

**United States Department of Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Coos Bay District**

Categorical Exclusion Review (CX)

DOI-BLM-OR-C030-2010-0015CX
Date: September 21, 2010

A. Background

Project: Douglas Electric Cooperative R/W Amendment

Location: W.M., T. 20 S., R 10 W., Sec. 31 Lots 5, 12, 13, Douglas County, Oregon.

Project Description:

The applicant proposes to reroute the powerline along Smith River road within the BLM easement. The proposed location would eliminate a river crossing, which is a safety hazard for linemen in the event of an outage after dark. The powerline r/w requested is 30 feet wide and 3234 feet long. The road easement (RE C-67 acquired in 1955) includes the right to authorize utility r/ws within the easement.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance Review: This project is tiered to and in conformance with the *Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement* (USDI BLM 1994) and its *Record of Decision* (ROD/RMP), as supplemented and amended. The Coos Bay ROD/RMP is supported by and consistent with the *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) on Management of Habitat for Late Successional and Old Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (Northwest Forest Plan [NFP])* (USDA/USDI 1994) and its *Record of Decision* (USDA/USDI 1994a).

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

Consider new locations for rights-of-way projects on a case-by-case basis (page 66).

C: Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM11, §11.9 E (12):

Grants of rights-of-way wholly within the boundaries of other compatibly developed rights-of-way.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 Appendix 2 apply.

A summary of the extraordinary circumstances is listed below. The action must have a significant or a disproportional adverse effect on the listed categories to warrant further analysis and environmental review.

<u>Extraordinary Circumstances</u>	<u>Applies</u> (Yes/No)	<u>Comments¹ and Source²</u>	<u>Initials</u>	<u>Date</u>
(1) Health & Safety Hazardous Materials	No No	Reviewed by Hazardous Materials Coordinator;	<u>VKD</u>	<u>12/9/10</u>
(2) Unique Resources	No	Reviewed by Port-Orford Cedar Coordinator	<u>SLK</u>	<u>12/1/10</u>
(3) Controversial Effects	No			
(4) Risks	No			
(5) Precedent	No			
(6) Cumulative	No			
(7) Cultural & Historic	No	Reviewed by Archaeologist	<u>SRS</u>	<u>12/8/10</u>
(8) T & E Species	No	Reviewed by Wildlife Biologists, Fisheries, and Botanist	<u>SL</u> <u>DV</u> <u>JLS</u>	<u>11/24/10</u> <u>11/23/10</u> <u>11/30/10</u>
(9) Violate Laws	No			
(10) Environmental Justice	No	Reviewed by Environmental Justice Coordinator	<u>SLK</u>	<u>12/1/10</u>
(11) Native American Religious Concerns	No	Reviewed by District Native American Coordinator	<u>SRS</u>	<u>12/8/10</u>
(12) Noxious Weeds	No	Reviewed by Noxious Weed Coordinator	<u>JMS</u>	<u>12/2/10</u>

D. Signature

Authorizing Official: Field Manager: A. Dennis Turowski Date: 12/16/10

E. Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Linda Petterson, Realty Specialist, Coos Bay District, 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend, OR 97459, 541-751-4207.

¹ Indicate applicability if the exception.

² List data source on which exception determination is based.

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Decision Record for Categorical Exclusion DOI-BLM-OR-C030-FY-2010-0015CX

Decision:

It is my decision to implement amendment of powerline right-of-way OR 50828 as described in DOI-BLM-OR-C030-FY-2010-0015CX.

Decision Rationale:

The proposed action has been reviewed by Resource Area Staff and appropriate project Design Features as specified will be incorporated into the proposal. Based on the NEPA Categorical Exclusion Review, I have determined that the proposed action involves no significant impact to the human environment and no further analysis is required.

Signature of Authorizing Official:

A. Dennis Turowski

Field Manager

Date: *12/16/10*

Administrative Remedies:

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA), Office of the Secretary, in accordance with regulations contained in 43 CFR Part 4. If an appeal is taken, your notice of appeal must be filed with the Umpqua Field Office, Coos Bay BLM, 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend OR, 97459 (43 CFR 4.411 and 4.413). A copy of the Notice of Appeal must also be sent to the BLM Regional Solicitor, Pacific Northwest Region, 500 NE Multnomah St. Suite 607, Portland, OR 97232.

The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision being appealed is in error.

For further information, contact Linda Petterson, Project Lead, at 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend OR, 97459 or (541) 756-0100.