

# Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



**Proposed Action:** Martin Creek Control House Replacement

**Project Manager:** Rasha Kroonen

**Location:** Lane County, Oregon

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B4.6 Additions and modifications to transmission facilities

**Description of the Proposed Action:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to upgrade station service equipment and replace the control house at the Martin Creek Substation. The project is needed to upgrade outdated equipment to ensure system reliability and meet operational needs. The proposed project includes replacement of the interchange meter, replacement of batteries and chargers, replacement of the existing control house with a new power control assembly (PCA) building, and upgrading and relocating the station service equipment by the new PCA. In order to accommodate the new PCA, yard expansion and access road expansion would also be necessary and would occur in a previously disturbed area.

**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/ Elizabeth Siping*

Elizabeth Siping

Contract Environmental Protection Specialist

Adecco Engineering & Technical

Reviewed by:

*/s/ Dave Kennedy*

Dave Kennedy

Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

*/s/ Katherine S. Pierce*

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: November 19, 2014

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:** Martin Creek Control House Replacement

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### Project Site Description

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### Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

Environmental Resource Impacts	No Potential for Significance	No Potential for Significance, with Conditions
<b>1. Historic and Cultural Resources</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> The initiation of consultation was sent to SHPO, Confederated Tribes of Siletz, and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde on August 29, 2014. SHPO concurred with the Determination of No Historic Properties Affected made by the cultural resource specialist on October 28, 2014. No response was received from either tribe; therefore, concurrence was assumed.		
<b>2. Geology and Soils</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> Minimal soil disturbance will occur in an area that has previously been disturbed.		
<b>3. Plants</b> (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> Project area has been previously disturbed and consists of gravel fill and a small amount of vegetation.		
<b>4. Wildlife</b> (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> Project area is not suitable for wildlife habitat.		

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



Explanation:

No water bodies or floodplains are present in the project area.

6. **Wetlands**



Explanation:

No wetlands are present in the project area.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**



Explanation:

No new wells or use of ground water are proposed.

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



Explanation:

Temporary disturbance during construction.

9. **Visual Quality**



Explanation:

No significant change in appearance would occur.

10. **Air Quality**



Explanation:

Temporary dust and vehicle emissions are possible during construction.

11. **Noise**



Explanation:

Temporary noise is possible during construction.

12. **Human Health and Safety**



Explanation:

No impact to human health and safety from the proposed project.

### **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:

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#### **Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination**

Description:  
Not applicable.

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

Signed: /s/ Elizabeth Siping  
Elizabeth Siping – KEC-4

Date: November 19, 2014