

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Acquisition and Release of Multiple Access Road and Right-of-Way Easements

Project Manager: Brian Mai TERP-TPP-4

Location: Various Counties in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.24 Property Transfers

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to perform several property acquisitions and disposals in multiple locations across BPA's service area. The acquisitions would ensure permanent legal access to BPA facilities for operation and maintenance purposes. BPA would release rights to access roads that are no longer used or that no longer exist on the system. These acquisitions and disposals would perfect access rights and reflect current use of existing facilities.

New access road easements would generally be 20 feet wide, new ROW easement widths would vary and are described in the table below. There are no planned improvements associated with these property transfers.

BPA Facility	Tracts/Roads	Owner	Length of Road	County, State	Scope of Work
Albeni Falls-Sand Creek Access Road (AR) Mile (Mi) 16, 22	N-S-17-AR-4P1	Private	930'	Bonner, ID	Acquire easement rights over existing roads for operation & maintenance (O&M).
	N-S-17-AR-4P2	Private	930'		
	N-S-17-AR-4P3	Private	2,590'		
	N-S-23-AR-7P1	Private	450'		
Big Eddy-Spring Creek Mi 47	BE-MI-46-A-112XW1	Private	.4 Acres (150' x 92')	Klickitat, WA	Acquire extra ROW width for poles near the Spring Creek substation for O&M
Columbia-Ellensburg AR Mi 28-32	C-EL-28-AR-1P1	DNR	340'	Kittitas, WA	Acquire easement rights over existing roads for O&M
	C-EL-28-AR-2P2	DNR	1370'		
	C-EL-28-AR-4	DNR	440'		
	C-EL-28-AR-1P2	USBR	5530'		
	C-EL-28-AR-3P2	USBR	60'		
	C-EL-29-AR-1P2	USBR	45'		
	C-EL-29-AR-2P2	USBR	45'		
	C-EL-30-AR-1P1	Private	4155'		
C-EL-30-AR-2	Private	160'			
Columbia-Valhalla No 1 & 2 ROW Mi 1	C-K-1-A-11	Private	.5 Acres	Klickitat, WA	Acquire Right-of-way for O&M.
	C-V-1-A-8	Private	.4 Acres		

Rocky Reach-Columbia No 1 ROW Mi 20	RR-C-20-A-25	Private	1.2 Acres	Klickitat, WA	Acquire Right-of-way for O&M.
Colville-Republic AR Mi 8, 13	BAF-8-AR-4P4	Private	540'	Stevens, WA	Acquire easement rights over existing roads for O&M.
	BAF-8-AR-1P2	Private	480'		
	BAF-8-AR-1P5	Private	920'		
	BAF-8-AR-3P1	Private	340'		
	BAF-13-AR-2	Private	390'		
Creston-Bell AR Mi 13, 24, 47, 50	BAC-42-AR-1	Private	116'	Lincoln, WA	Acquire easement rights over existing roads for O&M.
	BAC-54-AR-1	Private	30'		
	BAC-77-AR-1	WA State Parks	10'		
	GC-S-80-AR-1P5	Private	980'		Release access road rights where access is no longer needed.
	GC-S-80-AR-1P6	Private	330'		
	GC-S-80-AR-1P7	Private	134'		
Green Bluff Tap to Bell-Trentwood No 2 AR Mi 2	GBT-2-AR-4	Private	800'	Spokane, WA	Acquire easement rights over existing roads for O&M.
Lancaster-Noxon ROW Mi 15-16	S-HS-41-A-156XW1	Private	9.5 Acres	Kootenai, WA	Acquire easement rights to bring the ROW in this area to the standard width for O&M.
	S-HS-41-A-157.1XW1	Private	9.3 Acres		
	S-HS-41-A-157.2XW1	Private	9.6 Acres		
	S-HS-41-A-157.3XW1	Private	.1 Acre		
McNary-Badger Canyon/Franklin-Badger Canyon AR Mi 15 & 17	M-P-15-AR-1	WA DNR	915'	Benton, WA	Acquire easement rights over existing roads for O&M.
	M-P-17-AR-6P2	Private	555'		
Roundup-La Grande AR Mi 14-42	P-LG-14-AR-1	Private	75'	Umatilla, OR	Acquire easement rights over existing roads for O&M.
	P-LG-40-AR-1	Private	1020'		
	P-LG-41-AR-1	Private	870'		
	P-LG-42-AR-1	Private	650'		
Wautoma-Rock Creek AR Mi 40 Acquisition & Release	H-JD-40-AR-4	Private	290'	Yakama, WA	Acquire easement rights over an existing road for O&M.
	H-JD-40-AR-1P2	Private	1630'		Release access road rights where access is no longer needed.

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 A of 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D;
- (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/ Claire McClory

Claire McClory

Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: October 1, 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: Acquisition and Release of Multiple Access Road and Right of Way Easements

Project Site Description

Project sites are located in various states throughout BPA's service territory.

Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

Environmental Resource Impacts	No Potential for Significance	No Potential for Significance, with Conditions
1. Historic and Cultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u>		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u>		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u>		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u>		
5. Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u>		
6. Wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u>		

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**



Explanation:

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



Explanation:

BPA would acquire or dispose of easement rights on private and public land. Land use would remain unchanged.

9. **Visual Quality**



Explanation:

10. **Air Quality**



Explanation:

11. **Noise**



Explanation:

12. **Human Health and Safety**



Explanation:

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:

Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination

Description: Not applicable.

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

Signed: /s/ Claire McClory

Date: October 1, 2014