

memorandum

DATE: March 31, 2010

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEPR-Bell-1

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Jason Moon – TELF-TPP-3
Project Manager

Proposed Action: Provide heavy vehicular access across Dragoon Creek to maintain and service Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) Bell-Boundary No.3 transmission line by replacing the existing wood stringer bridge with a precast or modular steel bridge.

PP&A Project No.: PP&A 1574

Budget Information: 247745

Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):

B1.3 Routine maintenance/custodial services for buildings, structures, infrastructures (e.g., pathways, roads, and railroads), equipment.

B1.13 Construction, acquisition, and relocation of onsite pathways and short onsite access roads and railroads.

Location: The project is located in Spokane County, Washington in Township 28 North, Range 42 East, Section 03.

Proposed by: BPA

Description of the Proposed Action: An excavator will be utilized to remove the existing 40 foot by 22 foot bridge structure and associated pilings. Dump trucks will be used to haul off the remnants of the existing bridge. An excavator will prepare and place the concrete ecology block sills within the existing road prism. A 50 foot by 16 foot precast concrete or modular steel bridge will be placed on top of the precast concrete ecology blocks sills. The running surface of the bridge will be two feet above the natural ground. The bottom of the bridge will be one foot higher than the existing structure thus increasing the flow capacity of the crossing. The existing retaining wall structure will be utilized to avoid any work within the wetted perimeter of Dragoon Creek. Dump trucks will be used to haul in crushed aggregate for the bridge approaches. A jumping jack compactor will be used to compact the crushed aggregate base under the bridge sills. Erosion control measures for this project include: performing work during low stream flow, no stream modification within the bank full margins except for removing the mid-span pilings, offsite disposal of existing bridge materials, and utilizing temporary sediment traps and/or silt fencing during all phases of the project.

The proposed action will allow safe and timely access to the right-of-way, which will help reduce outage times and maintain reliable power in the region.

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, April 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 action with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impact [40 C.F.R. 1508(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 release, or (iv) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources. The proposal will not affect any listed threatened or endangered species, or critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act, or Essential Fish Habitat under the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act, or historic properties under the National Historic Preservation Act.

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/ Philip W. Smith for
Michael A. Rosales
Physical Scientist - Environment

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

Date: March 31, 2010

Attachment:
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Bell-Boundary #3 Dragoon Creek Bridge Replacement

Work Order #: 247745 **PP&A Project No.:** PP&A 1574

Prepared by: M. Rosales **Routing:** KEPR-Bell-1 **Date:** 03-16-2010

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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any ground disturbance (i.e. placement of ecology block sills) will be limited to areas of fill material within the existing road prism. ▪ In the unlikely event that archaeological or historic materials are discovered during project activities, work in the immediate vicinity must stop, the area secured, and the SHPO and the environmental project lead must be notified. 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s) T&E species are not present within the project area.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands At locations adjacent to surface water/wetlands, erosion control devices will be installed to prevent sedimentation of waterways during road improvements. By using erosion control devices, planned work will have "No Effect" on water quality. JARPA approval pending.	<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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

List supporting documentation attached (if needed):