

memorandum

DATE: August 6, 2014

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Chris Bachmann
Project Manager – TEP-CSB-2

Proposed Action: Xeriscaping at Five Facilities (update to previous categorical exclusion issued December 10, 2013)

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021: B 1.3 Routine maintenance

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

Proposed by: BPA

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA has proposed installing new, low maintenance landscaping within previously landscaped areas at facilities in Oregon, Washington and Montana. In addition to the work described in the previous categorical exclusion for this project (December 10, 2013), BPA proposes to add Alvey Substation in Lane County, Oregon to the facilities receiving improvements. In addition, at each of the facilities BPA would remove trees that may be growing into transmission lines or creating significant maintenance problems. Where practical, the trees would be replaced with site-appropriate trees or other vegetation.

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/ Carolyn A. Sharp
Carolyn A. Sharp
Contract Environmental Protection Specialist
Act 1 Group

Reviewed by:

/s/ Gene Lynard
Gene Lynard
Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

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

Date: *August 6, 2014*

Attachment:
Provisions
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

ATTACHMENT

PROVISIONS

This categorical exclusion will meet the following provisions:

When using herbicides to remove existing lawn, follow the list of approved herbicides and buffers from BPA's Transmission System Vegetation Management Program Environmental Impact Statement (2000) to provide the least impact to non-target resources.

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Xeriscaping at Five Facilities

Work Order #: multiple

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 Concurrence on no adverse effect determination received WA DAHP 7/8/14; OR SHPO 7/18/14 (none required from MT SHPO – building not eligible)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) Disturbance limited to replacing facility landscaping with native plant material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands None present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation None present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Health & safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Prime or unique farmlands None present – work in existing facility	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water None present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (describe)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed: /s/ Carolyn Sharp

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