

memorandum

DATE: April 22, 2014

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Joan Kendall
Project Manager – TERR-3

Proposed Action: Hatwai Substation Bay 4 Equipment Acquisition

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021: B 1.24 Property transfers

Location: Nez Perce County, Idaho

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to purchase equipment, which is currently owned by Avista Corporation (Avista), but is located within BPA's Hatwai Substation. In 1981, BPA developed Bay 4 at Avista's expense, to support Avista's Hatwai-Moscow #1 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line move from Bay 5 to Bay 4. Since that time, BPA has continued to operate and maintain the equipment at Avista's expense. Completion of the sale would support BPA's policy of simplifying mixed ownership arrangements at BPA facilities.

BPA would assume ownership of all assets in Bay 4, including the 230-kV breaker and associated disconnects, as well as relaying, local control and supervisory control additions. The transfer in ownership would not change the use of the equipment and would not have the potential to release substances at a level or in a form that could pose a threat to public health or the environment.

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.

/s/ Carolyn A. Sharp

Carolyn A. Sharp

Environmental Project Manager

Concur:

/s/ Stacy L. Mason

Stacy L. Mason

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: April 22, 2014

Attachment:

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Hatwai Substation Bay 4 Equipment Acquisition

Work Order #: 00358309

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 Equipment does not have historic or cultural significance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) No ground disturbing project activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands No ground disturbing project activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Areas of special designation No ground disturbing project activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Health & safety No potential for release of hazardous substances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Prime or unique farmlands No ground disturbing project activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Special sources of water No ground disturbing project activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (describe)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed: /s/ Carolyn Sharp

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