

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Munro Control Center (MCC) RF Back Flow Preventer and Meter Installation

Project No.: 4711

Project Manager: Janice Grounds – NWF-B1

Location: Spokane, WA

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

Description of the Proposed Action: : Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to install a mandated reduced principal pressure assembly back flow preventer in the BPA fire main at the Munro Control Center (MCC) in Spokane County, WA. The proposed project would install a concrete pad to accommodate an aboveground, heated vault to house a RF Back Flow Preventer and meter, and would include excavation that would connect piping to the existing waterline. All proposed activities would be on previously-disturbed BPA property.

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/ Adrienne Wojtasz

Adrienne Wojtasz

Physical Scientist (Environmental)

Concur:

/s/ Sarah T. Biegel

Sarah T. Biegel

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: August 9, 2021

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

Activity would be located in the Munro Control Center's existing fenced facility located in Spokane County, Washington.

Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

1. Historic and Cultural Resources

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed project activities at Munro Control Center would have no potential to cause effect. The site was constructed within the last 50 years and does not fall into the period of significance outlined in the BPA Pacific Northwest Transmission System Multiple Property Submission (1938- 1974). Additionally, the footprint of the control center has seen substantial disturbance (to a depth of upwards of 5 feet and extends upwards of 4 feet from the building), and it is highly unlikely that archaeological resources would be identified during the project. BPA Historian review has shown that, as all ground disturbance proposed in the undertaking would be limited to the interior of the previously-disturbed fenced yard and no built historic resources are present, the proposed work would not impact the integrity of historic properties. Based on the information provided, BPA has determined, per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1), that this undertaking is a type of activity that does not have the potential to cause effects on historic properties, assuming such historic properties were present. Please be aware that if project changes are required involving BPA funding or action, then further review under 36 CFR Part 800 may be necessary. Planning for future actions should take into account the time/process to evaluate potential impacts and consult on these effects.

2. Geology and Soils

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Localized soil disturbance would occur during connection of waterline. Standard construction erosion control measures would be utilized as necessary.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: All work in existing mechanical yard; no plants present/disturbed.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: All work in existing mechanical yard; no habitat present.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No water bodies present within the vicinity of the project area.

6. Wetlands

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: None present.

7. Groundwater and Aquifers

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No impacts to groundwater or aquifers are anticipated.

8. Land Use and Specially-Designated Areas

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: All work in existing BPA mechanical yard.

9. Visual Quality

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The project would have minimal impact to visual quality.

10. Air Quality

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The project would have a temporary impact on air quality from a small amount of vehicle emissions and dust generated during construction.

11. Noise

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Some temporary construction noise would occur during daylight hours.

12. Human Health and Safety

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed action would have no impact 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: Coordination with Whitworth Water District for decommissioning of existing RF backflow and new installation prior to commencing work.

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

Signed: /s/ Adrienne Wojtasz
Adrienne Wojtasz, EPR-Bell-1
Physical Scientist (Environmental)

Date: August 9, 2021