

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
White River Field Office
73544 Hwy 64
Meeker, CO 81641**

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

NUMBER: CO-110-2004-030-CER

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER (optional): COC67456

PROJECT NAME: Buried Powerline for Air Monitoring Station

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Sixth Principal Meridian, Colorado
T. 5 S., R. 101 W.,
Sec. 19, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

APPLICANT: Moon Lake Electric Association

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: The proposed action is for a buried power line to provide power to an air monitoring station on Douglas pass. The buried power line is a 7.2 kV single phase. The width is 15 feet, 2,000 feet long, encompassing 0.69 acres, more or less. The right-of-way term will be 30 years.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3) the following plan:

Name of Plan: White River Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP).

Date Approved: July 1, 1997

Decision Number/Page: Pages 2-49 thru 2-52

Decision Language: "To make public lands available for the siting of public and private facilities through the issuance of applicable land use authorizations, in a manner that provides for reasonable protection of other resource values."

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 6, Appendix 5.4, Number: E.(9). None of the following exceptions in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

Exception	YES	NO
1. Have significant adverse effects on public health and safety.		X
2. Have adverse effects on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands, floodplains; national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		X
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.		X
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
6. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
7. Have adverse effects on properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places.		X
8. Have adverse effects on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		X
9. Have the potential to violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X
10. Have the potential for a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations.		X
11. Restrict access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites.		X

Exception	YES	NO
12. Significantly, contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species.		X

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

The proposed action was presented to, and reviewed by the White River Field Office interdisciplinary team on 12/16/03.

Date

A list of resource specialists who participated in this review is available upon request from the White River Field Office.

REMARKS:

Cultural Resources: When the snow has left the ground and the area is dry, a cultural and paleo survey will be conducted.

Native American Religious Concerns: N/A

Threatened and Endangered Species: N/A

COMPLIANCE PLAN (optional): Compliance will be conducted every five years by the realty staff.

NAME OF PREPARER: Penny Brown

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Scott Perry

DECISION AND RATIONALE: I have reviewed this CER and have decided to approve the proposed action.

This action is listed in the Department Manual as an action that may be categorically excluded. I have evaluated the action relative to the 12 criteria listed above and have determined that it does not represent an exception and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:

Kent E. Walter

Field Manager

DATE SIGNED:

12/16/03