

memorandum

DATE: August 19, 2013

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Timothy Wicks
Realty Specialist – TERR-COVINGTON

Proposed Action: Soos Creek Water & Sewer District Land Use Review Request Case No. 20120040

Budget Information: 184006

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B 4.9 – Multiple use of powerline rights-of-way

Location: Covington, King County, Washington

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to approve a land use review request from Soos Creek Water & Sewer District (District) to construct a new sewer line that would cross under an existing road on BPA fee-owned property near structures 1/2 and 1/3 of the Covington–Maple Valley No. 2 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line. The proposed sewer line would provide for future conveyance system needs in the southeastern area of the District.

The project site is in an area zoned for commercial use with existing roads and sparse vegetation. The District would use a trackhoe to excavate an open trench approximately 5 feet wide, 360 feet long, and 15 feet deep to install a new 18-inch diameter sewer line. The trench would be backfilled and regraded after the sewer line installation.

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.

Based on the provisions identified in the attachment, 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/ Jeffrey J. Maslow
Jeffrey J. Maslow
Environmental Project Manager

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce
Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: August 20, 2013

Attachments:
Provisions
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

PROVISIONS

This categorical exclusion will meet the following provisions:

Natural Resources

- Implement erosion and sediment-control best management practices (BMPs) that are protective of water resources.
- Collect, remove, and dispose of any construction waste or fill material unsuitable for grading and backfilling off site in accordance with the policies and procedures prescribed by BPA's Pollution Prevention and Abatement group and the Washington State Department of Ecology.

Cultural Resources

In the event any archaeological or historical material is encountered during project activities, the following actions should be taken:

- Stop work in the vicinity and notify the BPA environmental lead, BPA archaeologist, appropriate BPA project staff, interested Tribes, and Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP).
- Implement reasonable measures to protect the discovery site, including appropriate stabilization or cover.
- Take reasonable steps to ensure the confidentiality of the discovery site, including restricting access.

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Soos Creek Water & Sewer District Land Use Review Request

Work Order #: 184006

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.

<u>Environmental Resources</u>	<u>No Potential for Significance</u>	<u>No Potential, with Conditions (describe)</u>
1. Historic Properties and Cultural Resources BPA consulted with Suquamish Tribe, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, Puyallup Tribe of Indians, and Snoqualmie Indian Tribe. BPA did not receive comments regarding its determination of no effect to Historic Properties. DAHP concurred on 7/9/2013. Ensure proper actions are taken in the event any archaeological materials are encountered.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) No suitable habitat for T&E species in the project area.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands Implement erosion and sediment-control BMPs that are protective of water resources.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed: /s/ Jeffrey J. Maslow

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