

U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Submit by E-mail

Proposed Action Title: Removal and replacement of Oracle Breakers 562 and 762 along with associated disconnects.

Program or Field Office: Western Area Power Administration, Desert Southwest Regional Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): Oracle Substation, SaddleBrooke, Pinal County, AZ

Proposed Action Description:

Western proposes to remove and replace oil circuit breakers 562 and 762, three Current Transformers (QX5A1, QX5A2 & QX5A3) and two Potential Transformers (VX5A2 & VX7A3) at the existing Oracle Substation in Pinal County. The substation is located on federal property in Township 9 South, Range 13 East, Section 35 (Gila and Salt River and Meridian). The replacement is necessary due to the age of the equipment which poses a risk of failure. The two oil circuit breakers will be replaced with two Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF6) breakers. The new electrical equipment will be placed on either existing structures or foundations and digging for the conduit will be conducted within existing disturbance. A three foot deep by three foot long by twelve inch wide area between each of the two existing breaker foundations and cable trays will be dug using backhoe and a hand shovel. The old electrical equipment will be placed in secondary containment consisting of thick plastic sheeting that will be bermed using hay bales, wood poles or a light hump of gravel (less than six inches). The secondary containment area will be located on the southeast side of the substation yard. A crane will be used for removing and installing the electrical equipment. The breaker oil will be drained into tanker trucks which will then transport the oil to a disposal/recycling facility and flat-bed semi trucks will transport the old equipment and bushings to a disposal/recycling facility. The work is anticipated to begin no sooner than November 1, 2013 and is expected to be completed by April 30, 2013.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B4.6 - Additions and modifications to transmission facilities

For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Subpart D of 10 CFR Part 1021.

Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410(b): (See full text in regulation)

√ The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D.

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To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities; (3) 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; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) 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 listed in paragraph B(5) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B.

There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1B), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA Compliance Officer:

Date Determined:

7-2-13

Desert Southwest Region



Legend

- Proposed and Re-route Structure
- Complete Structure
- Distribution Structure
- Proposed or Re-route T-Line

- Proposed or Re-route T-Line
 Complete T-Line
 Complete T-Line DC
 Incomplete T-Line DC
 Incomplete T-Line DC
 Distribution Line
 Vinterground T-Line
 Access Road
 Provinter Access Road
 Provinter Access Road
 Inonwester Documented Access Road
 Provinter Documented Access Road
 Provinter Documented Access Road
 Provinter Documented Access Road
- Public Fload

 Public Fload

 Apandon Road

 Facility / Substation / Switchyard

 Proposed Facilities
- Counties Google Maps
- Microsoft BING Aerials and Labers longle Aerials and Labors

Map Parameters

UTM ZONE 12, NAD83 Scale 1:6,000

minx: 500910 maxx: 502456 miny: 3606435 maxy: 3607833

6/11/2013 1:05 P.M.

Western Area Power Administration

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