DATE: April 13, 2012

REPLY TO ATTN OF: KEPR-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

to: Richard Heredia
Project Manager – TEP-TPP-1

**Proposed Action:** Redmond-Pilot Butte No. 1 Wood Pole Replacement Project

**PP&A Project No.:** 2189

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

**Location:** Redmond-Pilot Butte No. 1 transmission line in Deschutes County, Oregon at structures 4/7 and 11/6.

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

**Description of the Proposed Action:**
BPA is proposing to replace two deteriorating wood pole structures along its Redmond-Pilot Butte No. 1 230-kV transmission line located in Deschutes County, Oregon. The two structures to be replaced are 4/7 and 11/6. The work will include creating a 50' x 50' earthen landing around each structure to allow for equipment staging. The new poles will be installed approximately 5' feet away from the existing poles. No new access road improvements will be needed for any of the structure locations. The project is proposed to begin in May 2012, based on the availability of a line outage. The project duration will be approximately two weeks.

**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.

Based on the provisions identified on the attachment, 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/ Aaron Shurtleff
Aaron Shurtleff
Environmental Engineer

Concur: /s/ Katherine S. Pierce Date: April 13, 2012
Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

Attachments:
Provisions
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions
Provisions

This categorical exclusion will meet the following provisions:

- No new access roads will be constructed for this project.
- Existing access roads will not be improved by any means including blading, grading, excavation, or filling.
- No herbicides will be used for this project.
- Applicable fire season restrictions will be followed.
- Only cleaned equipment will be used to prevent the spread of noxious weeds or invasive species.
## Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

**Name of Proposed Project:** Redmond-Pilot Butte No. 1 Wood Pole Replacement Project

**Work Order #:** 297908

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environmental Resources</th>
<th>No Potential for Significance</th>
<th>No Potential, with Conditions (describe)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Historic Properties and Cultural Resources</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No 30-day response received from SHPO as of 4/9/12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. T &amp; E Species, or their habitat(s)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No federally listed T&amp;E species or designated critical habit is known to be within the project area.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Floodplains or wetlands</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Areas of special designation</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Health &amp; safety</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Prime or unique farmlands</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Special sources of water</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Other (describe)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Supporting documentation in the official project file:
Redmond-Pilot Butte Effects Determination

Signed: /s/ Aaron Shurtliff  Date: April 10, 2012