

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Removal and Relocation of Equipment from Leased Area in Titan Data Center

Project Manager: Molly Kovaka, TEP-CSB-2

Location: Multiple locations within Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) service area

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B1.31 Installation or relocation of machinery and equipment

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to remove all communications traffic and equipment from BPA's leased area, known as the Eastern Control Center (ECC), located within the Titan Data Center in Grant County, Washington. The project would include equipment removal, equipment relocation, and facility modifications per the lease terms. Equipment removal and relocation is necessary to ensure the evacuation of BPA's leased area within the ECC by December 31, 2015, when BPA's lease for the ECC expires.

At the ECC, BPA would remove three analog microwave radio antennas and waveguides and two masts that are mounted on the exterior of the building. BPA would remove from its leased space inside the ECC all radios and supporting communications electronics, cable trays, racks, furnishings, batteries, and chargers. Existing communications hardware components would be relocated from the ECC to BPA's Vantage, Sickler, and Schultz substations, located respectively in Grant, Douglas, and Kittitas counties, Washington. Per the lease terms, BPA would remove the halon system and piping from the ECC. BPA would retain ownership of the halon for use at other facilities. The existing analog radios, waveguides, and antennae would be removed from Beverly Communication Site, located in Grant County, Washington, and Malaga Communication Site, located in Chelan County, Washington. To create new communication paths, BPA would install new JungleMux nodes at its Midway Substation, located in Benton County, Washington, and Columbia Substation, located in Douglas County, Washington. A JungleMux is a piece of communications hardware that accepts and aggregates signals from multiple sources, and then passes them along to other pieces of the communication system. The existing circuits would then be moved to the new communication paths.

All work would take place in existing facilities and no ground disturbance would occur.

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, July 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/ Hannah Sharp

Hannah Sharp
Contract Environmental Protection Specialist
CorSource Technology Group

Reviewed by:

/s/ Gene Lynard

Gene Lynard
Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: April 6, 2015

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

All work would take place within existing facilities in BPA's service area. No habitat or vegetation is present in the project areas.

Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

Environmental Resource Impacts	No Potential for Significance	No Potential for Significance, with Conditions
1. Historic and Cultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> Under Section 106 of the NHPA, BPA has determined that these project activities have no potential to affect historic properties provided that the project activities are carried out as described.		
2. Geology and Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No soil disturbance proposed.		
3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> All work in existing facilities. No plants present.		
4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> All work in existing facilities. No habitat present.		
5. Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No in-water work proposed. Project would not be in a floodplain.		

6. **Wetlands**

Explanation: None present.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**

Explanation: No soil disturbance proposed.

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

Explanation: All work in existing facilities.

9. **Visual Quality**

Explanation: No potential to affect visual quality.

10. **Air Quality**

Explanation: Extremely small amount of dust possible during construction.

11. **Noise**

Explanation: Temporary noise during construction.

12. **Human Health and Safety**

Explanation: No known soil contamination or hazardous conditions.

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, if necessary:

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

Explanation, if necessary:

- 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, if necessary:

- 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, if necessary:

Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination

Description: No notification—all work within existing facilities and no visual or other effects to adjacent landowners.

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

Signed: /s/ Hannah Sharp
Hannah Sharp, KEC-4
Contract Environmental Protection Specialist
CorSource Technology Group

Date: April 6, 2015