

# Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration  
Department of Energy



**Proposed Action:** Chemawa Maintenance Headquarters Entry Gate Replacement

**Project Manager:** Joseph Mecalis, NWM-1

**Location:** Marion County, OR

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B2.5 Facility Safety and Environmental Improvements

**Description of the Proposed Action:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to replace the automatic vehicle entry gate at the Chemawa Maintenance Headquarters because the existing gate does not operate reliably. The chain link gate and electrical equipment located in a control box would be replaced in-kind. New electrical wiring and conduit would be installed in a trench between the control box and the in-ground vehicle sensors. The trench would be up to 100 feet long, 1 foot wide, and 3 feet deep. The in-ground vehicle sensors and surrounding asphalt in the driveway would also be replaced.

**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/ Becky Hill

Becky Hill  
Contract Environmental Protection Specialist  
Flux Resources, LLC

Reviewed by:

/s/ Carol Leiter

Carol Leiter  
Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katey C. Grange                      March 9, 2022

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:** Chemawa Maintenance Headquarters Entry Gate Replacement

## **Project Site Description**

The project site is located at BPA's Chemawa Maintenance Headquarters, located in Keizer, Marion County, Oregon (T6S R3W Sec 25). All proposed actions would occur in the driveway area of the maintenance facility, which is previously disturbed, covered in asphalt, and maintained clear of vegetation. No wetlands, waterbodies, or floodplains are located within 1,000 feet of the site; however, a floodplain associated with Labish Creek is located about 1,200 feet north of the project site. Interstate-5 is located about 1,500 feet east of the maintenance headquarters and a high-density residential neighborhood is about 1,200 feet west of the site. Keizer Station shopping center is located to the south and a baseball stadium and agriculture fields are located to the north of Maintenance Headquarters.

## **Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources**

### **1. Historic and Cultural Resources**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: On November 22, 2021, a BPA archaeologist determined that this project would not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties.

### **2. Geology and Soils**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: All ground disturbance would occur within previously disturbed, asphalt-paved areas. Excavated material would be stored temporarily onsite and then used for backfill. Standard construction best management practices (BMPs) would prevent erosion and sedimentation. Therefore, the proposed action would not impact geology and soils.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: There are no documented occurrences of any state-listed, special-status, or federally-listed plant species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) within the project area; therefore, the proposed project would not impact state-listed, special-status, or federally-listed ESA plant species. The proposed activities would occur in and on an asphalt driveway area that does not contain vegetation.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: There are no documented occurrences of any state-listed, special-status, or federally-listed wildlife species under the ESA in the project area; therefore, the proposed project would not impact state-listed, special-status, or federally-listed ESA wildlife species. No suitable wildlife habitat would be altered as a result of the project. The ambient noise levels in the local area are moderate. The project activities would create minor noise impacts, but these would not be substantially greater than the existing ambient noise in the area.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The project area does not contain any water bodies, floodplains, or surface connectivity to fish streams. Therefore, the project would not impact water bodies, floodplains, or fish.

## **6. Wetlands**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The project area does not contain any wetlands. Therefore, the project would not impact wetlands.

## **7. Groundwater and Aquifers**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The project activities would not provide a pathway for groundwater contamination.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The project area is not located in a specially-designated area, and no land use changes are proposed.

## **9. Visual Quality**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The project activities would not change the visual quality of area, as the automatic vehicle gate would be an in-kind replacement.

## **10. Air Quality**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: There may be a small amount of temporary dust and vehicle emissions during project activities; however, there would be no substantial changes to air quality after construction is complete.

## **11. Noise**

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Some temporary construction noise would occur during intermittent periods of time during daylight hours. The project would not change the noise quality of the area, beyond temporary construction-related noise impacts.

## 12. Human Health and Safety

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: All standard safety protocols would be followed during project activities; therefore, project activities would not impact human health or 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: The proposed action would occur on BPA fee-owned property and would not impact adjacent properties. No landowner notification, involvement, or coordination would be required.

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

Signed: /s/ Becky Hill

Becky Hill, ECT-4  
Contract Environmental Protection Specialist  
Flux Resources, LLC

March 9, 2022

Date