

# Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



**Proposed Action:** Well Refurbishment and Stormwater System Maintenance at Troutdale Substation

**Project Manager:** Dana Houston Jackson, TEP-CSB-2

**Location:** Multnomah County, Oregon

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B1.3 Routine Maintenance

**Description of the Proposed Action:** The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to refurbish an existing non-potable water well and inspect and clean the existing stormwater drainage system, both contained within the Troutdale Substation yard.

Non-potable water well refurbishment activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Remove the existing well pump, wiring, and well pump power from the electrical panel.
2. Excavate and remove existing water pipe to the control house building, leaving in place small segments of pipe that travel under an existing chain link fence.
3. Modify the well casing and replace the wellhead.
4. Directional bore underground approximately 250 feet to provide a new path for the water supply pipeline between the well and the control house. Boring and excavating would not occur below 10 feet from the ground's surface. The bore's entry and exit points would generate approximately 5 ft. by 5 ft. by 5 ft. of ground disturbance (displacing approximately 5 cubic yards of soil at each pit).
5. Mount and ground a local disconnect adjacent to the pump control box.
6. Route the well pump cable through the existing substation manhole system back to the control house.
7. Reinstall the well pump and replace the expansion tank.
8. Install a new well casing approximately 2 feet above the ground's surface.

Stormwater drainage system cleaning activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Clean out all catch basins, manholes, storm drainage pipes, and culverts all contained within the substation yard.
2. Install mesh-type catch basin grates where identified.
3. Install Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-approved grate covers and trash racks where identified.

**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/ Gene Lynard for

Becky Hill  
Contract Environmental Protection Specialist  
Flux Resources, LLC

Reviewed by:

/s/ Jenna Peterson for

Gene Lynard  
Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Sarah T. Biegel

Sarah T. Biegel  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: September 21, 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.

**Proposed Action:** Well Refurbishment and Stormwater System Maintenance at Troutdale Substation

### Project Site Description

The project site is located inside the fenced yard of BPA's Troutdale Substation, located in Multnomah County, Oregon. The site consists of the graveled yard, substation equipment, transmission lines, and a control house. The surrounding area has been developed with commercial businesses including the Troutdale Airport. Company Lake, the Columbia River, and the Sandy River are located within a half mile north or east of the Troutdale Substation; however, a large berm separates the project area from these water bodies.

### Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

| Environmental Resource Impacts   | No Potential for Significance       | No Potential for Significance, with Conditions |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. <b>Historic and Cultural Resources</b>  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                       |
| <p><u>Explanation:</u> BPA initiated Section 106 consultation on April 7, 2016, with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, and the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office.</p> <p>On August 4, 2016, the BPA archaeologist determined that no adverse effects to historic properties were expected to occur as a result of the proposed undertaking.</p> <p>Oregon SHPO concurred with BPA's determination of effects on August 22, 2016, and again on September 7, 2016.</p> <p>No response was received from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, or the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation.</p> |                                     |  |
| 2. <b>Geology and Soils</b>  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                       |
| <p><u>Explanation:</u> Project activities would only occur in the substation gravel yard and existing buildings. Directional boring would travel from the control house to the well inside the engine generator room, a distance of approximately 250 feet, all within the substation yard. Rock inside the substation would not be excavated beyond a depth of 10 feet.</p>   |                                     |  |
| 3. <b>Plants</b> (including federal/state special-status species)  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                       |
| <p><u>Explanation:</u> No federal or state special-status species requiring protection are known to occur at the site.</p>   |                                     |  |
| 4. <b>Wildlife</b> (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                       |
| <p><u>Explanation:</u> No federal or state special-status species requiring protection are known to occur at the site.</p>   |                                     |  |

5. **Water bodies, Floodplains, and Fish**  
(including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)



Explanation: Company Lake, the Columbia River, and the Sandy River are located within a half mile north or east of the Troutdale Substation; however, a large berm separates the project area from these water bodies and their floodplains. Best management practices for temporary erosion and sediment control would be implemented; water bodies, floodplains, and fish would not be impacted.

6. **Wetlands**



Explanation: Several wetlands are present near the Troutdale Substation and have been delineated. The closest wetland is approximately 370 feet north of the substation fence. Best management practices for temporary erosion and sediment control would be implemented; wetlands would not be impacted.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**



Explanation: The existing non-potable water well accesses the groundwater table. Project activities would not impact groundwater or aquifers because the maximum depth of disturbance would not exceed 10 feet.

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



Explanation: No change to land use is proposed. The Troutdale Substation is within an area designated as the Reynolds Superfund Site Oregon due to groundwater contamination. A Memorandum of Agreement was signed by Department of Energy, BPA, and the Environmental Protection Agency on December 14, 2010. The agreement restricted ground-disturbing activities on BPA's substation property, specifically addressing potential impacts to groundwater as a result of activities occurring at a depth greater than 15 feet. This project would not impact groundwater because the maximum depth of project activities would not exceed 10 feet.

9. **Visual Quality**



Explanation: No change to substation or building appearance is proposed.

10. **Air Quality**



Explanation: Small, temporary amounts of dust and vehicle emissions would occur during construction activities.

11. **Noise**



Explanation: Temporary increase in noise would occur during construction activities.

12. **Human Health and Safety**



Explanation: No impact to human health or safety anticipated. All solid and liquid wastes would be disposed of in accordance with the Pollution Abatement Clearance memo.

### 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:

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#### **Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination**

Description: BPA owns the substation property in fee.

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

Signed: /s/ Gene Lynard for  
Becky Hill, ECT-4  
Contract Environmental Protection Specialist  
Flux Resources, LLC

Date: September 21, 2016