel or asphalt, and there would be no vehicle driving or parking on exposed native soils. No ground disturbance would be required. Therefore, the proposed project would have no impact on geology and soils.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No vegetation is present within the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would have no effect on protected plant species or habitats.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Current ambient noise and disturbances are high in the area due to activities associated with surrounding land uses. As such, any wildlife species that could be present in the area would likely already be habituated to human activity. No modification to suitable

species habitat is proposed. Therefore, the proposed project would have no effect on protected wildlife species or habitats.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed project would have no impact on water bodies and floodplains and would have no effect on protected fish species or habitats.

6. Wetlands

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed project would have no impact on wetlands.

7. Groundwater and Aquifers

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed project would have no impact on groundwater or aquifers.

8. Land Use and Specially-Designated Areas

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed project would be consistent with surrounding land uses and would have no impact on any specially-designated areas.

9. Visual Quality

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The mobile food truck and customer vehicles would be visible at the project site. However, this would be consistent with the surrounding visual quality and would not result in a permanent change to visual quality.

10. Air Quality

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Operation of a mobile food truck as well as the resulting increase in customer vehicle traffic could result in an increase in dust and vehicle emissions. Therefore, the proposed project could have a minor impact on air quality.

11. Noise

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The surrounding area currently has elevated noise levels typically associated with urban industrial and commercial land uses. The proposed project would not generate noise above current ambient conditions.

12. Human Health and Safety

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed project would have no impact on 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: The Ross-Carborundum No. 1 transmission line ROW is BPA fee-owned property. No landowner notification, involvement, or coordination would be required.

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

Signed: /s/ W. Walker Stinnette

January 5, 2021

W. Walker Stinnette, EC-4

Date

Contract Environmental Protection Specialist

Salient CRGT