Description of the Project

The Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), Sierra Nevada Region (SNR), proposes to upgrade security measures at Keswick Substation in order to provide the most updated and secure critical infrastructure protection (CIP) for all DOE WAPA SNR maintained facilities. Specifically the upgrades at Keswick substation consist of installation of a video monitoring system and internal and external cameras. Trenching will not be required for cable installation.

Keswick substation is owned and operated by SNR, however portions of the land on which SNR will be conducting the camera upgrades is owned by the Bureau of Reclamation.

☐ Map(s)
See attached Maps
☐ Figures(s)
See attached Figures
☒ Work Order Number - 100347194
Action taken

Note: All Documentation is Attached

- Categorical Exclusion (CX)
- Environmental Assessment (EA)
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- Other Determinations: Biological Assessment
- Integral Elements
- NEPA Attachment Sheet
- Environmental Requirements/Mitigation
- Maps/ Figures

**Determination:** Based on my review of information provided to me concerning the proposed action as NEPA Compliance Officer, I have determined that the proposed action meets the requirements for the categorical exclusion listed above. Therefore, I have determined that the proposed action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

Gerald Robbins, Environment Manager

Date Approved: 5/14/2018
Integral Elements

Project Title: WAPA Sierra Nevada Region: Keswick Substation Security Upgrades Project

- **B2.2 Building and Equipment Instrumentation**
  Installation of, or improvements to, building and equipment instrumentation (including, but not limited to, remote control panels, remote monitoring capability, alarm and surveillance systems, control systems to provide automatic shutdown, fire detection and protection systems, water consumption monitors and flow control systems, announcement and emergency warning systems, criticality and radiation monitors and alarms, and safeguards and security equipment).

**Regulatory Requirements for a Categorical Exclusion Determination:** The Department of Energy (DOE), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Implementing Procedures, 10 CFR 1021.410(b) require the following determinations be made in order for a proposed action to be categorically excluded (see full text in regulation).

1. The proposed action fits within a class of actions listed in Appendices A and B to Subpart D. For classes of actions listed in Appendix B, the following conditions are integral elements; i.e., to fit within a class, the proposal must not:
   a. Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, including requirements of DOE and/or Executive Orders;
   b. Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities, but may include categorically excluded facilities;
   c. 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; or
   d. 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;
   e. 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 which may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal;

2. The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. The proposal is not connected 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 requiring preparation of an environmental impact statement.
Results of Review: In accordance with DOE environmental regulations (10 CFR 1021), WAPA has reviewed the proposed action in terms of the level of NEPA review needed. Based on this review, WAPA has determined the proposal is encompassed within a class of actions listed in Appendix B to Subpart D (10 CFR 1021.410) which do not require preparation of either an environmental impact statement (EIS) or an environmental assessment (EA).

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.
CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESULTS

- This action is covered by Western’s Programmatic Agreement, “Programmatic Agreement Among the Western Area Power Administration, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the California State Historic Preservation Officer Concerning Emergency and Routine Maintenance Activities and Other Routine Activities at Western Facilities in California,” revised March, 2010.

- This action will be included in WAPA’s annual report.

BIOLOGICAL RESULTS

- Studies conducted, in order to evaluate potential impacts of the proposed project on special status species and/or their habitats, included background research to determine which special-status species and their habitats may occur within the project area and a review of habitat types in the project area. The footprint of the project lies entirely within developed areas and doesn’t constitute habitat for most species, however, there is habitat for avian species in the vicinity.

- Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, migratory bird species and their nests and eggs are protected from injury or death. Impacts to migratory bird nests shall be avoided during the nesting season (defined as between January 1 and September 15). If activities are likely to cause nest impacts or nest abandonment, then project activities in the area shall be postponed or adjusted until nestlings have fledged, the nest is no longer active, or the activities are not likely to cause nest impacts or nest abandonment.

- Federal law prohibits the taking of endangered, threatened, proposed or candidate wildlife and plants, and destruction or adverse modification of designated Critical Habitat. Federal law also prohibits the taking of birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. “Take” means to pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect a protected animal or any part thereof, or attempt to do any of those things. The Contractor must always stay within WAPA’s right-of-way and/or easement or on public roads.

- Unknown Occurrence of Protected Species or Habitat: If evidence of a protected species is found in the project area, the contractor shall immediately notify the COR and provide the location and nature of the findings. The contractor shall stop all activity in the vicinity of the protected species or habitat and not proceed until directed to do so by the COR.

- Prior to the start of project activities, all personnel will participate in environmental awareness training which will inform them of the sensitive habitats within the project area, the species that have the potential to occur in the project area, and the avoidance and minimization measures that are to be adhered to during project activities. Any new crew members that start after project activities have started will be given the environmental awareness training prior to starting work on site.
COMPLIANCE RESULTS

• Recycled Materials Quantities: All materials generated from the project that can be recycled, shall be recycled. Submit quantities of all recycled material by category to the COR within 30 days of recycling and prior to submittal of final invoice. Record quantities of material by category that is salvaged, recycled, reused, or reprocessed.

• Disposal of Waste Material: Dispose or recycle waste material in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and local regulations and ordinances. Coordinate with COR regarding sampling and signatures on manifests for wastes materials if required. Submit quantities of total project waste material disposal as listed below to the COR prior to submittal of final invoice.
  (1) Unregulated Wastes (i.e., trash): Volume in cubic yards or weight in pounds.
  (2) Hazardous or Universal Wastes: Weight in pounds.
  (3) PCB Wastes (If applicable): Weight in pounds.
  (4) Other regulated wastes (e.g., lead-based paint or asbestos): Weight in pounds (specify type of waste in report).

• Prevention of Air Pollution: In addition to complying with Federal and State air quality regulations, the project must also comply with Shasta County Air Quality Management District Rules, found here: https://www.arb.ca.gov/drdb/sha/cur.htm

• General Conformity: General conformity was established under the Clean Air Act (section 176(c)(4)) and ensures that actions taken by federal agencies do not interfere with a state’s plans to attain and maintain national standards for air quality. According to a guidance memorandum from EPA dated June 5, 2006, “only direct or indirect emissions originating in a nonattainment or maintenance area need to be analyzed for conformity with the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP).” Shasta County is in attainment with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for all six criteria pollutants. Therefore there is no need for a general conformity determination on this project.

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<th>Western Area Power Administration</th>
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