

Categorical Exclusion Documentation
DOI-BLM-LLCON02000-2012-0058-CX

A. Background

BLM Office: _Kremmling

Lease/Serial/Case File #COC-36338

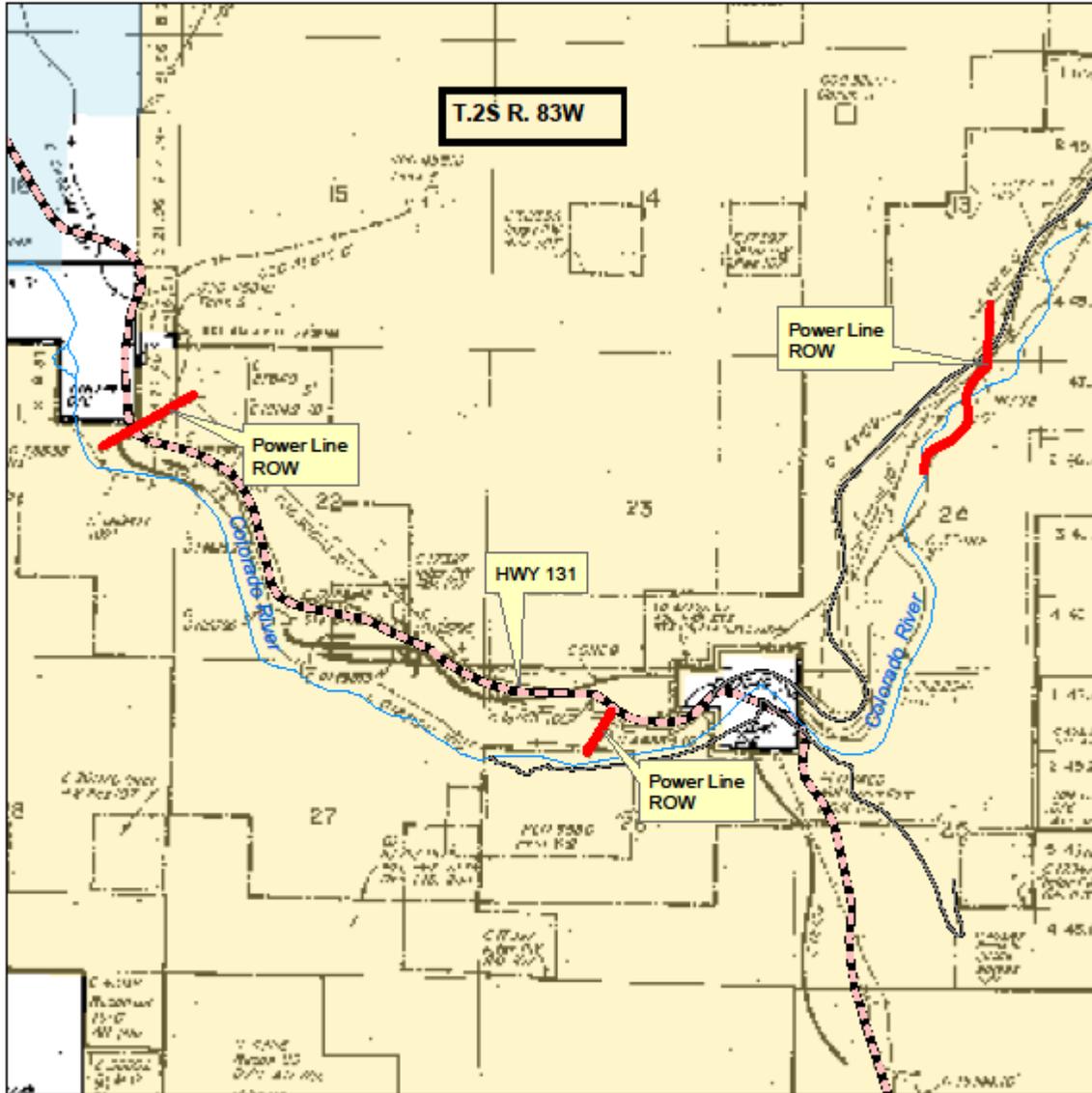
Project Title: Yampa Valley Electric Association ROW Renewal

Location: T. 2 S., R. 83W., Sections 13, 21-22, 24, and 26, 6th P.M.

