



U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

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Proposed Action Title: Routine Maintenance and Minor Construction Program Fiscal Year 2025 - 2030

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

Location(s) (City/County/State): Facilities throughout Arizona, California, Nevada, and Utah

Proposed Action Description:

The Desert Southwest Region (DSW) routinely operates and maintains more than 243 substations, switch-yards, and communication sites. Routine maintenance and operation activities include, but are not limited to, inspections, cleanings, repairs, replacements, modifications, testings, calibrations, upgrades, vegetation management, demolitions, disposals, and installations of equipment, utilities, buildings, structures, conductors, retention tanks/basins, electronic equipment, airway safety markings, fencing, access roads, and air conditioning systems.

Purpose: To ensure the safety and reliability of the bulk electric system.

DSW will follow the procedures and resource protection measures in DSW's executed biological opinions, programmatic agreements, and Environmental Implementation Plans for Routine Maintenance and Minor Construction.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

See Page 2 for the list of Categorical Exclusions Applied.

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: **NATALIE ORTEGA**

Digitally signed by
NATALIE ORTEGA
Date: 2024.10.04
07:05:54 -07'00'

Date Determined: 10/4/24

Categorical Exclusions Applied:

B1.3 - Routine maintenance/custodial services for buildings, structures, rights-of-way, infrastructures, vehicles, and equipment

B1.4 - Air conditioning systems for existing equipment

B1.6 - Installation/modification of retention tanks, small basins to control runoff, spills

B1.7 - Electronic equipment

B1.9 - Airway safety markings and painting

B1.11 - Fencing

B1.16 - Removal of asbestos from buildings

B1.17 - Removal of polychlorinated biphenyl-containing items from buildings, other aboveground locations

B1.19 - Microwave, meteorological, and radio towers

B1.20 - Protection of cultural resources, fish and wildlife habitat

B1.22 - Relocation of buildings

B1.23 - Demolition and disposal of buildings

B1.24 - Property transfers

B1.33 - Stormwater runoff control

B1.34 - Lead-based paint containment, removal, and disposal

B2.1 - Workplace enhancements

B2.2 - Installation of/improvements to building instrumentation (remote controls, emergency warning systems, monitors)

B2.3 - Installation of equipment for personnel safety and health

B2.5 - Safety and environmental improvements of a facility, replacement/ upgrade of facility components

B3.1 - Site characterization and environmental monitoring

B4.6 - Additions and modifications to electric power transmission facilities within previously disturbed or developed area

B4.10 - Deactivation, dismantling, and removal of electric transmission facilities (including, but not limited to powerlines, substations, and switching stations)

B5.1 - Actions to conserve energy or water

B5.4 - Repair or replacement of pipelines

B5.6 - Oil spill cleanup

B5.23 - Electric vehicle charging stations

B6.1 - Cleanup actions