

memorandum

DATE: September 4, 2014

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: Hannah Sharp, KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Deborah Ruckwardt – TEP-CSB-1
Project Manager

Proposed Action: Midway/Tri-Cities Bundle Equipment Upgrades

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.7 Electronic Equipment

Location: Multiple locations within Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) service area

Proposed by: BPA

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to perform upgrades and install equipment required for operation and maintenance of its transmission grid at several of its substations. The upgrades and equipment are needed because the existing equipment is inadequate for providing reliable power to BPA's service region. Substation equipment to be added or replaced would include bus differential relays, line relays, transformer bank relays, transfer trip equipment, switches, meters, batteries, and associated indoor and outdoor cables. BPA would also install Sequence of Event Recorders (SER) and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) upgrades where necessary. These actions would only occur inside the existing control house at each substation, would not disturb the ground, and would not involve hazardous materials. For specific activities at specific locations, refer to Table 1.

Table 1. Proposed Actions

Substation	Project Activity	State	County
Benton	Bus differential relays, line relays, transformer bank relays, cables, SER/SCADA	WA	Benton
Flathead	SER/SCADA	MT	Flathead
Horse Heaven	Relays, batteries, transfer trip equipment, metering equipment, SER/SCADA	WA	Benton
North Bonneville	Transfer trip equipment, switches, cables, wiring	WA	Skamania
Red Mountain	SER/SCADA, batteries, chargers	WA	Benton
White Bluffs	Relays, transfer trip equipment, metering equipment, SER/SCADA	WA	Benton

Findings: BPA has determined that the proposed action complies with Section 1021.410 and Appendix B of Subpart D 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). The proposed action does not present any extraordinary circumstances that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal. The proposal is not connected [40 C.F.R. 1508.25(a)(1)] to other actions with potentially significant impacts, has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts [40 C.F.R. 1508.25(a)(2)], and is not precluded by 40 C.F.R. 1506.1 or 10 C.F.R. 1021.211. Moreover, the proposed action would not (i) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, (ii) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities, (iii) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases, (iv) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, or (v) 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.

This proposed action meets the requirements for the Categorical Exclusion referenced above. We therefore determine that the proposed action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

/s/ Hannah Sharp
Hannah Sharp
Contract Environmental Protection Specialist
CorSource Technology Group

Reviewed by:

/s/ Gene Lynard
Gene Lynard
Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce
Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: *September 4, 2014*

Attachment:
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Midway/Tri-Cities Bundle Equipment Upgrades

Work Order #: 348903, 359978, 348906, 348879, 359977, 347230

This project does not have the potential to cause significant impacts on the following environmentally sensitive resources. See 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B for complete descriptions of the resources. This checklist is to be used as a summary – further discussion may be included in the Categorical Exclusion Memorandum.

Environmental Resources	No Potential for Significance	No Potential, with Conditions (describe)
1. Historic Properties and Cultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Health & safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Prime or unique farmlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (describe)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed: /s/ Hannah Sharp

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