Description and Rationale, including any Stipulations: Yampa Valley Electric Association (YVEA) was issued a power transmission Right-of-Way (ROW) on December 10, 1982 which expires on December 2, 2012. YVEA has applied for a renewal of this ROW for the three phase power line. This line supplies power to railroad switch gear and signals in Eagle County surrounding public land. The right-of-way is 20 feet wide by 4874 feet long. The access comes off of Highway 131 and Eagle County Road 11. No new ground disturbance would occur.



Yampa Valley Elec. Assoc. Power Line Renewal COC-36338



- Legend**
- Land Status**
- Bureau of Land Mgt
 - Division of Wildlife
 - National Park
 - US Forest Service
 - National Wildlife Refuge
 - Private**
 - State
 - State Forest
 - 24k UGGS Quad Index
- Power Line ROW
- 1:28,000



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Annie Sperandio, 9-20-2012
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B. Land Use Plan Conformance

This action conforms to the Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD)

Date Approved/Amended: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

The approval of a right-of-way is clearly consistent with the RMP objectives and decisions as follows: Provide the opportunity to utilize public lands for development of facilities which benefit the public, while considering environmental and agency concerns.

C. Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act

The action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, E., (9): Renewals and assignments of leases, permits or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate for this action 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 (see attached).

I considered the quality of the power line and found no potential for significant impact.

D. Signature

_/s/ Susan Cassel
Susan Cassel
Associate Field Manager

__9/25/12__
Date

E. Contact

For more information, contact:

Annie Sperandio, Realty Specialist
Bureau of Land Management
P O Box 81
Kremmling, CO 80459
970-724-3062

Review of Extraordinary Circumstances

The Department of the Interior Manual 516 2.3A (3) requires review of the following “extraordinary circumstances” (516 DM 2 Appendix 2) to determine if an otherwise categorically excluded action would require additional environmental analysis/documentation.

1) *Have significant impacts on public health or safety.*

Yes No

Comments:

2) *Have significant impacts 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 (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.*

Yes No

Comments:

3) *Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].*

Yes No

Comments:

4) *Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.*

Yes No

Comments:

5) *Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.*

Yes No

Comments:

6) *Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.*

Yes No

Comments:

7) *Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.*

Yes No

Comments:

8) *Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat.*

Yes No

Comments:

9) *Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.*

Yes No

Comments:

10) *Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).*

Yes No

Comments:

11) *Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).*

Yes No

Comments:

12) *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 (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).*

Yes No

Comments:

Reviewers:

/s/ Paula Belcher
Soil, Air, Water

Sept. 25, 2012

/s/Bill B. Wyatt
Cultural Resources

Sept. 20, 2012

/s/Megan McGuire
Wildlife

Sept. 21, 2012

Decision Record for a Categorically Excluded Action

Introduction and Background

Yampa Valley Electric Association (YVEA) was issued a power transmission Right-of-Way (ROW) on December 10, 1982 which expires on December 2, 2012. YVEA has applied for a renewal of this ROW for the three phase power line. This line supplies power to the railroad switch gear and signals in Eagle County surrounding public land. The right-of-way is 20 feet wide by 4874 feet long. The access comes off of Highway 131 and Eagle County Road 11. No new ground disturbance would occur.

Decision and Rationale

I have decided to implement the proposed action for the renewal of COC-36338. This action is needed to provide electricity to the railroad switch gear and signals in Eagle County surrounding public land. In addition, I have reviewed the plan conformance statement and have determined that the proposed action is in conformance with the approved land use plan and that no further environmental analysis is required.

Compliance with Laws, Regulations, Policies and Land Use Plans

The action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, E., (9): Renewals and assignments of leases, permits or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations.

The Proposed Action is in conformance with the Record of Decision for the Kremmling Resource Management Plan approved in 1984 and updated in 1999, and with the land use plan terms and conditions as required by 43 CFR 1610.5-3(a).

Administrative Remedies

Administrative remedies may be available to those who believe they will be adversely affected by this decision. Appeals may be made to the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Interior, Board of Land Appeals (Board) in strict compliance with the regulations in 43 CFR Part 4. Notices of appeal must be filed in this office within 30 days after publication of this decision. If a notice of appeal does not include a statement of reasons, such statement must be filed with this office and the Board within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed. The notice of appeal and any statement of reasons, written arguments, or briefs must also be served upon the Regional Solicitor, Pacific Southwest Region, U.S. Department of Interior, 2800 Cottage Way, E-1712, Sacramento, CA 95825.

 /s/ Susan Cassel
Authorized Officer

 9/25/12
Date