

Project title: Off ROW Hazard Trees, Phase 1 – TANC 500 kV 2010

Requested By: Steve Tuggle

Mail Code : N1400 **Phone:** 916-353-4549

Date Submitted:

Date Required:

Description of the Project:

Western Area Power Administration (Western), Sierra Nevada Region (SNR), is responsible for the operation and maintenance (O&M) of federally owned and operated transmission lines throughout California. Western must comply with the National Electric Safety Code, Western States Coordinating Council and Western directives for protecting human safety and maintaining the reliable operation of the transmission system. In order to accomplish this, Western regularly maintains its existing access roads and transmission line rights-of-way (ROWs). In those instances where a hazard tree is identified outside of Western's ROW, Western will coordinate with the appropriate federal agency, landowner or stakeholder to make the hazard tree safe and ensure compliance with our directives.

The primary purpose of Western's O&M program is to maintain transmission line ROWs, substations, communication sites, and associated access roads. O&M activities include vegetation removal using manual or mechanical methods and access road repair and upgrades. These routine activities are necessary to ensure system reliability and public safety by preserving structural integrity of transmission line towers or poles, allowing access to the transmission line towers or poles for routine maintenance or repairs, and removing vegetation that could cause arcing, electrical outages, and fires. Vegetation management may be performed by hand clearing in areas where the sensitive resources are present and require such project conservation measures. In all other areas, vegetation may be removed by manual or mechanical methods. Vegetation debris may be chipped and spread out under the ROW or removed from the area. Herbicide application may also take place.

Location of the Project:

The Captain Jack - Olinda towers 427, 428, 429, 445, 447, 448, 502, 505, 513, 515 and 647 are located in Shasta County. Legal descriptions from north to south are as follows:

T37N, R01W, SECT 34, MDM
T36N, R01W, SECT 03, MDM
T36N, R01W, SECT 10, MDM
T36N, R01W, SECT 27, MDM
T36N, R01W, SECT 34, MDM

T34N, R01W, SECT 32, MDM
T33N, R01W, SECT 05, MDM
T33N, R01W, SECT 07, MDM
T30N, R04W, SECT 31, MDM

The Olinda - Tracy towers 1/1, 9/5, 93/3, 126/4, 138/2, 139/4, 141/1 and 141/5 are located in Shasta, Tehama, Colusa, Yolo and Solano counties. Legal descriptions from north to south are as follows:

T29N, R05W, SECT 13, MDM
T28N, R04W, SECT 33, MDM
T14N, R03W, SECT 22, MDM
T09N, R01W, SECT 13, MDM

T07N, R01E, SECT 17, MDM
T07N, R01E, SECT 20, MDM
T07N, R01E, SECT 29, MDM
T07N, R01E, SECT 33, MDM

Attachments: Maps

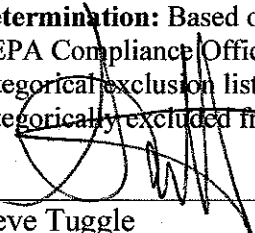
Work Order Number:

Action taken

Note: All Documentation is Attached

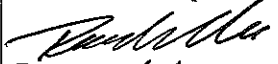
- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exclusion (CX) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minimization |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integral Elements | <input type="checkbox"/> Attachment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NEPA Attachment Sheet | |

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.



Steve Tuggle
NEPA Compliance Officer

11/1/10
Date
 Approved

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|-------------------|------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| CC: Requestor: | File Code: | Assigned to: Ricardo Velarde | Project #: 100901 | Environmental Specialist:  Date: <u>11/1/10</u> |
|-------------------|------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|--|