

memorandum

DATE: November 4, 2011

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO: Laura Oliver
Customer Service Engineer – TPC-TPP-4

Proposed Action: Integration of Longview Fibre Generation

Budget Information: Work Order #00257260, Task 01

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

B1.7 Acquisition, installation, operation and removal of communication systems, /data processing equipment, and similar electronic equipment.

Location: Longview Fibre Paper and Packaging, Inc. and BPA Longview Substation in Longview, Cowlitz County, WA; BPA Dittmer Control Center, Clark County, WA; Schultz Substation in Kittitas County, WA; Dittmer Control Center, Spokane County, WA, and Munro Control Center, Spokane County, WA.

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action:

BPA received a request from Longview Fibre Paper and Packaging, Inc. (Longview Fibre) to integrate its existing electrical generation from their generators #4, #6, and #7 (total nameplate capacity of 55 MW) across the BPA transmission system. The Longview Fibre facility has been in operation since 1927 and has been generating electricity from biomass to help serve its plant load for many years. Longview Fibre historically has been a customer of Cowlitz County PUD. Longview Fibre recently requested to be allowed to sell its existing generation (up to 55 MW) across BPA's system to the energy market. Longview Fibre plans to utilize green energy credits that it has obtained for the existing 55 MW.

In order for BPA to integrate up to 55MW of Longview Fiber's electrical output, BPA requires the installation of communication equipment at the Longview Fibre facilities to enable BPA to receive metering and generation data. Equipment that would be installed at Longview Fibre facilities includes Generation Inter-Control Center Communications Protocol (GEN ICCP). GEN ICCP is a communications pathway that allows for data exchange over Wide Area Networks among BPA control centers, other utilities, power pools, regional control centers and Generators, such as Longview Fiber. BPA's standard metering/telemetry package would also be installed at Longview Fibre, including fiber modems, a router, a rack mounted meter/telemetry for generation data collection and telemetry to send the generator status information across fiber optic cable directly to BPA control centers. When the communication system is energized, BPA would receive generation data directly from Longview Fibre, as required by BPA.

Required work at BPA facilities includes splicing existing fiber optic cable located in the existing BPA Schultz and Longview Substation vaults and control houses and updating the data points on BPA's control system at the Munro and Dittmer Control Centers.

Effects of the Proposed Action:

Because all work would take place within buildings and fiber vaults in existing facilities, the Proposed Action would not result in any new ground disturbing activities. There will be no ground disturbance or work in currently undeveloped areas, so there will be no effects to natural resources from the Proposed Action. Changes to the visual environment will not occur because work will not alter the existing visual landscape at these facilities.

Although these BPA facilities are considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), technological upgrades related to operational efficiency will not reduce the integrity of historic properties under the criteria which make them eligible for the NRHP (Criterion A). Where possible, changes to the operations and equipment areas of control houses will retain original materials.

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, Apr. 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 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.

/s/ Carolyn Sharp

Carolyn Sharp
Environmental Project Manager

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: November 4, 2011

Attachment:

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: BPA Integration of Longview Fibre Generation

Work Order #: 00257260

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. T & E Species, or their habitat(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Floodplains or wetlands	<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):

No supporting documentation attached

Signed: /s/ Carolyn Sharp

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