

United States Government

Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: July 25, 2013

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

to: Chad Hamel, Project Manager, TEP-TPP-1

Proposed Action: Peninsula Light Company Line and Load Interconnection Request L0308
(*amendment to previous Categorical Exclusion issued on May 5, 2011*)

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.12 Construction
of powerlines

Location: Mason County, WA

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes a modification to a tap line that would interconnect Peninsula Light Company (PLC) into BPA's Shelton-Kitsap #2 115-kV transmission line in Mason County, WA. The original proposal involved constructing the tap within existing BPA right-of-way (ROW), as described in the categorical exclusion issued May 5, 2011. Now, BPA is proposing to construct the tap outside of the existing ROW to avoid nearby gas and sanitation lines and is seeking to acquire approximately 6 acres adjacent to and east of the existing ROW for the tap structures.

As with the original proposal, the tap would be constructed between structures 18/1 and 18/2 of the Shelton-Kitsap #2 line, and would require the installation of six new 115-kV structures and three new 115-kV disconnects and associated switch stands. The interconnection would allow PLC an emergency connection to serve its load over Tacoma's Cushman-Pearl lines in the event of a double circuit loss at the Tacoma Narrows Crossing for PLC.

About 3 of the 6 acres to be acquired to accommodate the proposal are owned by a private limited liability company and 3 acres are owned by the City of Tacoma. The area's topography is steep and vegetation is managed forest resources. Approximately 4 acres will be cleared of trees to accommodate the tap structures. Access to the site will be via existing roads. Implementation (tree clearing and construction) is tentatively scheduled for August and September 2013.

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). 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, 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, or (iv) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources.

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.

/s/ Brenda Aguirre
Brenda Aguirre
Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce
Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer – KEC-4

Date: July 25, 2013

Attachment:
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Peninsula Light Company Line and Load Interconnection Request L0308 (*update to previous Categorical Exclusion issued on May 5, 2011*)

Work Order #: 00315152, Task 4

This project has been found to not adversely affect the following environmentally sensitive resources, laws, and regulations:

Environmental Resources	No Adverse Effect	No Adverse Effect With Conditions
1. Cultural Resources Washington DAHP concurred with BPA's determination of no effect on July 8, 2013.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) Project area lacks suitable habitat for northern spotted owl (NSO) and marbled murrelet. NSO may use project area for temporary and transient use. No adverse effect expected by project activities to NSO beyond causing them to avoid active construction area during construction.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands None present in project area.	<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 agricultural lands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Consistency with state and local laws and regulations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Pollution control at Federal facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed: /s/ Brenda Aguirre

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