

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Pacific Marine Energy Metering and Telemetry

Project No.: P02303-G0505

Project Manager: Rasha Kroonen, TEPS-TPP-1

Location: Lincoln, OR

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.11 Electric power substations and interconnection facilities; B1.7 Electronic Equipment

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to install generation metering and telemetry equipment for integration of a total 20-megawatt (MW) wave energy project. The wave energy project would interconnect to Central Lincoln PUD's Driftwood Substation 69kV system on their Seal Rock-Lundy 12.5kV distribution line, in BPA's Balancing Authority Area.

BPA would be requiring installation of BPA generation metering and telemetry racks inside the planned control house at the customer generation site, for the customer to port the telemetry to BPA's Alvey substation via a telco Ethernet Leased Line. BPA would then bridge the telemetry at BPA Alvey Substation's Data Concentrator where it would then be ported to BPA's Control Centers.

At the time of installation, BPA's actions would all be within existing facilities with no ground disturbance.

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:

<u>/s/ Katey C. Grange</u>	<u>July 1, 2021</u>
Katey C. Grange	Date
NEPA Compliance Officer	

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: Pacific Marine Energy Metering and Telemetry

Project Site Description

Project components would be installed within existing facilities at substations and generation sites.

Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

1. Historic and Cultural Resources

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: BPA Historian and Archeologist reviewed proposed activities and determined that these type of activities do not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties.

2. Geology and Soils

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground disturbance would occur.

3. Plants (including Federal/state special-status species and habitats)

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground disturbance would occur.

4. Wildlife (including Federal/state special-status species and habitats)

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Work would occur in existing buildings.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Work would occur in existing facilities.

6. Wetlands

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Work would occur in existing facilities.

7. Groundwater and Aquifers

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No ground or groundwater disturbance would occur.

8. Land Use and Specially-Designated Areas

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No change in land use would occur.

9. Visual Quality

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No change in the visual character of the facilities would occur.

10. Air Quality

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Minor, temporary generation of emissions associated with increased vehicle traffic and equipment use would occur during construction.

11. Noise

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Minor, intermittent noise associated with installation activities indoors would occur during installation.

12. Human Health and Safety

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: There would be no impacts to human health and safety.

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: N/A

Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators) that are not otherwise categorically excluded.

Explanation: N/A

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: N/A

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: N/A

Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination

Description: BPA would coordinate with facility owner for access.

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 July 1, 2021
Christopher H. Furey, ECT-4 date
Environmental Protection Specialist