



# U.S. Department of Energy

## Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Submit by E-mail

Proposed Action Title: Request for Indicative Proposals Western Area Power Administration-Upper Great Plains Region on behalf of the Department of Air Force for Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota

Program or Field Office: Upper Great Plains Regional Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): Billings, Yellowstone County, Montana

Proposed Action Description:

Western Area Power Administration - Upper Great Plains Customer Service Region (Western) is issuing this Request for Indicative Proposals (RFIP) to identify alternatives for firm capacity and energy supply with transmission assigned to Western for the United States Department of Air Force, Ellsworth Air Force Base (Ellsworth AFB) located near Rapid City, South Dakota to begin on July 1, 2016. Following a review of the Indicative Proposals received in response to this RFIP, Western on behalf of the Air Force will select one or more suppliers for negotiations or issue a more refined request for proposals. If Western on behalf of the Air Force does engage in direct negotiations with one of more suppliers as a result of this RFIP, material changes in price or non-price terms and conditions (except for adjustments to reflect changes to forward market price curves) may result in elimination from further consideration.

Western on behalf of the Air Force is requesting proposals for one Standard Product. In addition, Western welcomes proposals for other products and services that may meet Ellsworth AFB's power supply needs and help Ellsworth AFB to manage risk associated with its future power supply.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B4.4 - Power marketing services and activities

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: **MATTHEW MARSH** Digitally signed by MATTHEW MARSH  
Date: 2016.01.22 14:46:09 -07'00'

Date Determined: 01/22/2016