

# memorandum

Bonneville Power Administration

DATE: April 7, 2014

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEP-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Stacie Hensley  
Project Manager – TEP-TPP-4**Proposed Action:** Marion-Alvey Marion-Lane Insulator Replacement Project**Budget Information:** Work Order #00329379**PP&A Project No.:** 2666**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B1.3, Routine maintenance**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)**Location:** Marion-Alvey and Marion-Lane transmission line miles 1-20 are located in Marion and Linn counties, Oregon, in BPA's Salem Operations and Maintenance District. Townships, Ranges, and Sections crossed by the proposed project are listed below:

Townships, Ranges, and Sections for the Marion-Alvey/Lane Miles 1-20 Insulator Replacement Project.

Township	Range	Sections
9S	1E	16, 28
10S	1E	5, 18
11S	1W	12, 24
12S	1W	1

**Description of the Proposed Action:** BPA is proposing to replace insulators from miles 1-20 of the Marion-Alvey and Marion-Lane transmission lines. Insulators located at the attachment points between the conductor and the transmission line towers would be accessed by helicopter. The project would utilize seven landing zones/lay down areas in order to transfer old and new insulators to and from the helicopter. The landing zones/lay down areas would be 100 feet x 100 feet or less and used as is with no grading or rocking. Insulator replacement would require minimal ground support and all surface vehicles would be restricted to existing access roads. No grading, ground clearing, or in-stream activities are required or anticipated for this project. All work would be in accordance with the National Electrical Safety Code and BPA standards.**Findings:** BPA has determined that the proposed action complies with Section 1021.410 and Appendix B of Subpart D 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,

July 9, 1996; 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996, 76 FR 63764, Nov. 14, 2011). The proposed action does not present any extraordinary circumstances that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal. The proposal is not connected [40 C.F.R. 1508.25(a)(1)] to other actions with potentially significant impacts, has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts [40 C.F.R. 1508.25(a)(2)], and is not precluded by 40 C.F.R. 1506.1 or 10 C.F.R. 1021.211. Moreover, the proposed action would not (i) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, (ii) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities, (iii) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases, (iv) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, or (v) 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.

This proposed action meets the requirements for the Categorical Exclusion referenced above. We therefore determine that the proposed action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

Sincerely,

/s/ Laura Roberts

Laura Roberts  
Biological Scientist

Concur: /s/ Stacy Mason  
Stacy Mason  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: April 7, 2014

Attachment:  
Environmental Checklist

## Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Marion-Alvey/Lane Miles 1-20 Insulator Replacement Project

Work Order #: 00329379

This project does not have the potential to cause significant impacts on the following environmentally sensitive resources. See 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B for complete descriptions of the resources. This checklist is to be used as a summary – further discussion may be included in the Categorical Exclusion Memorandum.

Environmental Resources	No Potential for Significance	No Potential, with Conditions (describe)
1. Historic Properties and Cultural Resources Surveys of landing zones/laydown areas along with review of previous surveys of the corridor established that no historic properties would be affected by the project. A monitor would be required for any work near a known site if used. No grading or ground clearing is required or anticipated for the proposed project.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Health & safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Prime or unique farmlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (describe)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):

Effects Determination

Signed: /s/ Laura Roberts

Date: April 2, 2014

Laura Roberts, KEP-4