

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Vancouver Driveway and Sewer Install

Project No.: LURR 2020018

Project Manager: Charlene Belt TERR-3

Location: Clark County, WA

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.9 Multiple use of powerline rights-of-way

Description of the Proposed Action: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to allow an applicant to install two 30-foot-wide asphalt driveways constructed to Clark County standard across the BPA right-of-way to provide access to potential retail and office space. The applicant would also seek to install a section of 6-inch-diameter sewer pipe at a depth of 6 feet across the right-of-way. Area disturbed adjacent to the driveways and for the sewer pipe installation would be reseeded. The right-of-way involved is the Ross-Lexington No. 1 transmission line between structures 2/3 and 2/4.

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, Jul. 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/ Christopher H. Furey

Christopher H. Furey
Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katey Grange

Katey Grange
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: May 4, 2020

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: Vancouver Driveway and Sewer Line Install

Project Site Description

The installation of the two driveways and sewer line would be on maintained BPA right-of-way located in Clark County, WA. The legal parcel is in Township 2 N, Range 1 E, and Section 1. Northeast 30th Avenue is located on the western side of the right-of-way. An agricultural easement exists on the parcel. The surrounding topography consists of suburban residential and commercial development with some greenway areas near the existing transmission line right-of-way.

There are no nearby water bodies with Cougar Canyon Creek over 1.2 miles west of the project site. Emergent freshwater wetland areas are located over 1,100 feet southwest of the project site.

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> On April 2, 2020, a no adverse effect determination letter was sent to the following consulting parties: Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP), Cowlitz Tribe, The Confederated of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, and Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. The DAHP concurred with BPA's determination on April 2, 2020.		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> There would be some soil disturbance for the installation of the driveways and sewer line. Some digging at a depth of about 6 feet is expected for the sewer line. Work would be occurring in the established BPA right-of-way. Dust and erosion control best practices would be utilized.		
3. Plants (including Federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> The project would be occurring in the BPA right-of-way that is currently managed for low-growing vegetation. There are no listed or special-status species present. Area disturbed adjacent to the driveways and for the sewer pipe installation would be reseeded.		
4. Wildlife (including Federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> The work would be in established BPA right-of-way. No trees would be removed, and the site is not identified to provide northern spotted owl habitat or nesting sites. Construction of the driveways and sewer line install is expected to occur during daytime hours with limited to no effect to any listed, non-listed or special-status species.		

5. **Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish**
(including Federal/state special-status species, ESUs, and habitats)



Explanation: The nearest water body is Canyon Creek located over 1.2 miles west of the project site. There would be no in-water work occurring and project activities would not be near the creek.

6. **Wetlands**



Explanation: No wetlands are present. Emergent freshwater wetland areas are over 1,100 feet west of the project site.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**



Explanation: The shallow digging involved would not impact groundwater or aquifers.

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



Explanation: There would be some change in the current agricultural use by the installation of the driveways and sewer line.

9. **Visual Quality**



Explanation: There would be limited visual changes to the project area or surrounding environment.

10. **Air Quality**



Explanation: A small amount of dust and vehicle emissions would occur during installation.

11. **Noise**



Explanation: Temporary construction noise would occur during daylight hours. No ongoing noise increase is expected for this area with existing roadways and adjacent development.

12. **Human Health and Safety**



Explanation: Workers would follow applicable state safety protocols.

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: BPA Realty is in coordination with the adjacent landowner and easement holders.

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

Signed: /s/ Christopher H. Furey
Christopher H. Furey, ECT-4

Date: May 4, 2020