DATE: August 12, 2010

REPLY TO ATTN OF: KEP-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Erich Orth
Project Manager – TEP-TPP-3

**Proposed Action:** Replacement of twenty 22-L structures on the Satsop-Aberdeen No. 2 230-kV Transmission Line

**PP&A Project No.:** 1704

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B1.3 Routine maintenance activities…for structures, rights-of-way, infrastructures such as roads, equipment…routine maintenance activities, corrective…are required to maintain…infrastructures…in a condition suitable for a facility to be used for its designated purpose.

**Location:** The Project is located in Gray’s Harbor County, Washington between the towns of Aberdeen and Central Park, Washington. The Project is located in the following sections:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Sections</th>
<th>Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 N</td>
<td>8 W</td>
<td>3,4,5,7,8,10</td>
<td>12/3, 12/4, 12/5, 13/1, 13/4, 14/1, 14/3, 14/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 N</td>
<td>9 W</td>
<td>1,2,3,12</td>
<td>15/2, 15/6, 15/7, 16/1, 16/2, 16/3, 16/5, 17/1, 17/2, 17/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 N</td>
<td>9 W</td>
<td>33,34</td>
<td>17/4, 18/2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

**Description of the Proposed Action:** During recent storm events, several steel lattice tower failures have occurred on the Satsop-Aberdeen #2 transmission line. These failures have caused line outages necessitating BPA to perform emergency tower replacement and repairs to maintain service loads. Since 1999, high winds have caused 5 towers to fail. Four of these failures occurred within the last 4 years. In addition, high winds have left another 5 towers leaning and in need of replacement. The tower failures have been limited to the 22L tower type. In order to prevent future tower failures, BPA is proposing to replace twenty 22L structures, located in an area susceptible to high winds, along a 6-mile stretch of the Satsop-Aberdeen No. 2 transmission line.

Project work would involve removal of the existing towers and building replacement towers, replacing insulators, and attaching the existing conductor to the new towers. Equipment needed for the work would include an excavator or backhoe for digging tower footings, a crane for...
lifting assembled tower steel components, bucket trucks, and support vehicles. A bulldozer
could be used to construct earthen landings at the tower sites so equipment can be operated
safely. To avoid future tower failures, work is expected to begin in late summer 2010 and
completed in the fall before the winter storm season.

**Findings:** BPA has determined that the proposed action complies with Section 1021.410 and
Appendix B of Subpart D of the Department of Energy (DOE) National Environmental Policy
Act (NEPA) Regulations (57 Fed. Reg. 1512.2, April 24, 1992). 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, 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; or
(iv) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources.

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/ Greg P. Tippetts, for:
Philip W. Smith
Manager, Regional and Technical Services

Concur: /s/ Katherine S. Pierce DATE: August 12, 2010
Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

Attachment:
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions
**Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions**

**Name of Proposed Project:** Access Road Improvement for Satsop-Aberdeen No. 2 and No. 3, and the Aberdeen Tap to South Elma-Cosmopolis transmission lines

**Work Order #:** 256493  
**PP&A Project No.:** 1697

**Prepared by:** Phil Smith  
**Routing:** KEPR  
**Date:** 06/28/10

This project has been found to **not** adversely affect the following environmentally sensitive resources, laws, and regulations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environmental Resources</th>
<th>No Adverse Effect</th>
<th>No Adverse Effect with conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Cultural Resources</td>
<td></td>
<td>![X]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- In the event that any archaeological material is encountered during construction, work will be halted in the vicinity of the find and the environmental lead will immediately be notified. Work will not resume until after the finds can be inspected and assessed.</td>
<td></td>
<td>![X]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. T &amp; E Species, or their habitat(s)</td>
<td>![X]</td>
<td>![ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESA Effects Determination attached</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Floodplains or wetlands</td>
<td>![X]</td>
<td>![ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Areas of special designation</td>
<td>![X]</td>
<td>![ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Health &amp; safety</td>
<td>![X]</td>
<td>![ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Prime agricultural lands</td>
<td>![X]</td>
<td>![ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Special sources of water</td>
<td>![X]</td>
<td>![ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Consistency with state and local laws and regulations</td>
<td>![X]</td>
<td>![ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Pollution control at Federal facilities</td>
<td>![X]</td>
<td>![ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Other</td>
<td>![X]</td>
<td>![ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>