



# U.S. Department of Energy

## Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Submit by E-mail

Proposed Action Title: Mead Substation Plumbing and Water Pipeline Repairs

Program or Field Office: Western Area Power Administration - Desert Southwest Region

Location(s) (City/County/State): Boulder City, Clark County, Nevada

Proposed Action Description:

The Western Area Power Administration Desert Southwest Regional Office (WAPA DSW) is proposing to repair and/or replace the existing plumbing and pipes at the main maintenance building inside the Mead Substation in Boulder City, Nevada. In response to a leak of the main water line, WAPA will excavate an area inside the substation, approximately 30 cubic feet, and replace and repair all plumbing and pipes. Work will also be conducted just outside the substation fence to connect the new pipe to an existing water line.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B1.3 - Routine maintenance

For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Subpart D of [10 CFR Part 1021](#).

Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410(b): (See full text in regulation)

The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D.

To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities; (3) 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; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) 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 listed in paragraph B(5) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B.

There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1B), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA Compliance Officer: **SEAN BERRY** Digitally signed by SEAN BERRY  
Date: 2019.04.29 14:41:29 -07'00'

Date Determined:

# Mead Substation Plumbing and Water Pipe Repairs Categorical Exclusion Implementation Plan

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The WAPA DSW is proposing to repair and/or replace the existing plumbing and pipes at the main maintenance building inside the Mead Substation in Boulder City, Nevada. In response to a leak of the main water line, WAPA will excavate an area inside the substation and replace and repair all plumbing and pipes. WAPA will temporary excavate a 60-inch long by 24-inch wide by 36-inch deep trench to safely conduct the pip replacement and/or repairs. Work will also be conducted just outside the substation fence to connect the new pipe to an existing water line.

## **Compliance Concerns**

All excavated material and old plumbing/pipe materials would be hauled off site and disposed of at a local landfill.

## **Biological Concerns**

An authorized biologist shall conduct a pre-work survey for Mojave desert tortoise (*Gopher agassizii*) prior to staging equipment and work initiation. The biologist shall survey all work areas, including staging/laydown areas, the area of disturbance, and access routes. During ground-disturbing or heavy equipment operation (track-wheel vehicle or ¾ ton truck), an authorized biologist shall be present. Tortoise burrows identified during the pre-work survey shall be flagged and monitored by the authorized biologist during construction and/or repairs. If a tortoise is found in the work area during pre-work surveys, activities will be modified to avoid injury or harm. Authorized biologists may relocate tortoises located in harm's way.

Excavations greater than 1 foot deep will be fenced, covered, or filled at the end of each working day. Western staff and contractors shall inspect trenches for entrapped desert tortoise and other wildlife prior to filling.

Authorized biologist(s) shall notify G0400 of an injury, harm, or relocations of desert tortoise as a result of this action.

## **Cultural Resource Concerns**

Based upon the results of a Class I literature review, no historic properties lie within the area of potential effects. WAPA made a finding of No Historic Properties Affected per Stipulation V.A.1 of the 2013 NV Programmatic Agreement.

**GENERAL:** Do not remove or alter cultural artifacts or paleontological resources (fossils). Cultural artifacts are of potential scientific or cultural importance and include bones, tools, historic buildings, and features. Paleontological resources can be of scientific importance and include mineralized animals and plants or trace fossils such as footprints. Both cultural and paleontological resources are protected by Federal Regulations during Federal construction projects

**UNKNOWN CULTURAL OR PALEONTOLOGICAL SITES:** On rare occasions cultural or paleontological sites may be discovered during excavation or other earth-moving activities.

- (1) Reporting: If evidence of a cultural or paleontological site is discovered, immediately notify the Regional Preservation Officer (602-605-2842) and give the location and nature of the findings. Stop all activities within a 50-foot radius of the discovery and do not proceed with work within that radius until directed to do so by the Regional Preservation Officer.
- (2) Care of Evidence: Do not damage or remove artifacts or fossils uncovered during construction.

Donald Lash, NEPA  
Tony Daly-Crews, Biologist  
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