

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Land Use Agreement for use of Colville Substation Access Road

Project No.: LURR #20160327

Project Manager: Lance Mueller – TERR-BELL-1

Location: Stevens County, Washington

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

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA is proposing to issue a Land Use Agreement to a private landowner who has requested formal access to their property via BPA's Colville Substation access road in Stevens County, Washington. The road has been used by residents for over 40 years however, for the current landowners to complete the sale of their property, the prospective buyers have requested a more formal arrangement. The Land Use Agreement formally allows the current owner to use the road until BPA finds it no longer reasonable. The Land Use Agreement could be transferred to a future owner at their request. No physical changes to the road would take place.

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/ Claire McClory

Claire McClory

Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Sarah T. Biegel

Sarah T. Biegel

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: June 27, 2016

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.

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Project Site Description

The Colville Substation access road is an approximately 0.25-mile long paved road located east of Colville, Washington in Stevens County.

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> The Land Use Agreement would have no potential to affect historic properties or cultural resources. No consultation required.		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> Land Use Agreement only. No impact.		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> Land Use Agreement only. No impact.		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> Land Use Agreement only. No impact.		
5. Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> Land Use Agreement only. No impact.		
6. Wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> Land Use Agreement only. No impact.		

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**

Explanation: Land Use Agreement only. No impact.

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

Explanation: The Land Use Agreement would formalize existing use of the substation access road. No changes to current land use proposed.

9. **Visual Quality**

Explanation: Land Use Agreement only. No impact.

10. **Air Quality**

Explanation: Land Use Agreement only. No impact.

11. **Noise**

Explanation: Land Use Agreement only. No impact.

12. **Human Health and Safety**

Explanation: Land Use Agreement only. No impact.

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: No notification necessary. The existing landowner submitted a request to BPA to formalize their continued use of BPA's access road.

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

Signed: /s/ Claire McClory
Claire McClory ECT-4

Date: June 27, 2016