**Proposed Action:** Land Use Agreement for use of Colville Substation Access Road

**Project No.:** LURR #20160327

**Project Manager:** Lance Mueller – TERR-BELL-1

**Location:** Stevens County, Washington

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B1.24 Property Transfers

**Description of the Proposed Action:** BPA is proposing to issue a Land Use Agreement to a private landowner who has requested formal access to their property via BPA’s Colville Substation access road in Stevens County, Washington. The road has been used by residents for over 40 years however, for the current landowners to complete the sale of their property, the prospective buyers have requested a more formal arrangement. The Land Use Agreement formally allows the current owner to use the road until BPA finds it no longer reasonable. The Land Use Agreement could be transferred to a future owner at their request. No physical changes to the road would take place.

**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/ Claire McClory  
Claire McClory  
Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Sarah T. Biegel  
Sarah T. Biegel  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: June 27, 2016

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

The Colville Substation access road is an approximately 0.25-mile long paved road located east of Colville, Washington in Stevens County.

### Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environmental Resource Impacts</th>
<th>No Potential for Significance</th>
<th>No Potential for Significance, with Conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Historic and Cultural Resources</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Explanation:</strong> The Land Use Agreement would have no potential to affect historic properties or cultural resources. No consultation required.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Geology and Soils</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Explanation:</strong> Land Use Agreement only. No impact.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Plants (including federal/state special-status species)</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Explanation:</strong> Land Use Agreement only. No impact.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Wildlife (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Explanation:</strong> Land Use Agreement only. No impact.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish (including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Explanation:</strong> Land Use Agreement only. No impact.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Wetlands</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Explanation:</strong> Land Use Agreement only. No impact.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**

   **Explanation:** Land Use Agreement only. No impact.

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

   **Explanation:** The Land Use Agreement would formalize existing use of the substation access road. No changes to current land use proposed.

9. **Visual Quality**

   **Explanation:** Land Use Agreement only. No impact.

10. **Air Quality**

    **Explanation:** Land Use Agreement only. No impact.

11. **Noise**

    **Explanation:** Land Use Agreement only. No impact.

12. **Human Health and Safety**

    **Explanation:** Land Use Agreement only. No impact.

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**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, contaminant, 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:

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**Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination**

Description: No notification necessary. The existing landowner submitted a request to BPA to formalize their continued use of BPA’s access road.

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

Signed: /s/ Claire McClory Date: June 27, 2016
Claire McClory ECT-4