

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Portland General Electric Electric Service Line Installation on Keeler-Oregon City No. 2 Right-of-Way

Project No.: LURR-20210270

Project Manager: Darin L. Smith, TERR-CHEMAWA

Location: Washington County, Oregon

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): B4.9 Multiple use of powerline rights-of-way

Description of the Proposed Action: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to allow Portland General Electric (PGE) to install an underground electric service line within a new 4-inch PVC conduit on BPA fee-owned right-of-way (ROW) between NW Greenbrier Parkway and structure 8/5 on the Keeler-Oregon City No. 2 transmission line in Beaverton, Washington County, Oregon (Township 1 North, Range 1 West, Donation Land Claim 58). The proposed action is part of PGE's larger project to install a new service line along the existing NW Greenbrier Parkway.

On BPA property, PGE would install approximately 100 feet of new conduit and electric service line in a single, approximately 36-inch-deep trench immediately south of the NW Greenbrier Parkway sidewalk. Excavated soils would be used for backfill and returned to the original grade, and disturbed areas would be reseeded with a native, regionally-appropriate seed mix. The proposed action would be completed within one day. No materials or equipment would be staged on BPA property.

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, Jul. 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/ W. Walker Stinnette

W. Walker Stinnette

Contract Environmental Protection Specialist

Flux Resources, LLC

Reviewed by:

/s/ Carol P. Leiter

Carol P. Leiter

Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Sarah T. Biegel January 3, 2022

Sarah T. Biegel

Date

NEPA Compliance Officer

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.

Proposed Action: Portland General Electric Electric Service Line Installation on Keeler-Oregon City No. 2 Right-of-Way

Project Site Description

The project site is located on BPA fee-owned ROW between NW Greenbrier Parkway and structure 8/5 on the Keeler-Oregon City No. 2 transmission line in Beaverton, Washington County, Oregon (Township 1 North, Range 1 West, Donation Land Claim 58). The electric service line would be installed immediately south of the NW Greenbrier Parkway sidewalk in an area that has been previously disturbed and currently consists of regularly mowed grasses and weeds. The underlying Aloha soil series is not hydric, and no wetlands or water bodies are present within or near the project site. Outside of the project site, the surrounding area is urbanized with a mix of industrial, commercial, and residential properties.

Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

1. Historic and Cultural Resources

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: One previous archaeological survey was conducted within the project area, and no archaeological resources were identified. The Keeler-Oregon City No. 2 transmission line has been determined minimally eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). However, the proposed undertaking would not alter the integrity or eligibility of the transmission line. Therefore, on November 17, 2021, BPA simultaneously determined that the proposed undertaking would result in no adverse effect to historic properties (BPA CR Project No.: OR 2021 098) and initiated National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 consultation with the following parties:

- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
- Oregon Heritage: State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
- The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon

No comments were received from the consulting parties.

Notes:

- Implement inadvertent discovery protocols in the unlikely event that cultural material is encountered during the implementation of this project. BPA would require that work be halted in the vicinity of the finds until they can be inspected and assessed by BPA and in consultation with the appropriate consulting parties.

2. Geology and Soils

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Ground disturbance would include excavation of the trench and soil compaction from vehicle and equipment use. All ground disturbance would occur in a previously-disturbed area immediately south of the NW Greenbrier Parkway sidewalk. Standard construction best management practices would prevent soil erosion and sedimentation, and the site would be returned to original grade and reseeded following installation of the service line.

Notes:

- Reseed disturbed areas with a native, regionally-appropriate seed mix.

3. Plants (including Federal/state special-status species and habitats)

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed action would remove, crush, or cover some regularly mowed, low-growing grasses and weeds along the margins of NW Greenbrier Parkway. Disturbed areas would be reseeded following installation of the service line. There are no documented occurrences of any special-status plant species near the project site, and no suitable special-status species habitat is present.

Notes:

- Reseed disturbed areas with a native, regionally-appropriate seed mix.

4. Wildlife (including Federal/state special-status species and habitats)

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Minor and temporary wildlife disturbance could occur from construction noise. However, wildlife species that could be present in the area would likely be habituated to this level of disturbance given surrounding land uses. There are no documented occurrences of any special-status wildlife species near the project site, and no suitable special-status species habitat is present.

5. Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish (including Federal/state special-status species, ESUs, and habitats)

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No water bodies, floodplains, or fish-bearing streams are present within or near the project site. Standard construction best management practices would prevent indirect impacts to off-site water bodies, floodplains, and fish. Therefore, the proposed action would not impact water bodies and floodplains and would have no effect on fish species or habitats.

6. Wetlands

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No wetlands are present within or near the project site. Standard construction best management practices would prevent indirect impacts to off-site wetlands. Therefore, the proposed action would not impact wetlands.

7. Groundwater and Aquifers

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed action would not generate or use hazardous materials that would contaminate groundwater or aquifers, if present. No new wells or other uses of

groundwater or aquifers are proposed. Therefore, the proposed action would not impact groundwater or aquifers.

8. Land Use and Specially-Designated Areas

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: There would be no change in land use, and the project site is not located in a specially-designated area.

9. Visual Quality

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: During construction, the presence of equipment and general construction activities, including trench excavation and minor vegetation disturbance, would cause temporary visual impacts. However, no above-ground structures are proposed, and disturbed areas would be returned to original conditions. There would be no permanent change in visual quality following completion of the proposed action.

10. Air Quality

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed action would cause a minor and temporary (no more than one day) increase in dust and vehicle emissions in the local area. There would be no long-term change in air quality following completion of the proposed action.

11. Noise

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Construction activities could temporarily and intermittently produce noise at levels greater than current ambient conditions. Noise impacts would be temporary (no more than one day) and would only occur during daylight hours (approximately 7 AM to 7 PM). There would be no long-term change in ambient noise following completion of the project.

12. Human Health and Safety

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Standard construction best management practices would minimize risk to human health and safety. Therefore, the proposed action would not be expected to impact human health and safety.

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: N/A

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

Explanation: N/A

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: N/A

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: N/A

Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination

Description: The proposed action as analyzed in this CX would occur on BPA fee-owned property. For portions of the larger PGE project not occurring on BPA property, PGE would be responsible for landowner notification, involvement, or coordination.

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

Signed: /s/ W. Walker Stinnette

W. Walker Stinnette, EC-4
Contract Environmental Protection Specialist
Flux Resources, LLC

January 3, 2022

Date