

Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration
Department of Energy



Proposed Action: Pride Disposal Driveway Entrance

Project No.: LURR 201900014

Project Manager: Darrin Smith – TERR-Chemawa

Location: Washington County, OR

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: BPA proposes to authorize Pride Disposal to install a new paved driveway entrance and store garbage containers less than 6 feet (1.8 meters) in height to the east of their current recycling building. This would extend approximately 10 feet (east-west) by 100 feet (north-south) (3 meters by 30 meters) into BPA's Vancouver-Eugene (operated as Keeler-Oregon City #2) right-of-way. The site is located in Oregon Township 2 South, Range 1 West, Section 28.

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/ Christopher H. Furey

Christopher H. Furey
Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katey C. Grange December 16, 2021
Katey C. Grange 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: Pride Disposal Driveway Entrance

Project Site Description

The installation of the Pride Disposal driveway entrance at the rear side of their recycling building would extend about 10 feet into BPA's Vancouver-Eugene (operated as Keeler-Oregon City No. 2) transmission line right-of-way. The area has Pride Disposal's building just west of the right-of-way, and graveled or paved areas nearby. The area is heavily industrial with no residences nearby. The right-of-way section is a small area of mowed field.

Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

1. Historic and Cultural Resources

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: BPA archaeologist reviewed the proposed activities and determined, per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1), that this undertaking is a type of activity that does not have potential to cause effects on historic properties, assuming such historic properties were present.

2. Geology and Soils

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: Some ground-disturbing work would take place for installation of the driveway that would extend into the right-of-way. No specific geological concerns with no adverse impacts to soils and geology.

Notes:

- Use of BMPs for dust and soil control would be expected to be used. Reseeding of disturbed grass area beyond paved area would be recommended.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The project area in the right-of-way contains regularly mowed orchard grass, with no trees, or other special status species present. The area under the new driveway would lose existing vegetation, but no adverse impacts to plant populations are expected.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed driveway area contains regularly mowed orchard grass, which offers limited habitat value to wildlife. No adverse impacts to wildlife are expected.

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

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed driveway area is upland with adjacent gravel and paved areas. No stream or other water bodies are within 1,000 feet of the project area. No adverse impacts to waterbodies, floodplain, or fish are expected.

Notes:

- Use of BMPs for dust and erosion control would be expected to be used at the project site.

6. Wetlands

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed area is upland, with no wetlands on or adjacent to it. No adverse impacts to wetlands are expected.

7. Groundwater and Aquifers

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No hazardous materials are proposed for storage or transport in the proposed area. No adverse impacts to groundwater or aquifers are expected.

8. Land Use and Specially-Designated Areas

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed land use would be an extension of the surrounding land use (garbage and trash recycling storage) by allowing paved access.

9. Visual Quality

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: There would be limited visual changes to the project area or surrounding environment as the proposed driveway would be an extension of the surrounding land use (garbage recycling and container storage areas). No adverse impacts to visual quality are expected in this highly industrial area.

10. Air Quality

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: A small amount of dust and vehicle emissions would occur during installation of the pavement and from use of the paved driveway to access the recycling building.

11. Noise

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: The proposed driveway is in an existing industrial area with high noise levels. Additional noise from construction and use of the paved driveway would not rise from the already high ambient noise levels. No adverse impacts from noise are expected.

12. Human Health and Safety

Potential for Significance: No

Explanation: No direct impacts expected. Safety watcher recommended to ensure equipment, vehicles, and metal containers remain at least 50 feet from nearby high voltage lines and transmission structures.

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: BPA Realty would be in coordination with Pride Disposal and the BPA Electrical Foreman for this project in the BPA right-of-way.

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

Signed: /s/ Christopher H. Furey December 16, 2021
Christopher H. Furey Date
Environmental Protection Specialist